

**Newsletter**  
**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2016**

**Welcome to the new School Year from our Chair of Governors and Head Teacher**

Welcome back to school everyone. We hope you have had a lovely summer break and are rested and refreshed ready for an exciting new year of learning and fun at Honley Junior School. 2015-16 was a great time for our school and we are now looking forward to achieving even more together this year. Our committed and talented teaching and support team continues to grow and develop to enable our pupils to meet their potential through a relevant, rich and exciting curriculum. Similarly, our Governing Body also continues to strengthen in order to provide the support and challenge required to enable our school to become the very best it can be.

Thank you for sending your child to school looking so smart in their uniform and school shoes. It was a delight to see all our pupils arriving looking refreshed and ready to learn. Thank you for your support as we start another year full of enthusiasm for and dedication to meeting the needs of our pupils and school community.

Mike Kilroy and Linda Goodall

**Assistant Director of Education School visit**

Yesterday we had an important visitor in school - Gill Ellis, Assistant Director of Education. She had a good look around all classes and met lots of pupils and staff along the way. She commented on how proud I must be as the head teacher of Honley Junior School and how pleased she was to meet such polite, smart and enthusiastic learners. She's right – I am incredibly proud of our school.

**A word from Rachel Cartwright - Chair of Friends of Honley Junior School**

Welcome back to school everyone and thank you for all your support last year.

FOHJS are a friendly group of parents/carers and community members who meet regularly to discuss and plan upcoming events. We really need your help, even if only for ½ hour at an event. If you would like to get involved either come to a meeting or contact me. We don't bite –honest!

FOHJS contributes significantly to the ethos of school and its community feel. Many of our events form lifelong memories for your children. The children enjoy events such as the Christmas Fair, Valentines Disco and our headline event Summerfest. Last year we also introduced a Fashion Show for the parents/carers to attend with models from the staff and pupils. This year's date for the Fashion Show is Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October at 7.00pm and tickets will be on sale shortly.

You will have possibly read about the falling budgets schools face FOHJS puts all the money raised back into the school for the benefit of all your children. We liaise with staff to establish what will benefit your child. So please do get involved and come along to our first meeting on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September at 2.30pm.

If you feel that you don't have the time to come along to meetings and events you can support FOHJS in other ways:

Please register with [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) when shopping online with companies such as Tesco, Morrisons, Argos, Next, amazon.co.uk and many, many more you will also be raising money!

If you would like any further information please contact: [friendsofHonleyJunior@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofHonleyJunior@gmail.com)

**Chair of FOHJS Rachel Cartwright - 07906 832351**

## **A great start to the Year 6 Ancient Greece Topic**

On the first day back at school, we came back and the room was transformed into a Greek villa – it was fab! There were grapes around the room for us to eat whilst we listened to Mrs Kingston telling us the myth, “Theseus and the Minotaur”. Soon after, we re-told the story using a circle and ‘whoosh’ drama games. Thank you to all the Year 6 teachers for organising such a great first day back.

(By E Price)

We are really enjoying being in year 6 and being ‘top’ of the school. The literacy is exciting and fun! We have been acting out the myth of Theseus and Minotaur. Our Greek topic is really interesting.

(By C Langford and I Pearson)

## **Learning to Learn Conference**

On Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September we will be hosting our 3<sup>rd</sup> Learning to Learn conference for year 6 pupils and their parents/carers. The children have been learning in class about their brain and how we learn so that they can really take charge of their learning as they mature ready for high school next September. The conference is a way of sharing some of the strategies we are promoting with parents/carers so that they are confident to support their child’s learning at home. The conference starts at 1.00pm and will conclude with drinks and biscuits in the hall at around 3pm. We hope that you can join us it should be great fun for all.

## **School Development Plan Summary**

### **Priority 1: Improve standards in mathematics**

Training for all staff to improve the teaching and learning in these aspects of maths:

- Reasoning, greater depth/mastery
- Fluency and manipulation of knowledge
- Calculation strategies
- Personal audits of subject knowledge – NCTEM
- Specific training for teachers in new groups
- Carry out gap analysis from GL and SATs tests and provide appropriate CPD

Increase teaching time and the profile of maths in school

Increased parent/school links to support maths at home and in school

Further develop maths tracking systems

Further develop maths leadership

**Priority 2: Improve standards in writing, particularly handwriting so that in every year group, all pupils use a cursive script.**

**Priority 3: Continue to improve outcomes for our most disadvantaged pupils (Pupils in receipt of Pupil Premium)**

The full development plan will be published on our website later this half term once training dates are finalised.

## School Meals

If you would like to change the meal arrangement which has been set up for your child (dinners to sandwiches or vice versa) please let the school office know. Thank You.

**Calling All Honley Residents & Community We Need You !**



*Well Done to everyone who has contributed to making Honley look great. Just look at the High Street flower baskets and tubs. See Jagger Lane Rec and Honley Park litter free. It makes you proud to live here*

**Don't Leave it to someone else, Can You Help ?**

*On Sunday 4th September at 10am Come to the Library and let's make a difference. Bring your trowels, hoes, strimmers, brushes and gloves whether you be a gardener, handyman or litter picker. It may be an hour or it may be three but whatever you can do will be great.*



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**Let's be PROUD of our village**  
*More help needed so we spread the load*

## Diary Dates

Date	Event / Activity
Monday 12th September	Year 6 Learning to Learn Conference for parents/carers and pupils 1.00pm
Wednesday 14th September	Class 3H Bagshaw Museum trip
Thursday 15th September	Class 3J Bagshaw Museum trip
Tuesday 20th September	Whole school cross-country championship Voluntary Helpers meeting 2.45-3.15pm
Monday 26th September	Year 4 Dewa Roman visit
Thursday 29th September	Parent/Carer Forum 9.00am
Friday 7th October	INSET day school closed
Tuesday 11th October	Parents'/carers' evening
Wednesday 12th October	Parents'/carers' evening Book Fair begins closes Tuesday 18th
Thursday 13th October	FOHJS Fashion Show 7.00pm
Tuesday 18th October	Harvest Festival St Mary's church 10.30am
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 6 Greek Feast 10.30-11.30am
Friday 21st October	School closes for half term
Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	School opens