

Newsletter Friday 6th May

Maths Nights

Thank you to those of you that came along to the Maths Workshop evenings. The feedback received was very positive saying how useful they had been to help parents/carers support their child when doing maths homework. So, to help those who were unable to attend, Miss Gabanski has produced some booklets to explain how we teach the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) and show the strategies we use. The booklets can be found on our school website from Thursday of next week.

School Forum

We had our latest whole School Forum meeting on Monday 25th April to discuss Mrs Thackray's proposed new school dinner menu. The children gave us lots of feedback about what they like best and dislike and we are also trialling some new Sugar Smart desserts too. Mrs Thackray will then use all the information gathered to create the final menu.

At the meeting the children were also given the results of the previous School Forum meeting where the focus had been suggestions for new playground equipment since school had been awarded a grant from the Big Lottery Fund to develop this area of school. The children had overwhelmingly requested more climbing apparatus and various new playground markings. Hopefully we will be able to get the work done before the summer holidays to enable the children to make the most of playtimes in the good weather.

FOHJS Film Night

The 'Inside Out', film night was a great success as both children and adults enjoyed the showing. Popcorn was on sale made by one of our enterprise teams (Popstars Popcorn Co.) which proved to be very popular. There was a queue right across the hall even though they had taken pre-show orders! The team now inform me that they have secured a contract to provide popcorn at the Holmfirth Film Festival!

Thank you to FOHJS for organising the event and to Mrs McLoughlin for working with the Enterprise groups.

Enterprise Clubs

Mrs McLoughlin and her enterprise teams are working very hard to market and sell their products. Chocobabs have had their first sales success in playtime this week and they will be selling to Year 4 on Thursday 12th May.

Summerfest

Summerfest is approaching rapidly and it will be 25th June before we know it. Preparations have been ongoing all year but we are still looking for anyone who can offer help either before or on the day – we are always short on numbers for the packing away part! If you are able to support could you let us know so that we can plan the rotas for the day.

End of Key Stage 2 SATs Week (9th – 12th May)

Next week is SATs week, so our Year 6 pupils will be sitting their End of Key Stage 2 Statutory Assessment Tests.

Monday – English Reading test

Tuesday- English Grammar, Spelling and Punctuation tests

Wednesday – Maths Paper 1 (arithmetic) and Paper 2 (reasoning)

Thursday – Maths Paper 3 (reasoning)

Our year 6 pupils have been working very hard in preparation for the week and we know that they will all do their best. It is vital that all pupils are in school for the tests and we will do our best to make the week as painless as possible. Each morning there will be a breakfast club at 9am to allow the children to come into school, have breakfast with their friends and feel settled before the tests begin. On Friday, when the testing is over, Year 6 will have a more relaxed day which will involve a celebration party and fun time in the afternoon.

Mini Tennis

Teams from Year 4 and 5 are competing in a mini-tennis tournament at Thongsbridge Tennis Club on Tuesday 10th May. We'll let you know how they go on.

Girls' Football

We are really proud of our Year 4 girls' football team who chose to compete against much older girls in a Year 5 and 6 competition on 21st April. The girls showed great team spirit, courage, resilience and good humour in all their matches. Thank you to the team for upholding our school values and representing our school so admirably.

Neiley Races

On Wednesday, this week, it was a lovely evening for the first of the Neiley races. Everyone tried their very best and there were some great individual performances – most notably was Alice Bridge 2nd in the Year 3 and 4 race and the majority of the Year 4 boys who finished in the top 25 places. The official results will be posted on the Neiley Races website and we'll keep you updated of our school's progress as the races are completed. Well done to all our runners.

Space Seeds

Our 'Space Seeds' are doing well under the tender care of their class monitors. Mrs McLoughlin has now entered the first set of data into the national data bank and we are excitedly awaiting the final outcomes.

Year 6 Leavers' Photos

The whole of the Y6 cohort will have their photograph taken on Tuesday 24th May. These will then be presented to the children as a leaving memento at the Leavers' Service on 19th July at 10:30am in St. Mary's Church.

Vandalism

It is very sad to say but we are experiencing increased vandalism to school in the evenings and during the weekends with the latest damage estimated to cost £1000 to repair. We continue to report the criminal damage to the police and unfortunately we are now reporting names of pupils seen on school site out of hours if we suspect any wrong doing. Please be vigilant and inform the police if you see anyone damaging our school. Thank you.

Crossing Patrol

Mrs White will not be there for the end of the day crossing duty on Monday 9th May. Please make alternative arrangements for your child if you are concerned about them being able to cross safely alone. I suggest everyone uses the pedestrian crossing just down from the park entrance.

Reminders

- Please ensure your child is wearing plain gold/silver studs should they wish to wear jewellery for school. Earrings must always be removed or covered for PE.
- Thank you for ensuring your child is in black school shoes as we move into the final term of the year.
- Lost property is now stored in the Music Room should you wish to have a rummage.
- Please ensure we have current contact details for safeguarding purposes and your email address to enable paperless correspondence.

Diary Dates:

Date	Event
w/c 09.05.16	Year 6 SATS week
12.05.16	Pentecost Service at St. Mary's 10:30am
18.05.16	Swimming Gala 4:30 – 6:30pm
18.05.16	Jenni & Billy workshops & performance Year 6
23.05.16	Year 6 visit to National Coal Mining Museum
24.05.16	Leavers photograph
26.05.16	Hand to Mouth – collective worship
26.05.16	School closes for INSET day and half term
06.06.16	School reopens
w/c 20.06.16	Olympic Sports Week
12.07.16	Transition day
19.07.16	Leavers Service at St. Mary's 10:30am
20.07.16	School Closes for summer holidays