

Highfield Newsletter

June 2013

Headteacher: Julie Colley

Assistant Headteachers: Sharon Woodward and Rachael McVeigh

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Dear Parents/Carers,

As we approach the last busy month of the school year, we are looking forward to the many events and celebrations which make our school so special.

The Year 6 children are busy enjoying their residential week at Marrick Priory in the Yorkshire Dales. The rest of school is taking part in our annual Fit Week (why not come along on Wednesday at 3 p.m. and join us for our whole school aerobics session on the school field?). In addition to lots of teacher led activities to promote good health this week, the children will also be taking part in yoga workshops, football tournaments and skipping workshops. On Friday we are being visited by Josie Sichoekyj, a former Para Olympian. She will be telling the children about her life and showing us her medal collection.



The weather in school has been very kind to us over the last few weeks and the children have enjoyed some fabulous outdoor learning opportunities. Year 1 children had a fabulous time during their pirate week and made their very own pirate ship on the school field. Year 2 children made some brilliant outdoor natural sculptures in the style of Andy Goldsworthy. Years 3 and 4 children have been busy making butterfly gardens and growing fruits and vegetables in the school allotment areas. Children in Years 5 and 6 have been visiting the school pond and learning all about its lifecycle including doing some pond dipping work.

Friends Events

Well done to all the Highfield Fun Run runners (including myself!) It was a brilliant day.

It isn't long to go now until the Summer Fair (July 13th) I look forward to seeing you all on that afternoon and I am keeping my fingers crossed for some good weather this year.

Reminders

Please park and drive carefully when near the school premises. Our Mini Police Officers issued 4 Highfield parking tickets recently when on patrol with our community police officers. People who drive at speed around Sandringham Green, park on the pavements or carry children in cars without seat belts are obviously not thinking about the safety of children.

Please do not park on the green itself.

If your child comes to school on their bike or scooter please ensure they do not ride it when they reach the playground.

When buying new school shoes ready for September, please be reminded of our policy of wearing plain black shoes.

Dinner money charges from September will be £2 per day for all children in school.

Staffing News

Mr Brassil has had a cycling accident and will be off work for the next month. We all wish him a speedy recovery. Mr Karl Seddon is teaching 5B whilst Mr Brassil is away.

Last week we appointed a new teacher, Miss Linda Harrower, who will be joining us in Year 4 in September. We also appointed two new higher level teaching assistants, Mrs Dawn Booth and Mrs Jayne Hollick. Our final new team member is Miss Helen Waite who will be working as a teaching assistant in school. The children will be meeting their new teachers before the end of term.

Staffing Structure 2013 - 2014

Class	Teacher	Support Staff
6P	Mr Potter	Mrs Dandy
6HW	Mrs Woodward/Mrs Homan	
5B	Mr Brassil	Mrs Clark/Mrs Schuster Mrs Dandy
5FH	Mrs Heeley/Mrs Fritz	
4E	Miss Elson	Miss Ings Mrs Taylor
4H	Miss Harrower	Miss Waite
3BC	Mrs Buckle/Mrs Clarkson	Mrs Storey
3B	Mr Beresford	Mrs Storey
2T	Miss Thackrah	Mrs Afzal Mrs Slupek
2BM	Mrs Barratt/Mrs McVeigh	Mrs Ullah
1S	Mrs Swales	Mrs Kwasniewski Miss Moss
1W	Mrs Wragg	Mrs Harrison
RBH	Mrs Hargrave/Mrs Bowker	Mrs Walsh Mrs Woodhead Mrs Wheldale
RG	Mrs Garbutt	

Leadership Team

Julie Colley - Headteacher
Rachael McVeigh and Sharon Woodward - Assistant Headteachers
Gareth Potter, Rebecca Thackrah and Liz Bowker - TLR5 (teachers with additional teaching and learning responsibilities)
Jane Denton - School Business Manager

Admin Team

Ann Etherington
Margaret Duce
Jane Gilley
Christine Wood

Higher Level Teaching Assistant Team

Christine Wood, Jayne Hollick, Dawn Booth

Learning Mentor Linda Bailey Wood

Superintendent Wilbert Walsh

Attendance Policy and Regulation Changes from September 2013

The Department for Education has made amendments to the 2006 attendance regulations. These amendments come into force on 1st September 2013. The amendments make clear that:

Headteachers may not grant leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.

The Alwoodley cluster of primary and secondary schools have approved the new Attendance Policy which is now available for you to read from the school website.

In short, from September 2013:

- Holidays in term time will no longer be authorised by the Headteacher.
- Leave of absence can only be authorised in exceptional circumstances.

Receiving a full school education is essential for all children to make the best progress they can. We are sure you will support us in improving attendance and will choose not to take family holidays in term time.

2013-2014 Leeds School Calendar

2013 / 2014	First day of term	Last day of term
Autumn Term	Monday 02 September 2013	Thursday 24 October 2013
Autumn Term	Monday 04 November 2013	Friday 20 December 2013
Spring Term	Monday 06 January 2014	Friday 14 February 2014
Spring Term	Monday 24 February 2014	Friday 04 April 2014
Summer Term	Tuesday 22 April 2014	Friday 23 May 2014
Summer Term	Monday 02 June 2014	Tuesday 22 July 2014

Our five school training days are: Monday 2nd September, Monday 4th November, Friday 14th February, Monday 2nd June and Tuesday 3rd June

I look forward to seeing you at our numerous events between now and the end of the school year.

Julie Colley

