



Headteacher Newsletter.

The run up to Christmas has been wonderful and hectic in equal measures. Our first KS2 trip to the Panto was a great success and having the Y1 and Y2 nativity back in the church this year was a real treat. We look forward to 2024 along with the opportunities a New Year brings.

Sports/ extra-curricular enrichment update

It has been a busy and exciting term; there have been many opportunities for the children to engage in extra PE sessions. These have included Fencing for Y5; balance bikes for EYFS and a mini activity day; a swimming gala for some children in Y6 and a whole school PE activity day. Y5 children have also been trained to be mini leaders, they will be leading activities at break and lunchtimes in spring term for the KS1 children. Alongside all of the extra sporting opportunities, we have entered and won an interschool Maths competition! The KS2 children have taken trips out in our local area to find out about the village's local history and explored, with a trip into Chesterfield, where there was once a Roman fort! To end a fantastic term, KS1 performed a Twinkly Nativity to celebrate the festive season.

Attendance

Our overall school attendance has dropped to 96.5% placing us 57th out of 286 schools. I'm not surprised by this as the winter illnesses have really taken a toll since October half term. We have 27 persistently absent pupils (below 90% attendance). The bullet points below are taken from research conducted by the DFE around the links between attainment at the end of KS2 (Y6 Sats) and KS4 (GCSE's).

- Among pupils with no missed sessions over KS2, 83.9% achieved the expected standard compared to 40.2% of pupils who were persistently absent.
- Among pupils with no missed sessions over KS4, 83.7% achieved grades 9 to 4 in English and maths compared to 35.6% of pupils who were persistently absent.

Parking

I have been informed again, that a small handful of our parents have been parking in areas of the church car park that are either reserved for disabled parishioners or disrespectful to the deceased who are buried there. Not only this, but when the church warden asks these people to move, he has been met with aggression and rudeness – not values we expect from the parents of Hunloke Park. I have asked the church warden to take any photographs of cars not parked appropriately and send them to me – I will happily post them on dojo as a reminder that our neighbours are very kind in allowing parents to park in the car park at the beginning and end of the school day.

Staffing

Mr C Smith leaves us today, we wish him good luck wherever his next adventure takes him. Miss O'Keeffe will be joining our EYFS team in January, she has met the children a few times now and is looking forward to joining us all. We also have four new midday meal supervisors joining us in January, welcome to Mrs Torry, Miss McNab, Miss Grimson and Mrs Walsh.

The 'Friends' Christmas Fair raised a whopping £1290 – thank you to those who attended and helped out.

The Disco's and anthology raised over £400

Dates for your Diary – Spring/Summer 2024

Monday 8th - School re-opens for Spring term 1
Wednesday 17th Jan – Friends Meeting at School 6pm
Monday 29th January - Pre-school individual photographs
Wednesday 31st January – SHAPE Activity Day Years 1 – 6.
Wednesday 7th Feb – Y6 ‘Healthy Me’ workshop
Thursday 8th February – Y2 ‘Healthy Me’ workshop
Friday 16th February – Last day of Spring term 1
Monday 26th February – School re-opens for Spring term 2
Thursday 7th March – World Book Day
Thursday 14th March – Spring Discos (more info to follow)
Week beginning 25th March – Parents Evenings (dates TBC)
Thursday 28th March – last day of Spring Term 2
Monday 15th April – School re-opens for Summer term 1
Wednesday 24th – Friday 26th April – Y4 residential to Boggle Hole
Wednesday 24th April – Y3 trip to Derby Open Centre
Monday 13th May – Y6 statutory assessments begin
Thursday 23rd May – Class group photographs Rec – Y6
Friday 24th May – Last Day of Summer term 1
Monday 3rd June – School re-opens for Summer term 2
Wednesday 12th June – Y2 trip to Lea Green
Friday 14th June – Sports day Rec – Y6
Friday 21st June Sports Day backup date
Monday 24th to Wednesday 26th June – Y6 residential to London
Week beg 24th June – Bookfair in school
Friday 28th June – Summer Fair 5-7pm
Monday 1st July – School Closed for staff training
Friday 5th July – Pre-school Sports Day
Monday 15th July – Reports out to parents
Wednesday 17th July – Meet the teacher drop ins
Thursday 18th July – Whole school arts day
Friday 19th July – Last day of Summer term 2
Monday 22nd and Tuesday 23rd July – School closed for staff training

Transition
dates next
year:

4th and 11th
July 2024

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Jenny Murphy
Headteacher



Change to end of day from September 2024

The Government announced that from September 2024 all schools have to offer a 32.5-hour week. We already offer this in Y3- Y6 however, our Reception, Y1 and Y2 pupils fall short by 10 minutes per day. From September 2024, all pupils (except pre-school) will finish at 3.25pm. We will not be going out to consultation for this as it has been passed through parliament that we have to make the change.