



Packington

Church of England Primary School

October 2012

Newsletter

DEAR ALL,

Well it has been an excellent start to our new academic year and it is really great after our fantastic Olympic Summer to have our own good news to shout about. As you will read we have achieved some of our best ever SATS results both at KS1 and KS2 and have once again become award winners as a result of the whole schools efforts. On top of this the children have been working hard on some inspirational and creative activities and we have also been busy organising some interesting future events for pupils.



Please do enjoy sharing our news.

A New Bell to Arrive at Packington

We are delighted to hear that the wood carving of the Packington Bell, sculpted from the trunk of the cedar tree that we had to have felled back in April, is now ready to be delivered to school. It will be quite a historical moment in Packington as the original Cedar tree was planted to mark the coronation of King George VI and it will now return to school in Queen Elizabeth's Jubilee year. The bell has been created by artist Peter Leadbeater at the National Forest Wood Fair and will be sited near the pond area. We are currently arranging an event to mark the arrival of the bell on Friday 2nd November. The sculpture will arrive by lorry and a small crane will be needed to lift the bell into position so it will be quite a memorable moment for pupils. The company who felled the tree have kindly arranged to return the bell free of charge and we are also hoping that the sculptor will be able to come to the event to talk to pupils.



FANTASTIC SATS RESULTS

We are over the moon to announce our 2012 SATS results. The children have made us very proud both at KS1 and KS2.

Our Year 6 pupils worked especially hard with most achieving better than national expectations (level 4) in Maths, English and Science. And, as you can see from the table below the number of children achieving the higher level 5 is fantastic.

On top of this we had two pupils achieve L6 in Maths and one pupil achieve L6 in writing and a further group of pupils achieved perfect or near perfect scores on test papers.

	Level 4 and above	Level 5
English	100% (85%)	80% (38%)
Reading	100% (87%)	100% (48%)
Writing (TA)	100% (81%)	47% (28%)
Maths	100% (84%)	93% (39%)
Science (TA)	100% (87%)	60% (36%)

1 pupil = 6.7% (National figures for 2012 in brackets)

Our KS1 pupils also performed exceptionally well with results above those nationally.

	2+	2b+	3+
Reading	100%	94%	72.2%
Writing	100%	94%	39%
Maths	100%	100%	50%
Speaking & Listening	100%	-	66.7%
Science	100%	-	50%

All the pupils put in superb efforts and deserve their success – well done!

NEWS HEADLINES

***CHINA WORKSHOP** ~ The Eagles had a superb time at their recent Chinese Workshop and have been inspired to design and make their own Chinese dragon.

***RESPECT WORKSHOP** ~ We are really pleased that we have been able to secure a visit from Leicester City Football in the Community Team to school. They will deliver a workshop to the Eagles class on the theme of respect as part of a campaign sponsored by NPower.

***HARVEST FESTIVAL** ~ Don't forget we will be celebrating our Harvest Festival on Friday 19th October. Please do come along. Our chosen charity is The Big Collection a project organised by Water Aid to provide rainwater harvesters in Rwanda.

***WATER AID TALK** ~ Liv McQuillan from Water Aid will visit school on 18th October to talk to the children about their work in Rwanda to provide clean drinking water in rural communities. This will also support our joint project with Bushara School on the theme of Safety.

***SUDBURY VISIT** ~ The Robins and Blackbirds are looking forward to their visit to Sudbury Hall and Childhood Museum to support their topic on Toy Stories.

***RECYCLING WORKSHOPS** ~ Pupils in FS/KS1 will have the opportunity to take part in recycling workshops organised by Ground Work

***HOT HOUSE MUSIC** ~ We were all thrilled to welcome back Jazz Man and Stu from 'Hot House Music' to join us in our Collective Worship. Once again they thrilled us with their music. We enjoyed their talk about the different instruments in the brass family and our toes were tapping to a range of musical pieces. They even got us moving and making music in a musical brain gym activity. Everybody left the hall with a saunter and a smile and what was really nice was that our visitors were very impressed with the musical knowledge of our children.

***KINDLES** ~ We have now acquired 6 kindles to be used in school. Initially they will be used to support guided reading and form part of our development work to improve the provision of new technologies and reading materials in school. Over the next few months all the classes will have an opportunity to use them in lessons and reading time.

Please remember we have an open door policy so should you have any concerns please contact your child's class teacher or myself. You can contact us either in school, by phone (01530 412425) or e-mail (headteacher@packington.leics.sch.uk).

AT PACKINGTON WE WANT TO DO OUR BEST AND WORK TOGETHER.

INTRODUCING OUR NEW READING CARDS

Our reading results have been excellent this year but over the last few weeks we have been looking to see how we can make it even better. So, for example, one improvement has been to purchase 6 Kindles to bring us up to date with new technology.

We are also mindful that as children progress through the school they often tell parents they don't need to read, which isn't the case, and in fact during their time in the Eagles Mr Emery does set up reading challenges for pupils and gives book lists for the children to read a set number of books from. To continue to encourage us to be a "reading school " we are asking all children to read at least three times a week at home and to get their reading diaries or planners signed by an adult. They will then receive a raffle ticket for our Monday prize draw.

We have also made a whole set of reading cards to help parents when listening to their child read or when discussing a book. There is one card for each colour band of books and for older pupils we have developed a different colour card for each different reading level. Written on each card is a list of learning objectives that children are working on in their guided reading sessions in school. We hope you will find them useful so that you can support your child's reading at home and that you will use the ideas to comment on your child's reading in their home link books and planners. The teacher's will use these comments to support their assessments and discuss next steps with your child during guided reading times.

Governors

At the first Full Governors meeting of this academic year the following officers were elected:

Chair of Governors: Mrs Tracey Mitchell

Vice Chairs: Mrs Julie Cooper and Mrs Nicola Beanland

Football: Packington beat Ellistown 3:2 –well done!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

8th & 9th Oct ~ Parent Interviews
10th Oct ~ Open the Book Visit to take Collective Worship
12th Oct ~ Leicester City Football Club Respect Workshop
16th Oct ~ Visit to Sudbury for FS/KS1
17th Oct ~ Ragtex Collection
18th Oct ~Water Aid visit to school
19th Oct ~ Harvest Festival in Church
31st Oct ~ Final date to apply for Secondary Schools (Yr6)
1st Nov ~ Recycling Workshops for FS/KS1
PSA AGM 7.30pm
2nd Nov ~ Arrival of the Packington Bell Sculpture
3rd Nov ~ Cross Country at Bosworth Country Park
W/C 5th Nov ~ RE Themed week
7th Nov ~ Maths Workshop for parents
9th Nov ~ Creative Time - Memories
22nd Nov ~ Tree Planting at Jubilee Wood –KS2
29th Nov ~ Eagles Class Assembly 9.15am
30th Nov ~ Christingle Workshop and Assembly
2nd Dec ~ Christingle Service in Church
4th/5th Dec ~ KS2 Christmas Concert
6th Dec ~Whole School visit to the Pantomime
8th Dec ~ Cross Country at Viscount Beaumont
10th Dec ~ Working Space Theatre
12th Dec ~ KS1 Nativity
18th Dec~ Christmas Creative Time
19th Dec~ Christmas Party
21st Dec ~ Carol Service in Church/ End of Term

PACKINGTON WIN SUMMER READING CHALLENGE FOR SECOND YEAR!

There were smiles all round when we received a telephone call to say that we have won the Library Services Summer Reading Challenge for the second year running. That means that Packington had the highest percentage of pupils who signed up and completed the challenge to read 6 books from the library over the holidays. Well done to all the pupils who took part – it is a great achievement! The school will be presented with an award in the achievement assembly on Friday 12th October.

BUDE

Pupils and staff have given the residential visit to Bude the big thumbs up. A tremendous time was had by all with children tackling new challenges with great success. We look forward to hearing their stories at their next achievement assembly. Thank you to Mr

Emery, Mrs Clark and Mr Eaton for working hard to make the visit a great success.



PSA AGM

The AGM for the PSA will take place on 1st November at 7.30pm in school. Everybody is welcome. Please come along to support this worthwhile group who provide so much for school.

Well Done John!

A special thank you goes to John, our Lollipop Man, who ran the Nottingham Half Marathon to raise money for school. He completed it in a superb 1hr 53m 48s and thanks to families and staff digging into their pockets he will have raised over £140. The children will be involved in deciding how to spend the money on something special. John has also presented his medal to the children. They were really honoured when I showed it in assembly and they have decided that it should be kept in the school trophy cabinet. **Thank you John!**



National Forest Training

During this academic year we will be working with a collaborative network from the Ashby Family of Schools and other organisations including Derby University, the National Forest, Ground Work and the Learning Outside the Classroom Council to further develop opportunities for using the outdoors and the National Forest for learning activities. At the start of this month staff attended a two hour twilight event at Albert Village to launch the year of work and had the opportunity to participate in three workshops providing ideas for them to use back in school.

MATHS WORKSHOP FOR PARENTS

Wednesday 7th November 6 pm

The Eagles Classroom

This workshop will cover how we teach maths at Packington and how you can help your child. The session will be led by Mrs Rogers our Maths Co-ordinator and parents report that it has been very useful and informative.

So please put the date in your diary, look out for the flyer but above all COME ALONG!