



Sunnyfields Primary School

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Autumn 2
November 2018

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Dates for your diary

- Thursday 8th
November Parents' Evening
- Thursday 22nd
November Flu Vaccinations for FS2, Y1, Y2, Y3, Y4 and Y5.
- Friday 30th November
Christmas Fayre
2:30pm

A busy year to date...

The first half term has passed by so quickly as the children and staff made a superb start to the new academic year.

The first half term saw the school enjoying lots of success in sports. All of our children participated in visits offsite or had visitors to see them on site.

We have now received our published KS2 data for our 2017-2018 cohort. We have seen improvements in writing and reading progress and have maintained our progress measure in numeracy. We also benefited from KS1

results that are above the Local Authority average and above the national averages in writing, maths, science and phonics. This data along with the superb work of the staff and children supports our view of the school providing outstanding provision.

The school is now almost at capacity with only five places available across upper key stage 2. These places have occurred due to children moving out of the area. We are at capacity in FS2 and KS1.

Thank you to parents and carers for all of the support that you provide in order to allow the

school and your child to be so successful.

As we start the second autumn half term, we begin what is a magical time in school. It is lovely to see the children getting excited in the build up to Christmas which we embrace but rest assured we continue to ensure that the children are challenged through all of the excitement.

In the rest of the newsletter you will find some more information about upcoming events.

Mr. David Richardson

Head Teacher

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Christmas Productions in EYFS and KS1

The children will soon be preparing their Christmas performances. This year we are doing things slightly differently. Nursery children will be working together to perform their own traditional Nativity play. Dates for this can be found on the back page of this newsletter. The Zebra,

Crocodile, Kangaroo and Puma children are working together to prepare for their performance of 'Christmas with the Aliens'. There will be a dressed rehearsal on Monday 10th December at 2:15pm. The dress rehearsal will allow the children to perform in front of the KS2 children. It

also gives an opportunity for grandparents and any parents who cannot make the main performance an opportunity to see their child. The main performances will be on Tuesday 11th and Wednesday 12th December at 2:15pm.

Governors

Martin Hobbs Chair of Governors

I was invited to attend the KS1 educational visit at the National Emergency Services Museum in Sheffield on 25th Sept, a place I didn't know existed.

A very informative and at times a thought provoking visit for children and adults alike. Disappointed that we couldn't use the fireman's pole and who would have thought we would see a lifeboat in the middle of Sheffield. The children were exemplary on the visit.

I have also worked with the school to review teachers' pay, head teacher appraisal and to complete the school self evaluation.

Gaynor Bellamy Vice Chair of Governors

As always, the start of a new academic year involves governors meeting with the Senior Leadership Team to carry out a school self evaluation and creation of our School Improvement Plan.

During such meetings, we also arrange to meet our linked subject leaders. As EYFS Governor I have therefore visited FS1 which included

a fabulous lesson observation.

Governors are often involved in the recruitment of new staff members and it was my pleasure to be part of the selection and interview team for our new School Business Manager.

Finally, my favourite governor duty is to regularly attend the Friday morning special mentions assembly and see the children stand with pride and confidence to share their achievements both in and out of school.

Ruth Martin Maths Governor

I will be meeting with Miss Raynor on 21st November to review the maths improvement plan.

Sharon Sinha Governor

I was invited to accompany KS1 and FS2 children on their visit to the Emergency Services Museum in Sheffield on Tuesday 25th September. What a lovely day was had by all! This visit was extremely well organised and ran like clockwork with all of the children impeccably behaved and so polite to all adults in attendance. It was a pleasure to be a part of and I can't wait for my next school trip.

What an absolute treat I had having been invited to watch the Harvest Festival. I really enjoyed seeing all of the art work that the children proudly showed everyone and I was so impressed by the children with speaking parts.

Lastly, the organisation and behaviour of all the children was exemplary. It's obvious how proud they all are and how much they enjoy what they are doing.

Lorraine Flint Governor

I joined a formal observation in Panther Class where I saw how changes in the curriculum reflect how PE activities are linked to other subject areas. All children were focused and enthusiastic.

As part of a Viking project I spent the day in in KS2 (dressed as a Viking of course). I followed a mixed aged group around as they completed a range of activities. We played Viking games, did research, looked at artefacts and participated in a Viking charge. A rich and fabulous learning day for all.

I also spend Monday lunchtimes in school running a table tennis club which I am having fun with.

Friends of Sunnyfields

The Friends of Sunnyfields continue to raise funds to purchase additional equipment for your children.

This year the Friends of Sunnyfields have donated £1500 towards the cost of the new adventure playground equipment and £400 to purchase Christmas presents for the children. At our

Halloween disco the Friends of Sunnyfields raised an amazing £460. The Friends of Sunnyfields relies on a group of volunteers giving up their time to plan and organise additional events. This group is made

up of parents, carers, grandparents and retired members of staff. If you would like to join this group of volunteers they will be holding their next planning meeting on **Wednesday 14th November at 2:30pm** in the Technology Room. This will be to plan for the Christmas Fayre.

The Christmas Fayre will be held on Friday 30th November 2018 starting at **2:30pm**.

Sporting success for Sunnyfields

Mr. Macconnachie along with his eager team of staff and volunteers has continued to provide opportunities for our children to represent the school in a variety of sports.

The Y3/4 girls and Y3/4 boys represented the school in the Doncaster Schools tournament. This saw the girls reaching the semi finals and the boys reaching the knockout rounds.

The Y5/6 boys football team won their group stage games

convincingly and went onto represent the school in the Doncaster Schools Final finishing third overall.

The Y3/4 and Y5/6 boys have reached the South Yorkshire Finals for cross country.

The school was also represented at a cross country competition at Bessacarr. KS2 children also represented the school in cross country at the Keepmoat Stadium.

The Y5/6 Dodge Ball team competed in the Doncaster Schools Finals.

A group of boys and girls from Key Stage 2 went to Old Trafford in October to watch Manchester United v Derby County in the Carabo Cup.

The school has also benefited from additional coaching support from Doncaster Rovers in football, dodge ball and basketball.

The school will also be hosting our own Y3/4 and Y5/6 boys football tournament this half term. A girls tournament is planned for early spring.

Staff news

Mrs. Oldfield (formally Miss Powell) has now given birth to a beautiful baby girl three weeks early!! Both Mrs Oldfield and baby Sophia are doing well.

Mrs. Laycock is only a few weeks away from the birth of her second child. Mrs. Laycock will start her maternity leave on Monday 19th

November 2018. Miss Thornton has been employed to cover Mrs. Laycock's maternity leave. She started in school on Monday 5th November and will spend the next two weeks working alongside Mrs. Laycock to ensure that there is a smooth transition. Mrs. Laycock will be returning from her maternity leave at Easter.

Mr. Ainsley, School Business Manager, has taken a promotion at a school in Sheffield. Mrs. Oxtoby will be joining the team from 8th November as the new School Business Manager.

What's next for Sunnyfields?

The school is focused on being the very best that it can be for our children. As we move through this academic year we have three areas to focus on in our school improvement plan; development of the curriculum to ensure that it is challenging and suits all of our pupils' needs, development of assessment (part of this work will include working with parents so that they fully understand the academic

progress their child has made) and finally the further development of the middle leadership team in school as we plan for succession.

We have been successful in being awarded a grant for £35000 which we will be investing in a multi use games area with an all weather surface which will be located on the school field. We will also be doing some further work on our woodland area that is currently out of bounds

due to some dead trees that need to be removed.

Many staff are also working beyond the school with Mr. Richardson working alongside Highwoods Academy to develop the quality of leadership, Mrs. Gatt who is working alongside Askern Spa Junior School to support the development of teaching and learning and Mrs. Milner who supports the moderation of KS1 assessments across the Local Authority.

Upcoming events at Sunnyfields

This is a busy half term at Sunnyfields with lots of things happening in school.

The children are already busy in class as they have started their new topics. The staff are also working hard as they are expected to ensure that the children continue to make academic progress this year.

This half term is also an exciting one as we look forward to celebrating Christmas with special performances for parents and a visit to the Church to look forward to.

Please take a look at some of the important dates and events to put in your diary this half term.

- **Thursday 8th November Parents' Evening**
- **Tuesday 20th November Y3/4 Boys Football Competition at Sunnyfields**
- **Thursday 22nd November Flu Vaccinations for FS2, Y1, Y2, Y3, Y4 and Y5. Parents will have already received letters about this.**
- **Tuesday 27th November Y5/6 Boys Football Competition at Sunnyfields**
- **Friday 30th November Christmas Fayre 2:30pm start.**
- **Tuesday 4th December Nursery Visit to Totley Farm**
- **Monday 10th December Nursery Dress Rehearsal for grandparents 9:45am**
- **Monday 10th December FS2 & KS1 Dress Rehearsal for grandparents 2:15pm**
- **Tuesday 11th December Nursery Performance for parents 9:45am**
- **Tuesday 11th December FS2 & KS1 Performance for parents 2:15pm**
- **Thursday 13th December Nursery Performance for parents 9:45am**
- **Thursday 13th December FS2 & KS1 Performance for parents 2:15pm**
- **Friday 14th December Pantomime visiting school for children**
- **Monday 17th December KS2 Christmas Carols for parents 6pm**
- **Wednesday 19th December Children's Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day**
- **Thursday 20th December Children's Party Day Non Uniform**
- **Friday 21st December Children visiting Church at 1:30pm**

Lunchtimes and Uniform

To ensure that all of our children have access to a healthy lunch we ask that children have a healthy packed lunch. Therefore, children are not allowed to have fizzy drinks, sweets or chocolate as part of the packed lunch. If these are included in a lunch box, the lunchtime staff ask your children to save these until they go home.

Our children look very smart in their uniforms. However, we do have some children that do need to be reminded about uniform. Full details regarding our uniform policy can be found on the school website.

The policy has been written to ensure that our children are well equipped and dressed suitably to work in school. It has also been written alongside secondary schools to ensure that our children are ready for the transition to the next stage of their education.

We would like to remind parents about appropriate footwear. Children should wear black school shoes. Any footwear with sports branding on are deemed to be trainers. Trainers are not acceptable footwear unless they are being worn for PE.

Important Dates

School closes on Friday 21st December and reopens on Monday 7th January 2019.

The remaining INSET days where we will be closed to children are on:

- 25th February 2019
- 24th May 2019
- 3rd June 2019

The Y6 SATs week is on **13th May-16th May 2019** and Y1 Phonics week commences on **10th June 2019**. Absence should be avoided during this time.
