



YENTON NEWSLETTER



Yenton Primary School

Issue No. 6

22nd May 2017

Chester Road, Erdington, B24 0ED 0121 464 6588

Head's Message - Paul Smith

Dear Families

We are almost at the end of another hectic term at our school—although it has been a very short term it has been packed with action and activity, ranging from Y4 decorating Chip from Beauty and the Beast, Y3 investigating an very Egyptian Murder scene to Reception looking for a Very Hungry Caterpillar. Our year 6 children have now completed their KS2 SATs exams and have conducted themselves in a mature and responsible way throughout this intense period. Our thanks go to the parents, children and to the Y6 staff who have supported the children every step of the way. Y2 are currently completing their KS1 SATs and have also demonstrated a mature attitude—Well done Y2! As we approach the half term holidays I would like to wish you all a happy holiday and look forward to seeing you all on Monday 5th June.

Y6 rock at Whitemoor Lakes

Y6 were brilliant on our residential trip to Whitemoor Lakes. The centre staff were bowled over by the responsible attitude and teamwork of all of our children. I visited one



afternoon and was particularly impressed by the way in which the children supported and encouraged each other, especially in attempting challenges that pushed them to the limit (and beyond!) of what they thought they could do. I would also like to thank the staff who went,



without whom this trip wouldn't have taken place - our thanks go to Mrs Armstrong, Miss Dodd, Mrs Williams and Mr Stamp. They all made sure that all of the children had the most fantastic time!

Extreme Reading at Yenton



Reading at home and reading for pleasure are key elements of the English curriculum and important stepping stones in your child's educational career. Our Reception , Year

1 and 2 children have been very creative in finding ways to read at home in their EXTREME READING challenge. It is vitally important that we all make the effort to hear our children read at home and read to them. Well done to all of the EXTREME READERS in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2!

Road Safety

I would like to remind all parents to please obey the speed limits and parking restrictions in and around our school. I understand that, as busy parents, we may be in a rush but the safety of our children must ALWAYS come first. Please show you care and park elsewhere. Thank you.



web: www.yenton.bham.sch.uk



email: enquiry@yenton.bham.sch.uk

twitter: www.twitter.com/Yenton Primary



School Attendance

We have a growing number of children reported as absent for medical reasons but no evidence is provided by Parents/Carers. Schools are also under a safeguarding duty, under [section 175 of the Education Act 2002](#) to investigate any unexplained absences.

A school will **only authorise** an absence due to medical reasons if:

- The child is too ill (for **an extended** period of time- more than 4 days) to attend and the school, having been provided with evidence in the form of letters/prescriptions from medical professionals, accepts this as valid.
- The child has a medical or dental appointment and official proof has been provided.

In the *majority* of cases, a parents' note/phone call explaining that their child is ill on the first day of absence, can be accepted without question or concern.

If the child's condition is being managed using over-the-counter medication, proof (see note below) must be provided.

Note – in these “less serious” medical cases, medical proof can take the form of dated pharmacy receipts relating to over-the-counter medication purchased during periods of absence and/or the medication itself (bottles/ packets etc.).

Please be aware that telephone calls and handwritten notes from a parent/carer are not acceptable as medical evidence when attendance is of **serious** concern and the child is on the Attendance Officer's caseload list. (Parents will have already been told if this is the case.)

Currently our school attendance is at 95.75%. The nationally expected level is 96%. Please make sure your child attends school regularly and on time. Our school attendance officer and Miss Webster are working hard to improve our school attendance. If you have any queries, please get in touch with Miss Webster.

Water Safety in Birmingham



After several high profile incidents last summer involving children and young people from the West Midlands, Birmingham are running a Water

Safety Campaign—STAY SAFE. To help re-inforce this children have had lessons on water safety and we were visited by members of the RNLI to help our children understand the dangers of open waters. Please do talk to your children about this very important issue.

Sad farewell, warm welcome

Sadly this half term we are saying good bye to Mr Mark Keenan. Mr Keenan has been supporting Mr Carroll, our site manager, over the past 4 years and has helped to maintain the school site and buildings. We would like to thank Mr Keenan for all of his hard work and wish him well for the future.

We are pleased to welcome Miss Beth Harrison to our school office. I know that many of you have now met Miss Harrison and have been impressed by her open and friendly manner. Also starting with us as lunchtime supervisors are Mrs Linehan and Mrs Brindley-Jones. We want to wish all of our new staff well and hope they have a wonderful time at our school.

Forest School

The next few months in the forest are some of the best in terms of natural resources. The forest is bursting with life and vibrant colours to stimulate and educate our children. Over the coming weeks the children will be taking part in nature scavenger hunts, refurbishing 'Ladybird Lodge' (our mini beast hotel) encouraging butterflies to come and visit us by making fruity butterfly feeders and welcoming back our resident summer frogs! If you are curious about what Forest School offers your children then please feel free to have a chat with me—Mrs Carns, Forest School leader.



Sports Results

This term girls from years 5 and 6 participated in a 6 a-side football tournament at Wyndley Leisure centre. They played extremely well and didn't concede a goal throughout the whole tournament! They ended up coming fifth place and they were a credit to the school. It was international dance day on the 28th April so years 4, 5 and 6 had a specialist Bollywood teacher come into school to teach them. 5C had an amazing Bollywood dance off afterwards. The week commencing 8th May was Great British tennis week and we were lucky enough to have a specialised tennis coach from Pype Hayes tennis club teach our PE lessons. Also this term we have many sporting opportunities arising, with year 5 boys entering a 6 a-side football competition, a year 5 and 6 mixed rounders competition and the annual area sports athletic competition.

The school also won first place in the Road to Rio Workshop, beating 45 other schools from across Birmingham. Well done Miss Lippitt and everyone involved!!



Snacks in schools

We have noticed an increase in children bringing in sweets and chocolates for snacks at breaktimes. We encourage healthy eating for all of our children and sweets and chocolate are not allowed. Children who eat too much refined sugar can find it hard to concentrate during lessons. Please send your child to school with a healthy snack for break, such as a piece of fruit. Thanks.

Reception

In Reception our topic is 'Will you read me a story?', in which we will be looking at different Fairy Tales. In maths we will be learning about halving and sharing, number bonds and estimating. We will be going on our school trip to the farm, having our first sports day and performing in our end of year assembly. A very busy end to the year is in store!

Year 1

Maths: Number: Place Value and Four operations. Measurement: Money, weight and volume. English, talk for writing, A meeting tale, (based on the story of Bob meeting an alien). In topic/science we are using the Cornerstones unit; Paws, Claws and Whiskers. We will be looking and talking about a collection of paintings, drawings and sculptures of different types of familiar animals. Sort a collection of animals into groups using given and then their own classification criteria, and explain their reasons to others. Identify whether an animal is a carnivore, herbivore or omnivore and how we might know this from their physical appearance

We are also hoping to visit Twycross Zoo at the end of June.

Year 2

English - Lost and Found (Finding Tale) Writing a Recount: Maths - Statistics and Calculation (+ - x and ÷) Science - Plants and Animals. Cornerstones Topic - Street Detectives. PE - Athletics and Net-Wall games.

Y2 will also be going on a trip to Twycross Zoo. This links to our previous topic and our science topic (see above)

Year 3

Next half term we will be covering, English - Talk 4 Writing - our text is Ottoline and the Yellow Cat, a mystery story: Maths - Shape, measure and statistics: Science - Light and Dark ; Animals including humans. Our Cornerstones topic is Gods and Mortals, based around Ancient Greece.

Y3 would also like to say "Thank you !" to all the parents for their support for Year 3's Egyptian day. The children looked fantastic, we all had lots of fun. and learnt many new things.

Year 4

English - Talk 4 writing—The Iron Man: Maths - Shape, Position and Direction and statistics. Our Cornerstones topic is 1066 and The Battle of Hastings: Science - Living Things and Habitats: PE - Athletics/ Striking and Fielding Games: French - French towns/ Likes and dislikes

Year 5

English: Talk 4 writing wishing tale including great hook—please ask your child about it!: Maths shape/space/ Geometry and all four number operations (problem solving): Ancient Greece followed by 14th century studies: Science living things and their habitats: PE—Sports afternoon Edmund Campion.

Y5 enjoyed the Bollywood dancing this term—thanks Miss Lippitt!!

Year 6

Next half term year 6 will be studying World War 2. We will be writing letters and diaries and researching how children used to live during the war. We will be visiting Cannock Chase Museum where the children will be part of role play scenarios and get to dress up in clothing from the period. We will also be reading War Horse as part of our guided reading

"I'd rather attempt to do something great and fail than to attempt to do nothing and succeed. "

Robert H. Schuller

It's GOOD to be in the Yenton Zone

Our new behaviour system continues to have a positive impact on the children's behaviour across the school. As ever, your encouragement when your child receives a bronze, silver or gold reward has played a massive part in this improvement. Last term, those children who were consistently on the blue zone or above received a half term treat of an Easter Eggstravaganza. This half term the children will be rewarded again with a special film in the hall and they will be allowed to bring their own treats. Please be aware that if your child has not been consistently well behaved they will not be able to attend and you will be informed beforehand. Thank you for your continued support and encouragement.

The sun has got his hat on!!!



Hopefully we are now entering the warmest part of the year. If we do get some hot days (fingers crossed!) can you please make sure that your child comes to school with appropriate sun cream (SPF15+ is recommended), a sun hat and a water bottle to make sure that they have enough to drink during the day. Many thanks

Cornerstones

We are pleased to announce that, from next year, we will be using the Cornerstones Scheme for our topic work (science, history, geography etc). This is an extremely well regarded scheme used widely in schools and links all of our topic work into interesting and imaginative learning plans. These plans have wonderful titles like Moon Zoom; Towers, Tunnels and Turrets; Scrumdiddlyumptious and (my favourite) Burps, Bottoms and Bile. We are trialling some of these next half term—please ask your child which unit they are studying!

Dates For Your Diary

Day	Date	Diary Item
Thurs	25th May	Key Stage 1 awards assembly
Thurs	25th May	Good behaviour reward assembly in the afternoon
Fri	26th May	PTFA Cake Sale during morning playtime
Fri	26th May	KS2 awards assembly
Fri	26th May	Break up for Half Term
Mon	5th June	School Re-Opens
Thurs	8th June	General Election day—SCHOOL OPEN AS NORMAL
Mon	12th June	Year 1 Phonic Screening Check begins
Tues	13th June	Year 6 to visit Cannock Chase Museum
Fri	16th June	Year 6 and Parents E-safety workshop
Fri	16th June	Year 2 trip to Twycross Zoo
Fri	30th June	Year 5 trip to Dudley Castle and Zoo
Fri	30th June	PTFA Summer Fayre (3:30—5pm)
Tues	11th July	Reception trip to Umberslade Farm
Weds	12th July	Conkers reward trip for children with 100% attendance
Thurs	13th July	Non Uniform Day & PTFA School Disco (KS1 2:15 - 3:15 - KS2 3:30 - 4:30) Year 6 Leavers Disco 4:30 - 5:30
Fri	21st July	Year 6 Leavers Production
Fri	21st July	End of Term - School closes for Summer Holidays at normal time