



YENTON NEWSLETTER



Yenton Primary School

Issue No. 5

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Chester Road, Erdington, B24 0ED 0121 464 6588

Head's Message - Paul Smith

Dear Families,

Once again this half term seems to have flown by –and it has been a very busy half term for all of our pupils. Our Y6 and Y2 pupils have finished their end of Key Stage assessments (SATs) in Reading, Mathematics and English, Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling (EGPS). I have been very impressed with the mature and sensible way in which our pupils have approached these tests and I am sure that they have done their very best in them. I would like to thank all of our parents who have supported our pupils through this process and also like to thank all of the staff who have worked hard to give them the best possible chance in these exams. We have also begun our learning assemblies, where each year group has the chance to share with you some of the work they have been doing over the academic year. It is pleasing to see how well attended these assemblies are. One of the greatest factors in children succeeding in the education system is parental involvement, and it is fantastic to see so many of you at these assemblies. We also helped to celebrate the royal wedding with our very own tea-party—thanks to Mrs Jay and her wonderful team for putting on such a great spread—the children thoroughly enjoyed the celebrations. I would like to wish you a happy half term holiday and hope that the weather remains good for us all!

Move over J.K!

We were all so pleased to find out that one of our Y6 pupils has been awarded a regional prize for her story-writing skills. **J'yon Brown's** story was a Regional Winner in Explore Learning's National Young Writers' Award 2018—Well done J,yon! Explore Learning will be coming into school in the next few weeks to present J'yon with her prize officially, and we will tweet pictures of this, so please watch our twitter feed!

Several other of our Y6 children also had work published by Youngwriters.co.uk and our congratulations also go to **Zainab Nisa, Laiba Sheraz, Callum Pierce, Julia Okaj, Cadmiela Casamina, Klaudia Kandalska, Victory Mena, Alizah Abbasi, Sapphire Burke, Chrystal Roe, Junaid Ifill, Chiedza M, Lacey Hickin, Muhammed Reehab-Ul-Arfeen, Essa Imran, Toby Fisher, Cheyvon Grant, Lucy Opie, Kianne McBean, Robel Feleke and Mohammed Sharif.** We are so proud of all of you!



No Outsiders

We have recently held some parents meeting regarding our “No Outsiders” scheme. This is a popular and well used PSHE scheme of work that teaches children about diversity and to respect all views and opinions. The “No Outsiders” scheme was developed by Andy Moffat MBE, a teacher here in Birmingham and has been successfully used in primary school across Birmingham and the whole country. The scheme is delivered through a variety of books and deals with topics such as “To like the way I am” and “To be welcoming”. Birmingham is one of the most multi-cultural cities in the country and it is important that we prepare all of our children to live in such a wonderfully diverse and vibrant city. If you have any questions, please see Mrs Berriman, who is leading on this work for our school.



email: enquiry@yenton.bham.sch.uk



web: www.yenton.bham.sch.uk



twitter: [www.twitter.com/Yenton Primary](https://www.twitter.com/Yenton_Primary)

Governing Board Update

Dear Families,

As you will be aware, the Governing Board of our school has written to you all recently informing you of our proposal to convert our school into an academy and to join with Robin Hood Multi-Academy Trust. We have started the formal consultation process with all of our stakeholders, including staff and parents and we would like to hear your views on this matter. We have opened an online survey to gather your opinions through SurveyMonkey and you can access this at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/RD55ZLS> or you can email your views to the governing board at consultation@yenton.bham.sch.uk. If you wish to respond via letter, please drop your responses into the school office, where they will be collected by a member of the Governing Board. All of the information sent out is also on the school website. The closing date for the consultation is Wednesday 20th June.

We are also holding our parent consultation meetings straight after half term. These will be held on Monday 4th June at either 3:30pm or 5:30pm, or on Tuesday 5th June at 9:00am—all are welcome.

Miss Vicki Popplewell—Chair of the Governing Board

Sports!



This term our Years 5 and 6 Girls have taken part in the Sutton Netball league and played in a series of matches against other schools. It was good fun and all those that took part are invited to a Presentation Evening at the Ramada Hotel on Tuesday 5th June to receive awards for the commitment to the school.

Next term will be exciting term for sport due to the start of the World Cup in Russia! KS2 have World Cup themed workshops planned in Russian dancing and football skills. Year 5 will be taking part in an Erdington District football competition. The annual Area Sports competition will also take place on 20th June for KS2 where Yenton will be competing against other schools in the area (fingers crossed the weather is nice to us this year!). Sports day will be happening on 26th June. KS1 will take place in the morning and KS2 in the afternoon—we hope to see you there!!

School Dinners

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we have changed the way in which you pay for school dinners. We are now using ParentPay and we know that there have been some teething issues with this system—some of these problems have been outside of our control and we are working to resolve the ones within our power.

For our KS2 children (those in Years 3 –6) we have sent home a letter asking you to choose your child's meal options for the next half term. Please make sure these are returned to the school office before the end of the half term.

If you have any queries regarding your Parentpay account or need help with the Parentpay system, please see Mrs Rafique, School Business Manager.

Sunflower Competition



Mrs Breen and Y2 are holding a Sunflower competition linked to their Cornerstones topic and you have the chance to guess the height of the tallest sunflower grown at our school. The closest estimate and the class that grows the largest sunflower will win a prize. Each guess will cost £1 and all money raised will be used to buy additional science equipment and resources. The sunflowers are growing and can be seen in the school playground. Please get your estimates into Mrs Breen as soon as possible!

Parking in and around our school

I am aware that parking around schools is always an issue, but some of our parents are parking illegally and dangerously in and around our school. We have been working alongside the local police to try to stop this small minority of parents before a child is seriously injured or even killed. To date the local police have now issued over **30 fixed penalty fines** for illegal or dangerous parking, and will continue to work alongside the school to deter this small minority of parents. Please show you care and park elsewhere!

Summer in the Forest

Summer at last! A time when the forest is bursting with life and vibrant with colour. This is always a wonderful time for the children to develop many skills which are sometimes hard to teach in a classroom environment. Over the coming weeks our activities will include



making fruity butterfly feeders and finding out about the many mini beasts that make an appearance at this time of year. Links will continue to be made, where appropriate, with the class 'Talk for Writing' programme which often enables the children to see a different perspective of what is being taught inside the classroom. If you have any questions or would like to come and see what goes on in the forest please feel free to contact me. Mrs Carn



Reception

Reception's topic for next half term is 'Do Cows drink milk?' in which we will be learning about what happens and who lives on a farm. We will have some special visitors in our classroom to look after who normally live on a farm. I wonder what they could be? Our talk for writing focus will be the stories 'Rosie's Walk' and 'Farmer Duck'. In Maths we will be solving problems, exploring number bonds and continuing to recognise and write our numbers to twenty and beyond. It is RL's turn again for Forest School, so don't forget your wellies. As the school year will be coming to a close we will also be doing lots of work to help the children transition into Year 1.

Year 1

For our final half term Year 1 have a fun packed curriculum. Cornerstones will be focusing on music and our topic will be Rio De Vida. In this topic we will be dancing our feet away as well as stepping to the samba beat! Using a wide range of instruments we will be dancing to the beat as well as using our body to create new sounds! This will also be celebrated with a party just like they do in Rio!

In Talk 4 Writing we will be also looking at the movie Rio and writing our own journey story. Maths we will be using the four operations and applying it to problem solving. We will be challenging ourselves to learn our $\times 2, \times 5, \times 10$ times tables as well as know our number bonds to 20.

Forest school will be exciting with games, bird feeder making and fairy houses!

Year 2

After half term, we will be reading the story of "George's Marvellous Medicine" in English and continue to develop our Year 2 writing skills. We will then look at an information text about Pablo Picasso and persuasive letters. In Year 2 our maths will focus on: Measurement, telling the time to five minutes, including quarter past/to the hour We will use standard units to estimate and measure capacity (l/ml) and temperature. In Cornerstones, this terms topic will be: Muck, Mess and Mixture. Our focus will be on Art and Design, in which we will investigate printing techniques, mixed media pictures and collages exploring colour mixing. In D&T we will explore food tasting, origins of food and healthy meals. During science the children will investigate everyday materials while in ICT we will explore digital photography and presentations. We will also be visiting Sutton Park by train to take part in a healthy picnic and photograph the landscape. (Date to be confirmed according to weather)

Year 3

During our final half term in Mathematics, we will begin looking at measures. We will compare, add and subtract units of measure for length, weight and capacity. We will then look at statistics and will be interpreting bar graphs and pictograms. As part of our Talk 4 Writing journey, the children will read 'The Magic Paint Brush'. They will then innovate and invent their own story with a moral. The children will then be given the opportunity to read and write an autobiography which will link with our Cornerstones topic of 'Urban Pioneers.' Finally, we will be looking performing poetry. Our Cornerstones topic this half term is Urban Pioneers, and we will be visiting the Think Tank. The children will be developing their proficiency in art, using a variety of mediums. In computing, we will be using data handling software to evaluate and analyse information. Finally, in PE, we will be learning about team bat and ball games such as rounders and cricket, and hopefully, making the most of the sunshine.

Year 4

Next half term, our topic is Potions! In English, we will be looking at portal stories and persuasive adverts. In Maths, we will continue to practice our written methods as well as learning about shapes, co-ordinates and statistics. As well as this, we will be improving our recall of our times tables and division facts. In Cornerstones, we will be designing our own potions, looking at potions in famous literature and learning all about states of matter. Throughout the term, we are going to be learning more songs on the Tenor Horn and Flute. For our class read, we will be continuing to read Podkin One-Ear by Kieran Larwood.

Year 5

In Summer 2, Year 5 will be exploring shape, problem solving using measures, area and perimeter in Mathematics. In English, pupils will be learning about the wishing tale Pinocchio and will be writing Newspaper Reports based upon 'A Giant Leap for Mankind'. We will be launching our 'Stargazers' topic where pupils will be working scientifically to learn all about Earth and Space and Forces. They will be researching Galileo Galilei, Isaac Newton and the 1960's space race.

Year 6

This term year 6 will be learning all about Mexico in our new topic Hola Mexico! We will be taste testing different Mexican cuisine, exploring the country and its stunning geography as well as learning about traditional Mexican music and dance. As part of the topic, we will also be researching Mexican celebrations and designing our own 'Day of the Dead' skulls. In reading, year 6 will be enjoying 'War Horse' by Michael Morpurgo and learning about WW1 and how horses were treated during the war. We will also be carrying out lots of fabulous creative writing based on a range of genres.

"Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all"
Aristotle

Reading Rocks!

We have been working really hard over the last year to raise the profile of reading across the school. We have looked very carefully at how we teach reading and have made some significant changes in this. We have also had a drive on getting reading records in so that we can help support you in hearing your child read at home. It is vitally important that all primary children read as often and as much as possible, and with your continued support is much appreciated. Your child would have brought home an application to join the local library—this is a splendid resource and well worth a visit to join!



A generous donation

We have recently had a very unexpected visitor to our school. An ex-pupil, Mr Watt, found our school website and dropped in to see how much has changed in the 61 years since he had been a pupil. It was wonderful to hear his memories of his time at our school. Mr Watt also saw on our website the good work the PTFA do to support our school and, very kindly, made a £50 donation. I am sure you will join me in thanking Mr Watt very much for his kind and generous donation.

School attendance

Currently our school attendance is at 94.56% (95% without our Reception classes). The national average attendance for primary schools is 96%. Please help support our school and ensure that your child attends school regularly. We have a fantastic and dedicated staff but we cannot help or educate your child if they are not in school!



Safety in the playground

As the good weather (hopefully) returns and more of our children take the opportunity to cycle to school, we would like to remind everyone that cycling in the school playground is prohibited. If your child does cycle to school, can you please ask them to dismount before the main school gates and wheel their bicycles safely around to the bike racks. We have also had new playground equipment in the playground, paid for by the PTFA. Unfortunately, before and after school, some children have been mistreating this equipment by climbing all over it. Please can you help support the school and make sure we are respecting the play equipment used by our children. Many thanks for your support.

Dates For Your Diary

Day	Date	Diary Item
Fri	25th May	Year 1 learning assembly
Fri	25th May	School closes for half term holiday
Mon	4th June	School opens for all pupils
Mon	4th June	Parent consultation meeting about academisation: 3:30—4:30pm and 5:30—6:30pm
Tues	5th June	Parent consultation meeting about academisation: 9—10am
Wed	6th June	Class 2A out at Symphony Hall—singing event
Mon	11th June	Phonics screening check for Y1 and some Y2 pupils begins
Thurs	14th June	RE-ARRANGED DATE: Y2 learning assembly—9:15am
Fri	15th June	Police workshops for years 5 and 6
Tues	26th June	Sports Day (weather permitting): KS1 am, KS2 pm
Thurs	28th June	PTFA summer fayre
Mon	2nd July	Diversity week begins
Wed	4th July	World Music day
Thurs	5th July	Summer disco and Leavers' Fish and Chip Supper
Fri	6th July	Sports Diversity day
Mon	9th July	Y3 trip to The Thinktank
Wed	11th July	Whole school Maths day—more information to follow
Thurs	12th July	100% attendance reward trip
Fri	20th July	Half termly attendance reward afternoon
Fri	20th July	School closes for summer holidays
Mon	3rd Sept	Training Day—school closed for all pupils
Tues	4th Sept	School open to all pupils at the normal time (except NEW reception pupils)