



Newsletter No 1

Welcome to the first Newsletter of the new academic year. We have had a very busy start to the new term, the building work has taken much longer than anticipated but finally the end is in sight, once again please accept my apologies for the disruption to the start of the year. The improvements to the school are already having an impact on the children's daily activities.

Best Ever SATs Results

This year our SATs results have been the best the school has every achieved. Part of this is as a result of parents promoting the high standard of attendance and punctuality that we expect from all children. The importance of attending school every day, on time, cannot be overemphasised. We have already had a growing number of children arriving late for school, this sends the wrong message about how we value education. Please make sure your child attends every day, on time.

Below are the results from tests taken during last term. These are as yet un-validated and may change slightly when the official data is released:

	Reading	Writing	Maths	Pass Rate
Year 6 Level 4 and above:	77%	80%	83%	
Year 2 Level 2 and above:	87%	85%	87%	
Year 1 Phonics:				56%
EYFS Good Level of Development:				64.8%

The children now in year 2 will have the opportunity to re-take their phonics test later this year.

Our key areas for further development this year will be reading (including phonics) and maths.

New National Curriculum

Last September we introduced the new National Curriculum. Linked to this was a new way of assessing your child's progress, this replaced the old 'levels' system. We are holding workshops for parents of Y2 & Y6 children to explain how this will impact on the SATs tests next year. **IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU ATTEND.**

- 21st September - Y6 Parents Meeting 3.30pm
- 25th September - Y2 Parents Meeting 9.30am/2.30pm
- 28th September - Y6 follow up Meeting 3.30pm

MUGA Update

The MUGAs are now fully operational and we have already seen the benefits at lunchtime and playtimes. We recognise that they have caused some congestion at home time and a playground plan has been put in place help alleviate this. A copy of the plan is attached.

Parent Consultation Evenings – 30th September & 1st October

Please come and see your child's class teacher between 3.30 & 6.00pm no appointment needed.

Staff have been working hard to get the classrooms ready and have produced fantastic book corners. The whole school have been reading *Shark in the Dark* by Peter Bently, from this the children have produced some excellent writing and artwork, this will be displayed in the corridors, please have a look during parents evening.

Academy Council

We are very pleased to announce the appointment of Mr Chris Stevens as our new Academy Council Chair of Governors. Chris is a very experienced, highly regarded educator. He will be able to give us invaluable advice on how best to move the school forward in line with the new Ofsted Framework.

We have a vacancy for a parent Academy Counsellor so if you are passionate about education and are interested in becoming more involve, please register your interest at the school office.

Extra Curricular Activities

Year 2

Kingsbury Water Park

As part of the year 2 science and literacy curriculum, Y2 will be visiting Kingsbury Water Park on Thursday 1st October. We will be having fun searching for mini beasts and learning all about their habitat.

Year 3

Snow Dome Trip

During Autumn term 2, year 3 will be writing winter poems and settings, as part of this they will be going on a trip to the Snow Dome. This will take place on Thursday 5th November.

Map Skills.

As part of their map development Y3 will also be travelling around the number 11 bus route on 6th October.

Year 4

On Wednesday 14th October Y4 will be taking part in a Roman workshop. Please come dressed as a Roman!

Year 5

As part of their Rainforest studies, the children in year 5 will be visiting the Living Rainforest, Hampstead, West Berkshire, on Wednesday 4th November. The Living Rainforest is home to 700 species of plants and animals. The children will get the chance to watch birds, butterflies and lizards roam free in the tropical glasshouses and attend a workshop on animal adaptations.

Year 6

As part of their Tudor studies, the children in year 6 will be visiting Blakesley Hall on Wednesday 18th November.

They will be able to explore the beautiful Elizabethan house, one of the oldest buildings in Birmingham and a typical example of Tudor architecture. They will also be having a workshop on the differences between the rich and the poor Tudors.

Dates for Your Diary

21 September	Y6 Parents Meeting 3.30pm	6 October	Y3 No 11 Bus Trip
23 September	Y5 Kingsbury science visit	14 October	Y4 Roman Workshop
25 September	Y2 Parents Meeting 9.30/2.30pm	26-30 October	Half Term
28 September	Y6 Parents follow up meeting 3.30pm	4 November	Y5 Rainforest Trip
30 September	Parent Consultation Evening	5 November	Y3 Snowdome Trip
1 October	Parent Consultation Evening	5 November	Y6 Tudor Workshop
1 October	Y2 Kingsbury Water Park Trip	18 November	Y6 Blakesley Hall Trip