

Queen's Hill Primary School

Newsletter

September 2016

Welcome Back

A warm welcome back to a new school year and a special welcome to our new children in Nursery, Reception and in the main school. We hope you soon feel part of the Queen's Hill Community. Welcome also to all of our new staff. We now have approximately 400 children on roll in the main school! (we are still gaining more children) That's 371 more than when we opened in September 2008... We continue to liaise closely with the Local Authority to plan for the future.

As the term progresses we will be able to compare how last year's Year 6 SATs results compare to the rest of Norfolk and nationally. What we can tell you is that the children's combined results for Reading, Writing and Maths were above the national average by 2 percentage points and the progress measures for all three subjects are looking very favourable. In fact, results across the school are looking positive. The attitude of the children towards learning is fantastic and this has been noted by staff new to the school, as has their behaviour. We know that those children whose parents take an interest in their child's education and who read regularly at home make good progress at school. It is really important that we ensure all children develop a "growth mindset" (search for Carol Dweck and mindsets, lots of ideas for parents) and that our teachers are using teaching methods that are based on educational research. Gone are the days when teachers put a ceiling on how well a child can do - all the research shows that a positive attitude to learning helps the children to overcome all sorts of hurdles. When you hear your child say they were "in the pit", don't be alarmed! The brain grows when we struggle with our learning and "getting in the pit" is part of this, with a growth mindset children are more likely to get out of the pit - and feel really chuffed with themselves when they do!

We will be purchasing a number of books to support parents which will be held in the school library. As soon as they arrive we will let you know. If you know of any good books that you think other parents may find useful (or if you have any

in good condition and you no longer require) please let Mrs Maskell, our school librarian know.

New Classrooms and New Routines

The builders have done a fantastic job ensuring that the new classrooms were ready for the start of term and I am sure you will agree that they look wonderful. The staff have also been working extremely hard over the holiday to ensure their classrooms were ready for business on the first day. Building work will continue for the coming months and then we will be able to gradually move into our new space!

Children should go straight to their classrooms when they arrive from 8.30.

They will be met by the class teacher in their classroom. Reception and Nursery children should enter by the front door. Children in KS1 and KS2 should enter the school using the rear classroom doors or the double doors, you can access the rear of the school through the MUGA or using the footpath adjacent to the builders compound. We understand that some parents with EYFS and KS1 siblings may prefer to access the building through the front door however **ALL KS2 pupils are expected to enter the rear of the building.**

Assembly Theme

"Courage" will be the assembly theme for this half term. Pastor Peter, who serves the Costessey area, will continue to be a regular visitor to the school and will lead assemblies for us on a Wednesday afternoon.

Topic

The topic this term is "Turrets, Tiaras, Tournaments". Hopefully you managed to attend the curriculum meeting for your child's phase, if not there is information on the school website. If you have any expertise/artefacts that you would like to share linked to this topic then please speak to your child's teacher.

Lost Property

We have accumulated a lot of lost property. It is quite staggering just how much children can lose during the year! Providing the weather is fine, the lost property will be put out on tables along the edge of the MUGA (multi use games area/ tennis courts) on the next three Fridays from 2:30 (weather permitting!). Please come and have a good rummage and collect any belongings before they are disposed of or recycled at the end of September.

Parental Concerns

If you have any concerns about your child's wellbeing or education, you should always speak in the first instance to the Class Teacher. If the matter is not resolved then see the Phase Leader:-

- Nursery & Reception - Mrs Pollard
- Years 1 & 2 - Miss Allen
- Year 3 & 4 - Miss Kerrison
- Years 5 & 6 - Mr Jones

If an issue has not been resolved with the class teacher or phase leader then an appointment can be made to see Mr Roughsedge (Deputy) or Mr Georgiou (Inclusion Leader).

At Queen's Hills we operate an open door policy and parents and carers are always welcome to come and talk directly to staff at a mutually convenient time. We would much rather discuss concerns and issues and strongly advise you to come and talk to us rather than discussing school issues on social networking sites such as Facebook.

Come and Join the Team!



Can you spare a morning or afternoon to
volunteer in school?

Could you help us with:-

Listening to Readers

Gardening with Small Groups

Arts & Crafts

Outdoor Learning

If you are able to help
please contact

Debra Fraser in the School Office



U R G E N T



Are you available on a Tuesday afternoon?
We need a volunteer to help with swimming.

Keep Informed!

To find out all about school events and information please watch out for Newsletters, letters and texts and check our:-

School App, Website, Facebook and Twitter

Please note we are no longer sending information via email



HARVEST FESTIVAL

Friday 23rd September

9am for Years 3,4,5 & 6

2pm for Years 1 & 2

This year we are again supporting "Foodbank" - A Christian crisis food bank project to offer emergency food parcels to needy families across Norwich. The following foods would be really appreciated:

Milk (UHT or powdered)	Sugar (500g)	Fruit Juice (carton)
Soup (tinned)	Pasta Sauces	Cereals
Sponge Pudding (Tinned)	Tomatoes (Tinned)	Rice/Pasta
Rice Pudding (Tinned)	Jam	Tinned Fruit
Tea Bags/instant coffee	Instant Mash Potato	Tinned Meat/Fish
Biscuits/snack bars		

We will start to collect the food on Monday 19th September, please leave in the boxes in the entrance area. Thank you very much for your support.

PE Lessons

A number of pupils have started to wear purple polo shirts as part of their uniform. Please can we politely refer you to the list of uniform on our school website and remind you that purple polos are for PE. If you have recently purchased purple for main school uniform please could you revert to white ones when the children have their next growth spurt.

Thank you.






DIARY DATES

Sept 2016	
Monday 12th	3.15pm - 3.45pm Reception Phonics Workshop (A crèche is available in the Nursery)
Tuesday 13th	Curriculum Day
Thursday 15th	3pm Y3 Jelly Bean Café
Thursday 22nd	EYFS Harvest Stay & Play Reading Café 2pm Y5 Maths Café 3pm Y4 Maths Cafe
Friday 23rd	9am KS2 Harvest Festival 2pm KS1 Harvest Festival
Monday 26th	European day of Languages
Thursday 29th	3pm Y6 Maths Cafe
Friday 30th	2.30pm Les Blaireaux Show & Share Assembly
October 2016	
Wednesday 5th	Y6 visit to Sainsbury's Art Centre 10am Y1 Maths Cafe
Thursday 6th	9am Y2 Maths Café
Friday 7th	2.30pm Les Ecueils Show & Share Assembly
Monday 10th	Y3 Castle Museum Visit
Tuesday 11th	6 - 8pm Nurtured Heart Session Open to all parents Run by Barbara Peek
Thursday 13th	8.30am Reception Fairy tale Café
Friday 14th	2.30pm Les Lapins Show & Share Assembly
Monday 17th	3 - 6pm Parents' Evening
Wednesday 19th	Y6 Parent/Teacher Consultations 3 - 6pm Parents' Evening
Thursday 20th	Y2 Visit to Sandringham
Friday 21st	2.30pm Les Hiboux Show & Share Assembly LAST DAY OF HALF TERM

2016/17

	Autumn Term 2016 Monday 5th September to Friday 16 th December Half Term holiday: Monday 24th October to Friday 28 th October
	Spring Term 2017 Thursday 5 th January to Thursday 31st March Half Term holiday: Monday 13 th February to Friday 17 th February
	Summer Term 2017 Monday 18 th April to Friday 21st July Half Term holiday: Monday 29 th May to Friday 2nd June (May Day Bank Holiday: Monday 1st May)

2017/18

	Autumn Term 2017 Wednesday 6th September to Tuesday 19 th December Half Term holiday: Friday 20th October to Friday 27 th October
	Spring Term 2018 Thursday 4 th January to Wednesday 28th March Half Term holiday: Monday 12 th February to Friday 16 th February
	Summer Term 2018 Monday 16 th April to Tuesday 24th July Half Term holiday: Monday 28 th May to Friday 1st June (May Day Bank Holiday: Monday 7th May)