



Trotts Hill Primary School

Newsletter

7th October 2016

www.trotts Hill.herts.sch.uk

Holiday Diaries

Mrs Shergill and I have been so impressed with the quality of the summer holiday diaries this year and we are grateful to all the families who took the time to help their child produce such creative and individual diaries. We were amazed by the wide variety of places visited and the activities undertaken by our families. It has given us lots of ideas about where we would like to visit or go on holiday next year too!



Reading Award

Congratulations to all one hundred and fourteen children who took part in the Summer Reading Challenge at the library. As a result of this huge effort, Trotts Hill School was awarded second place for highest number of participants across all the schools in Stevenage. This is remarkable given our size compared to many schools locally. We were not aware that the library kept a record or awarded prizes so it is doubly exciting to have come second. A huge thank you to all the families who made the weekly trip to the library this summer and we hope your children enjoyed taking part.

Attendance

I would like to remind you that good attendance is 96% or above. The table below shows class attendance percentages for last week.

Classes	w/b
	26.9.16
N	94.6%
R	97.4%
Y1	100%
Y2	98.7%
Y3	98%
Y4	99.3%
Y5	98.7%
Y6	96.7%

Secondary School Applications

The closing date for secondary applications is Saturday 31st October 2016. Please contact the school office if you need any help with your application or do not have a computer at home and would like to use one at school.

Value of the Month

This month's value is: **Responsibility**

"If you take responsibility for yourself you will develop a hunger to accomplish your dreams"

Les Brown

We will explore the value of responsibility in class and during assemblies. Please include an example of your child taking responsibility by writing a note for the 'Book of Fame' and we will celebrate it in our Friday sharing assembly.

Visit to the Mayor's Office By Jamie Clark and Emily Hunter

On 19th September, the Year 6 School Council members were invited to be part of the Stevenage Schools Parliament and to visit the Council Chambers. There were ten other primary schools and secondary schools there too, as well as the Mayor. Jamie and Emily said: "We talked about ways to celebrate Stevenage being 70 years old and how we could improve the town. We enjoyed being able to have our say and we have lots of ideas to bring back to School Council" Emily and Jamie also felt it was very special to be in a meeting in the Council Chambers. They also enjoyed their hot chocolate treat after the meeting!



British Values

British Values form a significant part of the school ethos. The values are: "Democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs." As a school we aim to teach these values to our children and they are included within our school values too. Recently, there have been significant changes to the leaders of our government and it would be helpful if you were able to talk to your children at home, about who the leaders are, to reinforce what we have been learning at school.

Trotts Hill Website

Please look on the curriculum tab of the school website for maths and English resources to help support your children at home. The resources are located under the relevant subject areas.

Reading Workshop

Please may I remind you that Mrs Mandell, as the lead teacher for reading, has booked a reading workshop for all parents on Wednesday 2nd November from 6.30-7.30pm. The workshop is being run by a county advisor for English and would be valuable for all parents to attend. Refreshments will be available.

Uniform

Please give all uniform orders to the office by 20th October 2016. Orders after this date will not be processed until the following term.

All lost property will be disposed of at the end of October so please check for lost items. Labelling clothing helps us to return items to children easily.

Year 1

On Friday 23rd September, Roebuck veterinary clinic visited Year 1. Verity, the veterinary nurse introduced the children to a puppy Chihuahua, a kitten, a giant rabbit and a tortoise. The children learned how to care for animals and looked at the differences between them. Thank you to Mrs Amass for helping to organise the very special visit.

Parking Outside School

We have become aware of cars parking across the dropped kerb outside the school on Wisden Road. We would ask that if you are dropping your child off at school by car, please park on the road whenever possible or if you need to enter the school grounds take the immediate right as you may double park in this area. This will allow for staff and visitor traffic to arrive and leave the school grounds easily.



Sports News

A wide range of extra-curricular sports clubs have got underway this term including: Year 5 and 6 boys and girls football clubs, Year 5 and 6 netball club, Year 3 and 4 multi-skills club, Rising Stars multi-skills club and Year 3 and 4 dance club.

Our school football teams have made a good start to the season, with our girls beating Ashtree 1-0 and boys beating the Leys 3-1 and just coming short in a defeat against Lodge Farm 4-2 and a 2-1 defeat to St Vincent De Pauls. Our teams have demonstrated excellent ability and positive attitudes during these matches.

Our Year 5 and 6 participated in a local Lacrosse Tournament organised by Rising Stars. They finished 3rd so well done to the team.

Playtime

During the next few months, as the weather changes, we would like to continue to make the field available to children at lunchtime so that they have plenty of space to play and to make the most of our school grounds throughout the year.

If your children would like to play on the grass at lunchtime, please send in a pair of named wellington boots that will be stored outside the classroom in boxes during the day and in the classroom overnight.

Children without wellington boots will play on the playground as normal.



Governor Report: Richard Webb

On Wednesday 5th October it was really nice to see, as a governor, the afternoon tea parties taking place as a reward for all the hard work the children had put into the Summer Reading Challenge and the holiday diaries. It certainly looked like fun was had by all and I for one was jealous of all the delicious food that was on offer. Well done to all those children for their hard work and the kitchen staff for providing such a lovely tea for the children.

Fundraising Group

If you are interested in joining the fundraising group, please let the office know and we can pass on your details to the parents involved. The current members include: Emma Richardson who is taking over from Kimm Johnston, Julie Amass, Rachael Bond and Niki Mallet.

In the next few weeks children will be drawing pictures for the Christmas card fundraiser being organised by Mrs Richardson. You will have the opportunity to buy a variety of items including Christmas cards with an individual design created by your own child.

We have also provisionally agreed a quiz night for next year as well as all the other usual fundraising events organised by the group.

We are grateful to the team for their ongoing support.

Mrs Flack

We are pleased to welcome Mrs Flack back to school after recovering from her operation at the end of the summer. Mrs Flack is excited to be with the children again and is looking forward to getting to know all the new families in school. The Foundation team along with Mrs Taidi have worked hard to ensure a smooth transition for our youngest children and I am very grateful to all the staff who have helped out while Mrs Flack has been away. A great team effort.