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Muswell Hill Primary School

www.muswellhillprimary.co.uk

2014/15

Newsletter No. 3

February 2015

Exciting Early Years Outdoor Learning Project Update

We have come to a very exciting part of our development of the outdoor learning space for the Reception classes.

We started off this time last year with clear ideas about what we wanted to plan in order to benefit all the children's skills with regards to the 7 areas of learning in the Early Years curriculum.

We consulted all members of staff who work in the Early Years, some of the children, parents and governors and we have developed our ideas with a landscape architect whom we appointed. We had a site survey completed on the area to enable our ideas to work effectively and we are now at the very interesting stage of having our chosen contractors to implement our designs and plans. We are delighted to announce that work is starting during the Easter holiday.

Currently this is being planned in 2 phases which makes the budget easier to control. So far we have raised enough funds to complete Phase 1 of the design. This has been raised through SPA funds, 2 grants that we applied for and careful management of our school budget.

The start of the project will be based around the 'outdoor classroom' redevelopment which includes a wonderful water play area and bike shelter; it is colourful and inviting for the children and has great storage solutions for the equipment that is used.

We hope to build the climbing frames based around a 'train station' theme in Phase 2 of the plans. For further details of why we have chosen this theme please follow this link:
<http://muswellhillprimary.co.uk/about-us/did-you-know/>

The plans for this exciting project are available on the website for your perusal. Alternatively, please follow this link: <http://muswellhillprimary.co.uk/about-us/early-years-project/>

We need a further £17,000 to complete Phase 2 of the plans.

We have had fantastic support from governors and parents with these developments and I thank all of you for helping us to get this far.

We are nearly there! If you would like to donate towards this creative and much needed development of our Early Years Outdoor area then please see further details on Parent Pay which will be available soon or come and speak to myself, James, Simon Wantman or Dan Salem at a time that is convenient.

Yours sincerely,

Helen Hattersley – Deputy Headteacher and the Early Years Foundation Stage Team



Important Dates

26-02-15	Book Assembly Book signing afterschool in Emerald Class
03-03-15	Gold Class Sharing Assembly
06-03-15	World Book Day Dress as your favourite Book Character
10-03-15	Yellow Class Sharing Assembly
14-03-15	SPA Quiz Night
17-03-15	Amber Class Sharing Assembly
24-03-15	Orange Class sharing Assembly
24 & 26-03-15	Parents Evening 4-6pm
27-03-15	Term Ends
13-04-15	Start of Summer Term
17-04-15	E-Safety talk to Parents KS2 Hall 9-10am
23-04-15	E-Safety talk to Parents KS2 Hall 5-6pm
24-04-15	Y4 Sharing Assembly
27-04-15	'The Hobbit' KS1 only
28-04-15	Ruby Class Sharing Assembly
01-05-15	Y3 Sharing Assembly
05-05-15	Red Class Sharing Assembly
11-15 May	Y6 SAT's week
15-05-15	Y5 Sharing Assembly
25-29 May	HALF TERM
01-06-15	TAD – No School
05-06-15	Art Show
09-06-15	Class Photographs
20-06-15	Summer Fair
30-06-15	'The Railway Children' KS1 only
02-07-15	KS2 Sports Day
09-07-15	KS1 Sports Day
10-07-15	Y6 Disco
13&14 July	Y6 Production
17-07-15	Last Day

Cross Safe Update

Cross Safe N10 - A group of local residents, including parents at MHPS, is continuing its campaign to seek safety improvements at the junctions of Colney Hatch Lane, Alexandra Park Road and Pages Lane. Representatives met with Haringey Council and Transport for London in January to respond to the review undertaken last summer and raised concerns that it didn't fully

address the safety improvements that are badly needed. Haringey Council is currently working on finding a better solution and has been asked by Cross Safe N10 to address the dangers of HGVs turning at the junctions. New proposals will be presented at a meeting on 24th February. Cross Safe N10 will be supported at the meeting by representatives from local schools including MHPS. The Cross Safe N10 group is grateful for all those who continue to support the campaign and can follow updates on Twitter @CrossSafeN10.

In addition, Haringey Council is moving forward with their 20mph borough wide implementation. Lowering urban and residential speed limits to 20 mph has been found to decrease child pedestrian accidents by up to 70% (Transport Research Laboratory) so we welcome this move. For more details on Haringey's 20mph zone see <http://www.haringey.gov.uk/environment-and-transport/roads-and-streets/road-safety/road-safety-consultations/time-20mph-speed-limit>

Cross Safe N10.

Attendance and Punctuality

We are proud to announce that our whole school attendance from September 3rd 2014 to Monday 9th February is **96.57%**. I would like to thank parents and children for arriving at school on time at 8:55am and contributing to such high attendance particularly during a time of year that is notorious for illness.

We have been leading assemblies to remind children of the need to wash their hands thoroughly to avoid the spread of illness and germs.

Children with 100% attendance for the Autumn Term have been given wrist bands rather than certificates this year. We will also be rewarding the children with high attendance for the Spring and Summer Terms in this way.

The top 3 classes in the school for attendance currently are:

- 1) Violet – 97.59%
- 2) Yellow – 97.49%
- 3) Indigo – 97.44%

Community Events and Getting Involved

We are proud to be a part of the thriving community in our local area. Our staff and governors have put together an overview of the local and international links that we have. The '**6 Pillars of the Community**' slides contain details of our cohesive community and ways that you can become involved further in the life of the school. Please follow this link or visit the homepage of the school website:

<http://muswellhillprimary.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/community-cohesion-Final.pdf>

The banner on the school website was designed by one of our parents, Tim Blake, along with children of Muswell Hill Primary School.

New After School Opportunities – Focus on Cookery Club

Cookery Club began at the start of the spring term and has consisted of a small group of keen cooks working together in the club house once a week to cook a variety of well balanced meals from all around the World.

Children have been chopping, whisking, kneading, marinating, skewering, tasting and discussing flavours and textures in a friendly environment. So far, they have produced beef burgers, falafel burgers, creamy tagliatelle, pizza, chicken teriyaki and moussaka.

They always go home with a full belly, a portion of what they have made to share or show off to the family, alongside a recipe card so they can repeat the recipe at home.

It's been so rewarding seeing children trying new ingredients and feeling pleased with themselves after having handled raw chicken or eggs.

This Friday we'll be making sweetheart pretzels. A breakfast treat for Valentine's Day, for you or for them.

Elena.

If you think your child would enjoy this experience please contact Elena on:

07971194871 or elenakoumi@hotmail.com to book a place.

Sports at MHPS

Muswell Hill Primary continues to have incredible success in sports tournaments across many disciplines.

Some of our recent successes include:

- 1) Boys and Girls Under 11 Table Tennis Champions 2014
- 2) Boys and Girls Gymnastics Champions 2015 - Y5 and Y6
- 3) Boys Premier League Champions 2015. Muswell Hill Primary has qualified for the school's Premier League finals. Muswell Hill Primary will Haringey's representatives in the final tournament.

We are very proud of all of our children for their contributions to this continued success. For more information please see the sport section of the website: <http://muswellhillprimary.co.uk/sports/>

Snow Days

Many thanks for following the procedure when we had a touch of snow earlier this month. If there is snowfall in the morning we will update the homepage of the website by 8am to alert parents as to whether the school is open or closed. If the school is closed we will text parents and carers as soon as that decision has been made.

For further details of our procedures please see the recently communicated severe weather warning letter that went to parents and carers: <http://muswellhillprimary.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/Severe-Weather-warning-Jan-15.pdf>



Request for Leave of Absence

If you are requesting a Leave Of Absence for your child please complete the form that is on the website under 'forms.' It really supports the office staff when this form is completed so that the registers are updated accurately. Please do use this form rather than emailing the school office or Headteacher.

Please follow this link to find the appropriate form:

<http://muswellhillprimary.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/Application-For-Leave-Of-Absence-2013.pdf>

Working with Fortismere Secondary School

As part of the transition from Primary to Secondary education the Year 6 team have established a link with the Science department at Fortismere School in order for the children to undertake scientific learning within a secondary environment, using equipment and lab facilities under the direction of a secondary science teacher.

This is a wonderful opportunity for the children to begin to make their transition journey into secondary as well as taking advantage of being taught by Mr Sharma, one of the most experienced members of the science faculty at Fortismere.

The focus of the sessions will be chemistry and there will be follow on work to be completed in class as well as a booklet for the children to complete.

Many thanks to the Year 6 Team: Mr Howes, Cate and Mr. Summers for forging this important transition link.

Parent Workshops

In addition to the diary dates at the start of this newsletter, we invite parents and carers to a series of spring and summer workshops. We hope to see as many attendees as possible at the following events. Further details will be communicated soon:

Title	Date	Time
Mathematics Calculations	Wednesday 6 th May	9am – 10am or 3:30pm - 4:30pm
Supporting Phonics at Home	Wednesday 11 th March	9am – 10am
E-Safety	Friday 17 th April	9am -10am
E-Safety	Thursday 23 rd April	5pm – 6pm

Mastermind

Owen and Bill, two of our Year 5 pupils, have written a fantastic report to inform parents and carers of Muswell Hill's recent victory at the Masterteam competition held at Trinity Academy. Many congratulations to Bill, Owen, Alisa, Maddie, Oli and Olivia for winning the competition against six other schools! I would also like to thank our Assistant Headteacher for Y4, 5 and 6, David Howes, for taking the children.

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Further details, example questions and the children's report can be seen at:
<http://muswellhillprimary.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/Quiz-Competition.pdf>

