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Muswell Hill Primary School

www.muswellhillprimary.co.uk

2013/14

Newsletter No. 6

June 2014

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, I would like to thank you for your support during my first year at Muswell Hill Primary School. I have very much enjoyed my first year here. There have been many highlights and achievements of which I am extremely proud.

I found it very useful to meet with parents and carers in September 2013 and then again in April 2014 to discuss changes and important school improvement priorities. I will be offering further opportunities to meet in September in both the morning and the afternoon. The dates of these meetings will be the 24th, 25th and 26th September 2014. I look forward to meeting you if you are able to join me.

My first impression of our school was that we benefit from an involved and supportive community. During the year I have seen many examples of this in action and would like to thank each of you for your contribution to the incredible ethos that is present here.

There are many exciting projects being prepared for the children in the next academic year and I look forward to continued progression for our children.

I would particularly like to thank Year Six in this final newsletter of the year for their vast contribution to daily school life. We are all looking forward to the production of Mary Poppins on the 16th and 17th July 2014. The children have been a credit to themselves, their families and our school as they have been a model year group for others to look up to. I would like to wish them well for their exciting futures. Thank you for making me proud, Year Six.

In this newsletter I have included a flavour of some of the exciting achievements and projects that we are engaged in.

Finally, I would like to thank you all once again for making me feel welcome and a part of the community. I wish you all a very safe and restful summer break and look forward to working with you again in September.

With very best wishes,

James Wiltshire

Headteacher

Muswell Hill Primary School



Staffing for 2014/15

New staff will be in school on Monday 30th June and Tuesday 1st July to meet their new classes. All classes who will be taught by existing staff members will meet their new teacher/s on Wednesday 9th July.

Year Group	Current Class			New Class	Teacher
Reception and Year 1 Assistant Headteacher – Rosie O’Donnell					
			Reception	Red	Lucy Sykes Nursery Nurse: Joanna Xenophonos
			Reception	Ruby	Hannah Boardman Nursery Nurse: Pauline Williams
Reception	Red	→	Year 1	Amber	Mimi Jhugroo Nursery Nurse: Mina Martinelli
Reception	Ruby	→	Year 1	Orange	Wendy Simpson (2 days) / Kath Edmundson (3 days) Nursery Nurse: Katie Redhead
Year 2 and 3 Assistant Headteacher – Liz McMullen					
Year 1	Amber	→	Year 2	Gold	Ritu Ganguly-Khan
Year 1	Orange	→	Year 2	Yellow	Rhiannon Rees
Year 2	Yellow	→	Year 3	Green	Audrey Shiouxios (4 days) / Sabrina Azam (1 day)
Year 2	Gold	→	Year 3	Emerald	Toby Harrison
Year 4,5 and 6 Assistant Headteacher – David Howes					
Year 3	Emerald	→	Year 4	Sapphire	Jackie Myles (3 days) / Rebecca Fryer (2.5 days)
Year 3	Green	→	Year 4	Blue	Joe Godfrey
Year 4	Sapphire	→	Year 5	Cobalt	Elena Yiapanis
Year 4	Blue	→	Year 5	Indigo	Suzy Fotheringham
Year 5	Indigo	→	Year 6	Amethyst	Cate Jago Roz Szecowka will support Year 6 for 1 day per week
Year 5	Cobalt	→	Year 6	Violet	Geoff Summers Roz Szecowka will support Year 6 for 1 day per week

Staff Leaving Muswell Hill Primary School

Carrie Goodwin is leaving Muswell Hill Primary School after 8 years of extremely dedicated service. She has been a valuable part of the staff team for this time and will be sorely missed as she embarks on the next stage of her career. Carrie has successfully made school improvements in ICT and Healthy Schools and her leadership will be missed. Our loss is Eversley Primary School in Enfield’s significant gain as Carrie leaves for an Assistant SENDCO role. Carrie is passionate about this area of education and the entire community at Muswell Hill Primary wish her all the very best for the future and thank her for her contribution to our school.



Emma Horstead, who has been our Year 5 and 6 teacher for nearly two years, is leaving us. In this short amount of time she has contributed to school life through her teaching and by providing extended school opportunities. We would like to thank Emma for her hard work and dedication in achieving the International Schools' Award. We wish Emma continued success at her new school, Highgate Primary.

Lucy Brotherston has been a dedicated Learning Support Assistant in Year 2 for the past year. We wish her all the best at Alexandra Primary School and will miss her hard work in the classroom and her passion for gardening.

Sabina Kienzel has been a Learning Support Assistant for the past year. We would like to thank her for her hard work and dedication to the school and the children and wish her all the very best for the future.

Laurel Stevens has been working at Muswell Hill Primary School for 7 years as an SMSA. Laurel has worked with a range of teachers and other staff across the school during this time. Staff would like to extend their gratitude to Laurel for her hard working approach. Laurel is retiring at the end of the academic year and will be missed as a crucial part of the lunchtime team.

Jamilla Lindsey-Crosthwait, our Learning Support Assistant, has been working primarily in Indigo class this year. Jamilla has been an excellent member of the staff team for two years and leaves as she is relocating to Bristol where she will continue to work in education.

Staff Arriving at Muswell Hill Primary School

Cate Jago is joining the staff team at Muswell Hill and leaves Canonbury Primary School in Islington. Cate is very much looking forward to joining the staff team.

Geoff Summers joins us from Oakington Manor Primary School in Brent. Geoff commented on the ethos and vision as being key to him wanting to join the staff team.

Rhiannon Rees has been working with us at Muswell Hill Primary this academic year and was keen to join on a permanent basis. The staff and children will be very pleased to continue to work with Rhiannon.

Important Announcements and Dates

- Reports will be available to parents and carers on 11th July. There is also an opportunity to view your children's work at an open afternoon on 15th July.
- We break up on Tuesday 22nd July. Year 6 children should be collected in the usual way at 12pm. All other children should be collected at **2pm when the school will close**. Please collect children from their classes in the usual way.
- There are INSET days on Monday 1st September and Tuesday 2nd September. The school is not open for the children on these days. **We look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Wednesday 3rd September at 8:55am.**
- Meet the Headteacher will be on 24th, 25th and 26th September 2014. Further details to follow.
- Further dates for the Autumn Term are available at the end of this newsletter.
- Please continue to use the school website. The calendar is updated regularly:
<http://muswellhillprimary.co.uk/calendar/>

Abel and Cole and MHPS working in Partnership

Abel and Cole are an organic vegetable and fruit supplier. From September 2014 we are trialling a partnership between MHPS and Abel and Cole. Initially for the Autumn Term, Parents and Carers, Governors and Staff will be able to order their organic produce from Abel and Cole and have the delivery available when you collect your children on a Wednesday afternoon at 3:30pm.

There will be a face-to-face session run by a representative from the company to explain a little more on Wednesday 10th September at 9am. This session will elaborate on the following:

- Organic fruit and vegetable bags can be ordered through the school via the Parent Pay method.
- Collection is from 3:30 – 4:30pm on a Wednesday only.
- If food is not collected on the day and times specified it will be given to the After School Club or the school kitchen to use the following day (to avoid rotting food being kept on the school premises.)
- A selection of 4 different types of bag.
- The bags are at a discounted cost to parents if ordered in this way and the school takes 25% profit from each bag ordered.
- Further details can be found on the school website where there is a banner to explain more on the homepage: <http://muswellhillprimary.co.uk/>

If the trial is successful in the Autumn Term, we will extend the opportunity to buy organic produce in partnership with the school in this way.

Kickabout Holiday Camps

The school uses Riaan Kelly's specialist sports company 'Kickabout,' to provide tailored Physical Education provision for pupils in the school.

Kickabout will, for the first time, be providing an opportunity for children to attend a sports camp this Summer holiday. Whist Riaan will be using the facilities at MHPS, this is entirely Kickabout's project. Places are extremely limited and available on a first come, first served basis. Please see the banner on the homepage of the website: <http://muswellhillprimary.co.uk/>

It is important to read the letter that Riaan has compiled to give parents and carers further details about this exciting opportunity. I have included this below and it is available on the website.

Any questions or queries must go directly to Kickabout:

Email: bookings@kickaboutfc.com

Telephone: 07971649988

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Dear Parents and Carers at Muswell Hill Primary School,

I currently lead part of the Physical Education teaching and learning entitlement in Key Stage 2 at Muswell Hill Primary School.

I am delighted to announce that I am offering a Summer Camp multi-sport opportunity exclusively to Parents and Carers of pupils at the school this August.

Kickabout FC will be covering a wide range of your favourite sports including: Cricket, Hockey, Tennis, Basketball, Netball, Tag-Rugby as well as a few new ones: Ultimate Frisbee, Golf and Lacrosse!

The Summer Camp will be run at Muswell Hill Primary School and is available for the following dates:

Week1: 28 Jul ~ 1 Aug (from 9:30am to 3:30pm)

Week2: 4 Aug ~ 8 Aug (from 9:30am to 3:30pm)

Week3: 18 Aug ~ 22 Aug (from 9:30am to 3:30pm)

Week4: 26 Aug ~ 29 Aug - four day week due to bank holiday Monday on 25th Aug (from 9:30am to 3:30pm)

The times of the camp are listed above. There will be a lunch break from 12pm to 1pm each day. Lunch must be provided by Parents and Carers. Pupils must attend the full day and part-time child care is not available.

The cost is £25 per day or £100 per week per child. Payment can be made using cash/cheque/card. Further details will be made available once a place has been booked.

Places are strictly limited to 30 per week with no negotiation on additional places for health and safety reasons. So, please register your interest with Kickabout FC as soon as possible as pupils will be chosen on a first come first served basis. The camp is open to children from the current Year 3 to the current Year 6 only. There is a 3 day (per week) minimum sign up period. Priority for places will go to those who sign up for a week and then first come first served.

Children will need to be brought to the Duke's Avenue entrance and collected from the same place.

It is important to note that whilst the Summer Camp is taking place using the facilities at Muswell Hill Primary School this is not run by the school. The school office will not be able to offer any further information. Any queries should come directly to Kickabout FC:

Email: bookings@kickaboutfc.com or Telephone: 07971649988

Please feel free to contact me with any questions that you may have in relation to the Summer Camp and to book your child's place.

Yours sincerely,

Riaan Kelly



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Attendance and Punctuality

I would like to thank parents and carers for continuing to keep our attendance high. From September 2013 to June 2014 our attendance is **96.25%**. Last academic year, our percentage was 94.95%. Thank you for supporting us.

School begins at 8:55am and finishes at 3:30pm. Our punctuality is improving rapidly. Please continue to ensure that children are on-time for school in the morning. It is very disruptive for the individual if they are late and it can be unsettling for the rest of the children who have already started their learning.

Parent Pay

Parent Pay has been a huge success at our school. I have had a lot of very positive feedback from parents and staff about this system. All items for payment will be available on Parent Pay from September 2014. The school will be completely cashless from this date with no opportunity to pay for school meals, trips or events other than by using Parent Pay.

If you do not have Internet access or have any problems using the system please speak to the school office staff who will arrange for you to have a pay card or will arrange a brief explanation session with our ICT technician, Musawir.

Staffing Role Changes at MHPS

Having restructured the teaching staff team in April 2014, we look forward to seeing the impact of the new Assistant Headteachers in full from September 2014. The new Senior Leadership Team is:

James Wiltshire: Headteacher
Helen Hattersley: Deputy Headteacher
Gillian Collin: SENDCO
David Howes: Assistant Headteacher Year 6, 5 and 4
Liz McMullen: Assistant Headteacher Year 3 and 2
Rosie O'Donnell: Assistant Headteacher Year 1 and Reception

The new Assistant Headteacher positions are teaching and leadership roles and Rosie, David and Liz will be teaching and supporting pupil development across the classes in their phase. If there are questions in the coming year we have put guidance on 'How to Raise a Question at MHPS,' on the website: <http://muswellhillprimary.co.uk/school-office/school-policies/>

Our Environment

The Key Stage 1 playground will be undergoing an upgrading and refurbishment over the summer holiday. I am looking forward to seeing the enhanced provision ready for the children to use and enjoy by their return to school on Wednesday 3rd September.

The Early Years outdoor area is also being upgraded in the near future with some really exciting plans for redevelopment.

I would like to thank all those involved in supporting both of these projects as we look to enhance our outdoor environment.





Getting Involved

Parents, Staff and Governor football has been a weekly event all term with a group of 10 adults meeting at 'Power League,' on Colney Hatch Lane at 9am each Sunday. If you would like to get involved please see the banner on the homepage of the school website or contact Tarun, our team manager, for details: tarun@chadha.org.uk

The team involved have entered a competition at Highlands School on Sunday 14th September. The Tomas Cup is a competition which has been running for 15 years. If you would like to support or attend this event, there will be further details available nearer the time. Thanks to Dino for organising this with Tarun.

Many thanks to Tarun – a lot of work goes into the organisation of this weekly event and I am very grateful for this.

Parents and Governors are also invited to MHPS Book Club. This runs on a Friday afternoon and is based at the school. There is no cost for this and it is a chance to meet other parents and chat about selected texts. Again, I would like to thank Burcu, our Book Club leader, for all the additional time and effort that goes into organising and leading this provision. If you would like to get involved please see the banner on the homepage of the website or contact Burcu: burcucon@hotmail.com

Lost Property and Lunch Boxes

Lost property collection boxes are situated in each of the playgrounds. These are yellow containers. At the end of each half term, these are emptied and the contents are given to charity by depositing them into the TRAIID bin which is located opposite the school office.

All uncollected lunchboxes, which are stored in the KS2 playground in cages, will also be disposed of as soon as the pupils leave the premises on 22nd July 2014.

Sporting Achievements

MHPS will be sending 3 teams in total to the London Youth Games. This is totally unprecedented and we look forward to competing. The main issue with sport at MHPS at the moment is that the trophy cabinet has an extra 6 trophies for winning a variety of local events and this means that a new cabinet is needed urgently!

More details can be found on the website at: <http://muswellhillprimary.co.uk/sports/>

Many congratulations to the children and their staff coaches for success in the following areas this term alone:

- Golf
- Basketball
- Gymnastics

Community News

I attach an update from the Cross Safe N10 group:

Dear Friends,

We have had an update from Haringey Council regarding the safety improvements you helped petition for at the junctions of Colney Hatch Lane/Alexandra Park Road and Pages Lane.

Part of our campaign/petition was to get improved safety signage installed at the junction. Haringey has confirmed that the signs have been ordered and will be erected within the next two weeks.

With regards to repairs to the guard railings and kerb, we have been informed that this work will be delivered with the resurfacing of Colney Hatch Lane programmed for July for a period of six weeks. Due to the deterioration of the road it will require full reconstruction and therefore a road closure. Repairing the guard railings and kerb at this time will minimise disruption.

As you may have already seen, traffic/pedestrian counts and video surveillance of the junctions have commenced. This will provide consultants with the baseline information to model and hopefully identify improvements at the two junctions. The remodelling study will be undertaken in July/August and Council representatives will report back at the October Area Forum.

Thanks for your continued support. Things are moving in the right direction.

Regards

Cross Safe N10 Group

Art Week

Toby Harrison led and organised a hugely successful Art Week. The entire community supported this exhibition of creativity. The children benefitted hugely from a dedicated week of Art and Design in which they were given time to develop their creative ideas and produce inspired work. I would like to thank Toby for his dedication and excellence in the leadership of this key subject area. I know that Toby has a lot of other ideas which I look forward to hearing more of in the next academic year. There are two banners on the homepage of the website which link to photographs taken over the course of the week and during the Art Exhibition. Please click on these to access some amazing shots of the children in action. Look for the Brazil themed banners and 'click more' for details:

<http://muswellhillprimary.co.uk/>

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There are too many people to thank from the school community who supported Art Week in all sorts of ways. Toby mentioned all of these contributions in his speech at the exhibition. Thank you all for all you did for the staff and children, we are very, very grateful.

Summer Fair

Thank you to the Staff Parent Association and all the individuals who supported the Summer Fair 2014. Our particular thanks go to Susi, Janet, Daisy, Emily and Lisa for hours of both time and expertise. It was a remarkably well-organised occasion and was a real joy to be a part of. There are too many helpers to name each individually but I would like to thank the SPA, staff, parents, governors and the children for making this a really memorable and positive day in the school's calendar.

Creative Space Competition

I would like to thank the children, staff, parents and carers for making the classrooms look incredible! The deadline for this competition has been **moved** from Monday 30th June to Monday 14th July due to the amount of work that is still taking place to make our classrooms look even more vibrant and creative.

Dates for the Diary

- Wednesday 3rd September – School starts at 8:55am.
- Wednesday 10th September – Abel and Cole face-to-face session at 9am.
- Monday 30th September to Friday 4th October - Year 6 School Journey
- Friday 17th October – Individual and sibling photographs
- Please keep close eye on the school calendar for further updates:
<http://muswellhillprimary.co.uk/calendar/>

