

Summer News

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a busy two terms with lots happening around school, in the classrooms and out and about. Pupils from Years 1, 2 and 6 have all completed national tests this term and pupils from Years 3, 4 and 5 completed tests during assessment week. The test results have been sent out with reports along with a personal reflection from each child on their learning experiences over the year. I hope these reports give you a good understanding of your child's progress, strengths and achievements this year.



It has been a busy couple of terms for school visits. Y6 children enjoyed a holiday to York or treats closer to home and a recent trip to see 'Annie' at the theatre. Y5 visited Gulliver's World and enjoyed a Gold Trip to Southport. Children from Y4 experienced the excitement of PGL and a Gold Trip to the beach at New Brighton. More recently Y3 enjoyed a Gold Trip to Farmer Ted's and a summer trip to Martin Mere. Y2 and Y1 enjoyed a visit to see 'Toy Story 4' at the cinema and our Reception and Nursery classes enjoyed a day out at New Brighton.

Y6 showed off their talents last week as they performed 'A Night at the Musicals'. We felt very proud of the children's hard work and commitment to this amazing production. We held another summer music concert to celebrate the achievements of our music groups and choir. KS1 family members took part in craft afternoons to celebrate Mother's Day and Father's Day. Nursery families were invited along to take part in a 'Superhero Challenge Day.' The children from our Thriller Dance clubs performed at the Theatre Royal and once again received rave reviews! Mr Garry's Reading Club also enjoyed an inspiring family trip to The Story Barn.

There have been many opportunities for curriculum enrichment over the last two terms. The whole school enjoyed a visit to Chester Zoo as part of our 'Sing for Songbirds' project which was also celebrated with an amazing art installation in the school hall. Y5 again took part in a film project and recently went to Cineworld to watch their films on the big screen. Y3 enjoyed Copoeira workshops and we all enjoyed the activities of Book Week and we celebrated 'The Queen's Hat' on World Book Day. Many classes visited Parr library to learn about the Holocaust. Y4 have continued to learn to play the flute. Y5 took part in the 'Why Work?' workshops delivered by the Chamber of Commerce. Many children continue to develop their talents on the keyboards and guitars.



There have been more sporting opportunities for the children this year than ever before. We have taken part in a wide range of competitions and events including Quad Kids, netball, table tennis, football, dodgeball, gymnastics, , tennis and cricket. We have a range of 'sporty' after school clubs and there have been many sports coaches invited into school during the year to develop the skills and abilities of children and staff in disciplines such as gymnastics, dance, cricket, hockey and football. Sports days went down very well with children and families with a great sense of excitement and competition.

Our 'Stay and Play' playgroup continue to run each Thursday morning. Family Art Club has been on offer once again and there have been many opportunities for parents to find out more about the curriculum (and tests!) at a number of information meetings held during the year. We have continued to offer Reading Plus and Maths Whizz to support children's learning and this year organised a number of Puzzle Days to promote mathematical understanding. The Friends of Allanson Street have held very successful Easter and summer bingo events. This year we also raised an amazing £17,000 for our Adventure for Alex play area.



There have been visits over the last two terms from the School Health team, Young Carers and Bike Right to help promote well-being, personal safety and staying safe in the local community. Recently, governors completed a range of 'Pupil Voice' activities to inform future school improvements. This activity provided our governors with great insight into the learning experiences of the pupils across school. Staff have recently led transition meetings for Year 1 parents/carers.

We have also continued to fill the 'Learning Journey' boxes to track the highlights of each child's learning opportunities and achievements at school. We presented these to the Y6 pupils at our Leavers' Assembly as something to treasure in the future.

Looking ahead, during the summer holidays, the upper junior classrooms are due to be refurbished and repainted. Several other areas of school are also due to be painted. On Monday we launched the Summer Reading Challenge which is organised by the local libraries so please visit your local library if your child would like to take part. Yesterday we marked the milestone of reaching 96% attendance with a visit from the ice cream van. This week we celebrated our Leavers' Assembly and BBQ. We also held our final Celebration Assembly sharing with the presentation of year group scrap books and rewarded 100% attendance for the summer term and year as a whole.



Today we say a final farewell to a number of staff in school. We say a big thank you and good bye to Mrs Wilton and Mrs Letts who have supported some of our children with additional needs. We also say thank you and good bye to Coach Ellis who has supported us with all things sporty and much more. Mr Tilley leaves to take up a new teaching post in Wigan. He has only been with us a short time but has shown great enthusiasm and commitment during his year with us as we thank him and wish him well. Mrs Hawkins leaves to take up an exciting new teaching opportunity in Dubai after nine years teaching at our school. We say a big thank you to Mrs Hawkins for her dedication to improving outcomes for our pupils and particularly for her endless commitment to offering as many sporting opportunities as possible to our pupils. We will miss her competitive spirit! Mr Billinge retires today after 24 years teaching at our school and I know that he has inspired and supported hundreds of children and families during those years. He will leave with many happy memories from a career that has truly made a difference to so many. We thank him for his dedication and enthusiasm and we all wish him many years of good health and happiness. Finally, we say goodbye to our long-serving and loyal deputy, Mr Boyle. Mr Boyle began his teaching career 40 years ago and we have been fortunate to have him as our deputy since 1992. He has shown endless determination to always make a difference to the lives of young people and his dedication, support, words of wisdom and ability to drive a hard bargain will be hugely missed throughout school. We sincerely thank him and wish him many happy years of retirement.



Well done and thank you to all our children, families, staff and governors for helping support the children's learning and wider opportunities this year. It has been another busy year and as we take this opportunity to reflect back, we realise just how much we have achieved by working together.

We look forward to welcoming the children back in September and we will share our school improvement plans for 2019 - 2020 with you early in the autumn term.

Wishing you all a relaxing summer full of glorious sunshine!

With many best wishes *Mrs P Farnell*