

Rook's Nest Academy Newsletter

Issue 18—9th September 2016



Dear Parents/Carers,

A warm welcome back to the Academy. It has been lovely to see all the children back in after the summer and settling down so well.

We have been overwhelmed by the amount of parent support on the playgrounds in the morning and whilst Monday was a little hectic it has become more ordered throughout the week. As always we strive to improve opportunities for the children and streamline procedures. With this in mind, we are making a slight change to the lining up for Monday. Both year 2 classes, Mrs McNally's and Miss Crossland's, will be lining up further down the playground in front of the Reception fence.

We will put out cones for all classes, which this week has not been possible due to the volume of parents, and children needing to stand behind these in their lines. Can we kindly request that parents ensure the children are in the lines and not the adults themselves. It may be a suggestion that when the bell rings (or beforehand in preparation) that parents move a distance away so that children can see around them.

Can I also remind parents that children MUST NOT be on the apparatus at any times other than playtime and lunchtime. We have informed parents before that this is on the one hand down to risk assessments and insurance, but it is also a request from the Academy and it appears to the children that parents are refusing to accept Academy rules, which is not a good message to be giving the children as I am sure you will agree.

While we encourage parents to develop supportive communal groups, can I also remind parents that it is necessary that you vacate the playground promptly on a morning and evening. Children cannot use the outdoor learning environment until all parents have left the site. To this end, I need to inform you that the gates, onto the playground, will be locked down at 9 o'clock.

September 2016

13th	Leeds Industrial Musium Y6
16th	Swimming Y4 starts Parents group meeting 2.15pm
21st	Eden Camp Y4 & Y5 Thackray Medical Museum Y2
23rd	INSET
27th & 28th	Oakwell Hall Y3 School Photos
30th	Macmillan coffee morning (in the afternoon)

October 2016

12th	Harvest Festival — 2 pm (venue TBC)
13th	6M Class Assembly
17th-19th	Robin Wood Y6
19th	Y2 "Parent Enrichment 9:30"

November 2016

4th	Y4/5 Enrichment Workshop
18th	Children in Need (further details TBC)
25th	Drop Down Friday — "Road Safety"

December 2016

1st	Drop Down Thursday — "Around the World"
2nd	Christmas Fayre — 2-4pm
5th-9th	Christmas Performances
12th	EYFS & KS1 Pantomime
12th-16th	Christmas Parties

February 2017

10th	Drop Down Friday — E-Safety
27th	INSET

March 2017

3rd	Drop Down Friday — "World Book Day" - No Fancy Dress
22nd—24th	Cober Hill Y4

April 2017

6th	EYFS & Y1 "Design a Dinosaur" - Enrichment
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May 2017

8th-12th	SATS KS2
19th	Drop Down Friday — "International Day"
24th	EYFS & Y1 "Teddy Bears Picnic" - Enrichment
26th	INSET

June 2017

23rd	Drop Down Friday — "Moving On"
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July 2017

10th	Sports Day — KS1 — 9:30am
11th	Sports Day — EYFS — 10am & 2pm
12th	Sports Day — KS2 — 9:30am
14th	Summer Fayre — 2-4pm

Visitors

As you will have been aware from the text over the holidays the Academy was subject to unwanted visitors over the summer. Thank you for your support and responses to this text. The Academy did, before the end of last year, invest heavily in installing security cameras and recording systems which have enabled us to give images of the youths to the police. Unfortunately, because the offenders are youths there is little that the police can do until they cause criminal damage. Therefore, I would continue to urge any parents/friends of the Academy to report to the police any instances of trespass that may be witnessed.

Other visitors include the 4 legged varieties which we can do very little about. Cats and foxes are visiting the site and leaving early morning "messages" and although Mr Greenwood, the site manager, checks the grounds every morning these are not always easy to spot. If you do see anything on the playground that needs our attention please inform a member of staff and you will see me outside with my purple gloves.

After School Clubs

Thank you for all the responses to After School Clubs. The parents of children with successful applications will be sent a text. Letters will be sent out to those who haven't been allocated a place this time.

Book Donations

Thank you so much to everyone who donated children's books to the library. We have successfully added many titles not only to the library but also to our Accelerated Reader Programme. We are always wanting to expand our range of books (and replace lost/broken ones) so if you have any books your children have grown out of please consider donating them to the school.

Volunteers

Next week we will be sending out invitations to attend parent workshop sessions for a variety of curriculum areas this term. These will be run by staff and are in response to requests from parents to be given information on how subjects are taught within the Academy and how you can best support your children at home.

We welcome parents to get involved in the parents' group which will meet on Friday afternoons and have their first meeting on Friday 16th at 2:15. We are also looking to collate a list of parents names who would be willing to give up any of their free time to read with individual children and accompany classes on trips. If you are interested in any of these opportunities please complete and return the slip below.

Parent Volunteer Information

Name of Parent _____

Name of Child _____

Please tick areas in which you are interested to volunteer:

Volunteer for trips

Attend Parents Group

Reading with
individual Children

	AM	PM
Mon		
Tue		
Wed		
Thu		
Fri		