

Rook's Nest Academy Newsletter

Issue 7—26th January 2015



A New Year

Christmas seems like a distant memory now and the Academy has launched itself into the New Year. It has already been a busy first term and we have started it off with lots of positives which you will read about in this newsletter. We are looking forward to a productive and enjoyable year and hope we can rely on your continued support. Our big push this term is on reading and our mantra for the year is "It's all about the effort".

Winners from Book Review Competition



A huge thank you to pupils and parents for your enthusiasm and creativity with the reading project. The winners have all received a £5 book token and all entrants have been presented with certificates.

Dates

Thu 29th Jan 9.10am—Year 2 class assembly

Thu 5th Feb 9.10am—

Mrs Stacey Year 5/6 class assembly

Pie & Peas Quiz

Week Starting 9th—Scholastic Book Fair/ SwapShop

Thu 12th Feb 9.10am—Mrs McNally Year 5/6 class assembly

Fri 13th Feb—

Payment Deadline for Year 4 trip to Cober Hill

Last day of term

13th March—Grandparents Beetle Drive

Sickness

Since returning the academy has been hit with poor attendance in some classes due to sickness bugs. If your child has been sick or is suffering from diarrhoea please ensure they are clear for 48 hours before sending them to the Academy. If your child is ill please contact the Academy.

Spring Bank holiday

We would like to consult with parents about a possible change to the Spring Bank holiday for next academic year (2015/16). Currently we are one of only a few schools in Wakefield that still have 2 weeks holiday in May/June. This can cause issues for parents who have children at other settings and also means that we don't start the summer holiday until much later than others. The extension of often 3 days into the summer has a negative impact on our attendance data as some parents remove their children due to this disparity with other schools. We appreciate that there are some possible financial benefits from having 2 weeks and therefore we want to know how parents feel. As a governing body the results of this consultation will be considered before making a final decision.

I agree to one week at Spring Bank holiday

I wish to remain with 2 weeks at Spring Bank holiday

Outside Achievements

Within the first week of the term I have been inundated with fantastic news of pupils who have received outside achievements. We have placed the first 3 of the year on our newsletter.

Unfortunately, this isn't something we can do in every newsletter but we do still want to be informed. In order to celebrate your child's success we have added an extra section to our celebration assemblies, held every Friday, and have also started our own "Wall of Fame". Parents wishing to view this can do so if they call in at the Academy office.

Ben Chafer, a member of Wakefield District Harriers Club, is ranked 4th in the UK as a 200m runner in the under 13s Category.



Edward Royston won the award for "Best improved player of the year" at his Brass Band.

Lucy Keith has achieved 7th position in the 10 & under Female Tennis Tour for the whole of Yorkshire!



Phonics Resources

We are trying to build up resources across the Academy to help deliver phonics sessions. Laminating, cutting and assembling the resources is often time consuming. If any parents feel that they are able to give up a few hours to help us produce these items it would be appreciated. Please contact the Academy office or Mrs. Hampshire if you can assist us.

Library

We have a wonderful library here at Rook's Nest and our children are in a very privileged position to be able to access so many quality reading materials. We want all children to make the most of these opportunities and therefore it is imperative that good care is taken of any books borrowed. It has come to the attention of the Head Librarian that recently quite a few books have not been returned. This has an impact on the service that we can provide. We have therefore decided to send out reminders that will culminate in us seeking reimbursement for the book if it is not returned. We hope that you understand us taking this course of action.

Pie "n" Peas Quiz Night

Come and join us for some light hearted fun on the 5th February. Letters will be coming out shortly with further details on how to purchase tickets.

YV YOUNG VOICES

We were very proud of the children who represented the Academy this week at Sheffield Arena as part of Young Voices. It was a memorable and enjoyable experience for everyone involved.

