



Newsletter - Issue 1

Monday 11th September 2017

Inspiring lives; creating possibilities; shaping futures

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Dates for your Diary

- 11th September: Y4 drumming begins
- 11th September: After-school clubs begin
- 12th September: Y3 – Y6 Football Competition at Oakwood 12pm – 3pm
- 13th September: Y4 Clifton Park visit (4GO and 4GT)
- 13th September: Y5 Meet the creature workshop
- 14th September: Y5 Meet the creature workshop
- 15th September: Individual photographs
- 16th September: Eid Celebration
- 19th September: Y3 – Y6 Cross Country Competition at Oakwood 12pm – 3pm
- 19th September: SATs Meeting for Year 6 Parents 3:45pm
- 20th September: Y3 visit to YPS
- 20th September: Y4 – Clifton Park visit (4JF)
- 3rd October: Y3/Y4 Girls Football Finals at Wath 4pm – 6pm
- 10th October: Y6 visit to Crucial Crew
- 10th October: Y3/Y4 Boys Football Finals at Wath 4pm – 6pm
- 12th October: Y3 - Y6 Cross Country Finals at Herringthorpe Stadium 10am – 12pm
- 17th October: Y5/Y6 Open Afternoon 1.30pm - 4.30pm
- 17th October: Y3 – Y6 Hockey Competition at Oakwood 12pm – 3pm
- 17th October: Y5 – Y6 Girls Football Finals at Wath 4pm – 6pm

Welcome Back

I can't believe we're already here again at the start of another school year! Where has the Summer gone? It's lovely to see all of the children back in their uniforms looking smart and ready to learn. Staff worked hard over the Summer to ensure classrooms were ready to welcome children back after the long break.

We've welcomed many new children to the school at the start of this term; not just our 83 Y3 pupils but many across other year groups as well. We now have 347 children on roll (12 more than this time last year!).

It's been great seeing the new topics launched and children are already engaged in their learning for the next seven weeks. They have also been learning about the Sitwell 7 values: **respect; responsibility; resourcefulness; resilience; reflection; risk taking and relationships.**

It's also been lovely to welcome Miss Ogden, Miss Evans and Miss Sim to Sitwell. We hope they enjoy their time with us.

Eid Celebration in Memory of Sayida Ali

On the afternoon of Saturday 16th September, we will be holding an EID celebration in memory of a much loved colleague and friend to many, Mrs Sayida Ali.

On the day, there will be lots on offer, including taking part in fun activities, including a bouncy castle (weather permitting), eating delicious food and having the opportunity to have a mendhi pattern drawn onto your hand. It would be lovely to see our children dressed in their finest clothes.

As a multicultural school we look forward to celebrating different festivals throughout the year, which helps to promote tolerance, mutual respect and an understanding of each other's faiths and cultures. Any donations of food would be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your continued support.

Individual Photographs

On Friday of this week the photographer will be in school to take individual and family photographs. If you would like your child to be photographed with younger brothers or sisters from the infant school please could you bring them into school at 8.30 on Friday morning. Smart uniform and a smile will be the order of the day.

Training Days 2017-18

The year we have five training days:
Monday 4th September, Friday 27th October
Friday 9th February, Monday 4th June and
Monday 23rd July

School will be closed for the one day in July and staff will be working these as 3 twilight training sessions.

Parent Volunteers

Year 3 are looking for any parents that might have a few spare hours per week to listen to Year 3 children read. Your child does not have to be in Year 3 for you to volunteer. Last year, we had some fantastic volunteers who worked brilliantly with the children and we would very much like this to continue. If you think you could give up just a couple of hours per week to volunteer, we would really appreciate your help. If you are interested in volunteering, please speak to Mrs Walker (Class 3SW).

Smiles

The children really love our smiles rewards system. Here's what we award smiles for:

- Consistent effort in learning; work or conduct;
- Consistently following/ applying the Sitwell Seven;
- Overcoming a barrier to learning, showing great resilience to learning;
- Success in any area of the school;
- Home learning effort and success;
- Reading at home at least 4 times in a week (as shown in reading diaries);
- Significant improvement in any area of the curriculum;
- Consistently noticed in assemblies for excellent listening, making contributions and movement in/out of the hall;
- Ignoring inappropriate behaviour and maintaining a good role model to others;
- As a class, 100% attendance for the week.

Y4 News

What a fantastic start to the new school year! It was excellent to see all of the Y4 children engaged with their learning and enjoying being part of their new classes last week. They have most definitely stepped up to being in Year 4 and many children have been spotted helping out our new Y3 children which proves their relationship skills. The Y4 team have been very impressed with the children's attitude towards school and everyone is trying hard to show the Sitwell 7 values. We have also enjoyed watching the children using their relationship skills to establish new friendships. The value that stood out the most last week was resilience. Across the year group, children had a can-do attitude and remained focused even when things got tricky. A great first week!

Next week, in Maths, we will be focusing on place value. This year, the children will move from working with three-digit numbers to four-digit numbers. We use the vocabulary 'thousands, hundreds, tens and ones' with the children. In order to challenge ourselves, we will work through various fluency, reasoning and problem solving activities. Also, we will be counting in multiples of 25.

In our English lessons, we will be looking at the purpose of newspaper reports. When doing this, we will examine the language and structure. Towards the end of the week, we will be conducting research ready to write our own newspaper reports on the eruption of Pompeii.

Our topic work will be mainly History and DT based this week. We will continue to remember some key facts about the changes in Britain due to the Roman Empire and will conduct some research on the invasion of Britain by looking closely at maps and noting changes. Later on in the week, the children will have the opportunity to create their very own Celtic and Roman coins.

Finally, Y4 will begin their drumming lessons on Monday afternoon and 4GO and 4GT will visit Clifton Park Museum for their Roman engage event. A very exciting and busy week!

Y3 News

The Year 3 children have made a fantastic start to their new school year. All the children have begun to get used to the new routines and slightly longer school day. They have enjoyed finding out all about the Sitwell 7 Values, taking part in PE led by Mr Cassell and learning about their class identity.

During this week, we will begin our learning around the first topic of this year – Mighty Metals. The children will be learning all about forces in action. In Science, they will carry out fair tests and will be making predictions, collecting results and drawing conclusions from these. After collecting their results, they will work in the ICT Suite to input the data they have collected into a simple spreadsheet. Some children will create bar graphs using these spreadsheets.

In English, the children will be continuing to write a description about their class animal. Throughout this learning, the children will be discussing and recording their ideas, composing and rehearsing sentences orally (including dialogue), progressively building a varied and rich vocabulary and an increasing range of sentence structures.

In Maths, they will be continuing their learning about number and place value by recognising the place value of each digit in a three-digit number (hundreds, tens, ones), counting from 0 in multiples of 4, 8, 50 and 100, finding 10 or 100 more or less than a given number and reading and writing numbers up to 1000 in numerals and words.

Y5 News

The children have had a fantastic first week back! They have settled well into their new classes and made an excellent start to the new school year. They have really demonstrated the Sitwell Seven values in everything they have done.

This week in English the children will continue their work on Charlotte's Web. They will look carefully at the characters of Fern and Mr Arable and begin to write a short recount based on the story.

In Maths, the children will continue their work on place value. They will read, write and compare numbers to at least 1,000,000. They will play games to help them learn and understand the value of each digit.

The children have responded to our Beast Creator topic with great enthusiasm and they will be continuing with this work next week. They will look carefully at a range of minibeasts, classifying them scientifically using branching databases. They will then observe the creatures carefully before making detailed observational sketches.

Sitwell Seven

At Sitwell Junior School, we focus on a set of shared values which help us to work with one another co-operatively and with respect. These values make our school community happy and harmonious, a fun place, where children feel secure. Our Values are important to all pupils, staff and parents.

The whole staff team and all pupils are involved in promoting values and recognising their positive effects around school. The values have been selected by pupils and staff as values which are important within the school community and which will be important throughout life.

We will ensure that our seven shared Values known as 'The Sitwell Seven' are interwoven into the teaching and learning in order for children to make maximum progress as lifelong learners and thinkers. These are:

- **Respect**
- **Responsibility**
- **Resourcefulness**
- **Resilience**
- **Reflection**
- **Risk Taking**
- **Relationships**

To develop our Sitwell Seven Values further this year, each month one class of children will pick a value they would like to develop through school and at home.

Any photographs, outside of school, which show your child developing one of the Sitwell Seven Values would be greatly appreciated and may feature in the next weekly newsletter.

Y6 News

The year 6 team are very impressed with how the children have settled in to their new classes, developing new friends and their RELATIONSHIP skills. They have all shown great enthusiasm for their new topic.

During our 'Tuesday' investigation, the children showed great imagination and creativity when piecing together the clues to work out the details of the crime. They were able to demonstrate RISK-TAKING when offering suggestions and REFLECT on these ideas when further clues meant their initial idea was implausible. In art, the children have displayed RESILIENCE when drawing pencil sketches of frogs, persevering when adding fine detail to the frogs' spots, using 'Mr Harvey' pencil techniques. Keep up the good work!

This week, in maths, Year 6 will begin their maths learning with developing their knowledge of reading, writing and determining the value of each digit in numbers up to 10,000,000. Further to this, they will develop their reasoning and problem solving skills in this area. They will use resources initially to help them advance their understanding before moving on to more abstract questions to extend their thinking skills. Children will also begin their weekly arithmetic test and basic skills check.

In English, Year 6 will continue their work on the picture book 'Tuesday' by David Weisner. Children will write a newspaper report detailing the strange and magical events of Tuesday night. They will examine the features of a newspaper report and annotate these, in order to create a checklist for inclusion in their own report. In Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling (GPS), they will learn how to correctly punctuate speech using inverted commas, in order to include witness statements, as quotes, in their report.

In topic, Year 6 will begin their 'Could I be a Crime Scene Investigator?' topic. In PSHCE, children will examine the meaning of the word identity and begin to think in-depth about their own identity and what makes them unique. In ICT, they will use an APP called 'Aging Booth' to find out what they might look like in 50 years' time. They will then splice together a picture of their young and old self to create an impressive piece of art.