



Headteacher's Blog

FRIDAY 8TH JULY 2016

SAD NEWS

It was with great sadness that we heard of the passing of former Mayor, Councillor Brian White, this week. He was a real friend to OPA, and will be sadly missed.



Y6 LEAVERS' DAY – THURSDAY 21ST JULY

The end of term is fast-approaching, and we are bracing ourselves to say our fond farewells to this year's wonderful Golden Eagles. Due to the fact that we have 90 children leaving Year 6 this year, we are changing the format of Leavers' Day slightly.

- There will be two assemblies during the morning – one at 9:00am and one at 10:30am, although all of Year 6 will attend both of the assemblies. The Year 6 team will let you know in which assembly your child will have their 'goodbye'.
- The school kitchen will provide a special 'Leavers' Lunch' rather than a hot lunch – if the weather is good, the whole school will have lunch outside together on the pitch.
- At 1:50pm the gates will open for parents to join us outside for the graduation ceremony.

We are going to try our very best to finish on time, so that parents are not held up collecting their children, but it's such a special day, please forgive us if we do overrun slightly.

CHINESE LANGUAGE ASSISTANT



In September we will be joined by Shuang Chen, a Chinese language assistant. When we had Rubi Lopez working with us, our Spanish language assistant, one of our lovely families were able to offer her a room and the opportunity to keep in touch with her native community living in MK. Shuang is from the Hubei Province, and has been teaching in both China and the Philippines. She has a strong interest in Chinese traditional culture and has lots of knowledge of Chinese tradition. Please let us know if you would be able to help.

SCHOOL MEALS PRICE INCREASE FROM SEPTEMBER 2016

School meal prices for KS2 children will increase by 10p per meal with effect from September, to £2.30 per meal. The minimum payment for the week will therefore be £11.50, rather than the current £11.00.

HARVEST

This week, Miss Thomas has harvested this wonderful range of flowers, herbs and vegetables from the planters in the playground. She has been working really hard with the children to tend the plants as they grew, and it's wonderful to see the results all their hard work! The sweet peas smell amazing!



Swimming team

After finishing 1st in the local swimming competition, Mr Thurston took the team to the county games last Friday, in which we finished 6th last year. This time round there were 7 teams competing from the whole of Milton Keynes and Buckinghamshire. The team was outstanding and really tried their best. Some races did not go to plan but this did not stop them from swimming their hardest. After the points were calculated we came out clear in 2nd place and not too far from 1st. This is a massive achievement, being the 2nd best swim team in the county is something the children should be really proud of!

Mr Thurston



CELEBRATIONS

This week, we have celebrated the following achievements:

- ★ Savannah, James, Isabella and Nieve from Foundation have all been to see me with their celebrations this week. Savannah has received her award for swimming 20m, James has passed Stage 2 in his swimming lessons, Isabella has passed Stage 1 in swimming, and Nieve has learned all of her 100 Hotwords.



- ★ Cody, Sadie and Skye from Year 3 have also achieved great things. Cody and his cockerpoo Wilson took part in a Family Dog Show last weekend, and came 2nd in the child handler competition, Sadie has passed Level 3 in ice skating and Skye took part in a Race for Life last Saturday, the day after running our Race for Life in school! She ran 5km in 39 minutes!



- ★ Lewie and Michelle in Year 1 have both been showing their 5Cs consistently in school, and were today rewarded with a Golden Thread.



- ★ Charlie in Year 4 sent some of his 'Amazing Amazon' work to Blue Peter. He was lucky enough to receive a Blue Peter badge in recognition of his hard work, and it will be appearing on TV soon!



★ As you may remember, Mr Oldfield and his Curriculum Enrichment group made a village of 'Bug Houses'. Mr Oldfield was so proud of the children's work that he entered the Total 'Green Schools' competition. This week we received a certificate in recognition of their project, which will be displayed proudly in school.



★ Shreeya in Year 6 recently took part in a Sun Awareness competition, and has won a whole box of Garnier goodies as her prize!



CONGRATULATIONS TO EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THIS WEEK'S AMAZING SUPERSTARS!

THE WEEK AHEAD

Date		
Tues 12th Jul	Transition Day Year 6 Transition Day to Hazeley	
Fri 15th Jul	Prize Giving: Year 2/3 Foundation/Year 1 Year 4/5/6 Athletics Showcase Year 6 Prom	9:00am-10:00am 10:30am-11:30am 2:00pm-3:00pm Morning 6:30pm-8:30pm

KEY DATES COMING UP ..

Date		
Tues 19th Jul	Year 6 Performance	2:00pm and 6:00pm
Weds 20th Jul	Governor Awards assemblies: Foundation/Year 1/Year 2 Year 3/4/5/6	9:00am 10:00am
Thurs 21st Jul	Leavers' Day School closes for summer	Details & timings TBC
Thurs 1st Sept	INSET Day	
Fri 2nd Sept	INSET Day	
Mon 5th Sept	School re-opens	

Have a good weekend.

Cathy