

Dates for your diary:

October

- 5 - Open Day [9.30-11 / 4-6]
- 7 - Coffee Morning
School Bank
- 13 - Open Day [4-6]
- 18 - Assessment
Workshop [7-9]
- 20 - Bright Sparks Disco
- 21 - School Bank
- 24 - 28 Half Term Break

November

- 2 - PTA Meeting 7.30pm
- 4 - Coffee Morning
- 14 - Anti-Bullying Week
- 14 - Y5 Performance [7-8.30pm]
- 15 - Y5 Performance [7-8.30pm]
- 17 - Parents' Evening [4-8]
- 25 - Non-uniform Day

December

- 2 - Coffee Morning
- 8 - Y3 Performance
[Shirley Methodist
Church, 7-8.30pm]
- 9 - Christmas Fair
- 15 - Christmas Parties
- 16 - Term Ends

January

- 4 January - School
Improvement Planning
[INSET - school closed to
children]
- 6 - Coffee Morning
- 26 - Parents' Forum [7-9]

INSET DAYS

- 23 April - TBC
- 3 May - TBC

Thought for the week

*Does every second
count or should we
count every second?*

The latest teacher assessments show that we are now very close across the school to our target for children making two levels progress in Maths and English. In the past twelve months, we have dramatically increased the percentage of children making this progress across the school. This means that the projected number of children on track to attain the national requirement and above by Y6 has also increased across the school.

However, despite these positive results and the outstanding progress made in the last two years by our outgoing Y6 children, our 2011 SATs results are lower than the last comparable set we have from 2009. Having recognised this two years ago from our improving tracking systems and the previous KS1 data, we put in place targeted interventions for these children. I am delighted by the positive impact upon the rates of progress that these have had, meaning that 81% of children attained a Level 4, the national expectation, or above in Maths and 94% in English. These results mean that our children once again attained at a level above the National average in both subjects.

The percentage of our pupils taking SATs in 2011 having made the required two levels progress between KS1 and KS2 in Maths this year was 71% and in English 73%. Whilst we recognise that this is below the standards that we have set ourselves, the improvements made to teaching and learning, assessment, our tracking systems and curriculum delivery have meant that in the past two years we have been able to almost triple the number of children on track to make the required two levels progress from KS1 to KS2 in English, and in Maths that number is seven times larger.

All of these results show that as a school we are having the positive impact upon the learning and achievement of our pupils that we set out to do. We are able to support children effectively, spot when progress is below what we would want it to be and put in place effective interventions to move this on. In regards to the journey that we are on, this data shows that we are heading most definitely in the right direction.

My many apologies for the cancellation of last evening's Parents' Forum. Unfortunately I succumbed to the dreaded lurgy that appears to be walking the school's corridors! I will be making arrangements to reschedule this and let you know next week of the revised date and time. In the meantime my thanks to those parents who had responded and committed themselves to attend.

Have a good weekend!

Mark



Y5 YORK RESIDENTIAL TRIP

Year 5 parents are all invited to come along to our York Parents Evening which is to be held on Tuesday 22nd November at 7.00pm in the School Hall. This is an initial meeting where an outline of the trip will be given and any questions you have will be answered.



Squash Success

Congratulations to Lewis Anderson and Annie Watton who entered the Warwickshire Square Championship recently. Lewis was runner up in the Under 11 Boys and Annie was third in the Under 11 Girls category. This achievement is all the more impressive when you take into account that Annie is new to the sport and was highly praised by the coach of the winning girl, who is ranked in the top 20 girls in England. Maybe 2016 beckons!!

As a school, we are the 2011 Solihull Junior School Champions after winning the tournament held at Solihull Arden during the summer term. Congratulations to all of those children who participated.

John, the coach from Solihull Arden, is again running the lunchtime club with Years 3, 4 and 5 this year. Pupils in Year 6 can access a session at Solihull Arden Club on a Wednesday evening between 3.45 and 4.40pm for a £1.

Any child can play squash at the club during three weekend sessions. Please contact John on 0121 744 8832 for further details.

Our many thanks to the support that we receive from John and the Club!



E-Safety

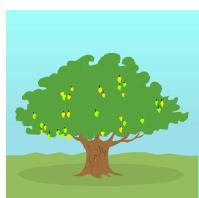
We have had to speak to a couple of children this week about their use of Facebook. The traffic that was going back and forth was really an argument, but given the medium this became more 'heated' than if the children had been face to face.

May we remind parents of the guidance that children under the age of 13 should in fact not be on Facebook, although as parents ourselves, we do appreciate the pressure. Should you choose to allow your child access then can we again strongly advise that this is done with the provision that they accept you as a friend so that you are able to monitor the output and input of those links.



OUTDOOR LEARNING

Could parents please double check which days your child has outdoor learning and ensure that they come to school in the correct clothing. Dates for your child's outdoor learning sessions were included in the letter sent out earlier this month and have also been uploaded onto the class pages of the school website. Many thanks for your co-operation with this.



75th Celebration Mural

If you haven't had chance yet to see the events that have shaped the world during our 75 wonderful years expressed as a mural in the Y3 and Y4 playground, then please do and try to make time. It is an incredible piece of art work that lifts the environment immensely!

Our many, many thanks to Mrs Morgan for her Herculean efforts in bringing this to fruition! Many, many hours have gone into it and we are eternally grateful!

