Headteachers Newsletter Summer Term
July 2013

Dear parents and carers,

What an amazing round up of both the term and the year. It has been incredibly busy, but such fun and Summer is here at last!

We are delighted to have achieved the **ArtsMark Gold Award**, in recognition of the quality provision for Art in Education at Handsworth. The award recognises all of the art forms, from dance, drama, art and music. Thank you to Mrs Leftwich for all her hard work and to everyone who contributed.

A number of Handsworth pupils appeared on 'Eat Well for Less' with Greg Wallace from MasterChef fame. The show was aired on BBC1 at 7pm on Monday 15th July. If you didn't get the chance to see, do watch on BBC iplayer.

This term, Year 5AA worked with three Architects as part of the Open -City Architects in Schools programme. Congratulations to Max, Omar and Fergus, who were commended in the model making category.

The **Summer Fete,** 'Down on the Farm' which included a mini animal enclosure was a highlight for the children. A special thank you to Friends of Handsworth organisers and to all the parents, grandparents and children, who helped make the day such a success. A huge well done to Mrs Ingram and FOH for organising the Summer Market this term – there were really beautiful arts and craft stalls enjoyed by all. Do join us for afternoon tea and cakes from 2pm in the school hall on Wednesday 24th July. Our very own FOH choir will be performing, so do come along and support.

Your fundraising this year has enabled the **FOH** to donate a special leaver's book and gift for each child in Year 6. We are also hoping that Handsworth will be a 'Lego school' watch this space for further details!

Sports Day was fantastic, well done to all of our participants. The full sports round-up newsletter is available on the school website.

We have started the transition visits for the **new Reception** classes. It seems such a short time ago that our current Reception children joined us. I'm sure our new joiners will be as wonderful as our current cohort. For the children in our Handsworth Nursery that are moving on to different schools, we wish you every success. Those schools are very lucky!

Year 6 - In the countdown to the end of their time at Handsworth, Year 6 have been enjoying some amazing activities; this includes their fantastic end of year performance 'The Long Goodbye', One Drum and their graduation on the 19th July. All year 6 pupils have worked incredibly hard this year towards their statutory tests and we are proud of all of them. They have maintained our record of excellent results and definitely helped set the bar for next year. These results do not just happen, and take a lot of work and real commitment from both home and school to help our children achieve. We know that you have aimed high whilst having fun. Year 6, you are all Secondary ready, but we will miss you and I am incredibly proud to have been your head teacher and shared part of your journey.

Pupil end of year reports will be sent out on Friday 19th July. We value your feedback, so please complete the reply slips. If you have any further queries regarding these, please speak to either myself or your class teacher.

Children, from Reception up, met their teachers for next year. The classes are as follows:-

Class List: 2013/14	
Classes	
Existing	New
/	N - Mrs Garrett
/	R -Mrs Lucas
/	R - Ms Walter
RIL	1 - Miss Lee
RHW	1 - Miss Edwards
1DL	2 - Miss Bossman
1LB	2 - Miss Dale
2CD	3 - Miss Pattimore
2EL	3 - Mr Tromans
3JP	4 - Mrs Leftwich
3JB	4 - Miss Lloyd
4JL	5 - Mrs Chetty
4AGHS	5 - Ms Soar
5AA	6 - Miss Jordaan
5KC	6 - Mrs Wilson

Staff changes Congratulations to Miss Edwards and Mr Tromans for graduating with flying colours through the graduate teacher training programme. We are delighted that both will be joining the Handsworth team in September. We are sad to say goodbye to Miss Adcock who is leaving Handsworth to return to New Zealand. Mrs Gresham is also formally retiring after 18 years of dedicated service to the school. Both are outstanding teachers and will be truly missed.

Academy consultation update – Since requesting your initial thoughts regarding academy status, with current school priorities the Governors of Handsworth have decided not to pursue this any further. We will therefore not proceed to formal consultation at this time.

We are delighted with the response for our **Summer School** which takes place during the first two weeks of the holidays. This year we have been able to accommodate a total of 80 children and we are sure the children will have an amazing time.

Do remember that school finishes at **2.30pm on Wednesday 24th July.**

A very big thank you to all of the organisations, professional coaches, YMCA, parent helpers, fruit scheme, uniform shop and parent/grandparent volunteers and governors who have done a great job this year. Last but not least, an enormous thank you to the dedicated team of Handsworth staff. Thank you all for your hard work – you do an amazing job!

School re-opens to pupils from Years 1 to 6 at **8.50am on Wednesday 4th September**.

From all of the staff at Handsworth Primary School, we wish you all have a wonderful Summer Break. Happy holidays!

Jill Augustin

Explore, Dream, Discover