



HANDSWORTH NEWS

**BRANCHING OUT, GROWING TALL
HAND IN HAND, ONE AND ALL**



**Handsworth
Primary School**

Dear Parents and Carers

We are coming to the end of another busy first term. It seems like 2018 has flown by with the children having lots of opportunities to grow, develop and learn new things. I would like to take the opportunity to thank the wonderful staff at Handsworth who go above and beyond for the children in our school.

I would like to wish you a peaceful and restful holiday and look forward to seeing you all in the New Year.

Friends of Handsworth

FOH would like to thank all parents, carers, staff and everyone who volunteered, helped or supported us in any way during this very busy Autumn term. Thanks to our events so far (International Day, Quiz Night, Christmas cards, and Christmas Fayre) we have already raised around £3,700! We wish you all a wonderful Christmas and look forward to lots more successful fundraising events and ideas in 2019. Don't forget to join us for tea and cakes on Thursday 20th December from 2:30pm in the big hall. Friends of Handsworth are always looking for new ways to raise money for our children's school.

We have registered with easyfundraising, a great site where you can raise money for Friends of Handsworth with your everyday online shopping. We want to raise as much as possible so please sign up at the link below:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsofhandsworth>



We have received a grant for £500 from EMI music which has been used to purchase new instruments.

We have also been chosen by our Local NISA as one of the charities they will be supporting in the coming year.

A big 'well done' to our Nursey, Reception and KS1 pupils for their beautiful Nativities!

Admissions

Just to remind you that any applications for Reception places for September 2019 should be made online via www.eadmissions.org.uk before the deadline of 15th January 2019.

If you have a pre-school child who is due to start Nursery in September 2019, please contact our school office for an application form. We offer full time provision for twenty-five pupils.



Charity Fundraising

Children in Need

Once again the Year 6 children planned and led the activities for Children in Need. Thank you for your continued support with these fundraising efforts. It is wonderful to see how committed our children are to supporting the wider community. We raised £1669.47, which was even more than last year!

Eat or Heat Reverse Advent Calendar

This Winter season we organised a 'Reverse Advent Calendar' where every day for two weeks in December children brought in donations for the local foodbank 'Eat or Heat'. Thank you for all your donations, these will be used to provide emergency support to members of our community.

Diary Dates

4MJ Cycle Confidence

28th & 29th January 2019

4KC Cycle Confidence

30th & 31st January 2019

Young Voices Concert – Year 5

Thursday 31st January 2019

E-Safety Day - Parent Workshops

Tuesday 5th February 2019

Year 1 Phonics Meeting

Wednesday 6th February 2019

INSET Day

Friday 15th February 2019

Half Term

18th – 22nd February 2019

Year 6 Mock SATs

25th – 28th February 2019

6JG - Shaking up Shakespeare

5th -7th March 2019

World Book Day (at Handsworth)

Friday 8th March 2019

Science Week

11th -15th March 2019

Parents Evenings

12th & 13th March 2019

Comic Relief - Red Nose Day

Friday 15th March 2019

5LN - Cycle Confidence

18th to 22nd March 2019

6SM - Shaking up Shakespeare

19th – 21st March 2019

Year 1 - London Transport Museum

2nd April 2019

5CS - Cycle Confidence

25th – 29th March 2019

Year 6 Residential

3rd – 5th April 2019

Pupil Conferences

Our Pupil Conferences last year were a great success. It was a fantastic opportunity for the children to reflect on their year with their parents and teachers whilst thinking about their targets for the following year. This year the Pupil Conferences will be held on our Summer INSET day, Monday 8th July, from 9am to 6pm. We will send you further details in the New Year. The Pupil Conferences will use the same online booking system as the Parents' Evening.



We hope you found the Parents' Evening useful and were able to celebrate your children's learning and progress. The Book Fair held during Parents' Evening also raised over £1200 which allowed us to purchase around £750 worth of books for our school library.

The school now has access to an Online Library, allowing the children to access our school library from a number of devices at U014242.microlibarian.net

Sports Update

It has been an extremely busy term for sport at Handsworth. The classes have been using a new scheme of work - Real PE - which has been a great success, allowing exciting and new sporting opportunities across the school.

Our Young Sports Leaders have completed their training and have joined forces with the Sports Council to deliver lunchtime clubs in the small hall. These are aimed at Years 2 and 3, but anybody is welcome to join in during KS2 playtime on Mondays and Tuesdays.

It has once again been a tremendously successful term for competitions. We were fortunate enough to have representation at both the KS1 and KS2 Cross Country event. We have competed in Tag Rugby, Badminton, Sportshall Athletics and Table Tennis. The Year 6 Boys (Borough Champions) and Girls (Borough Second Place) have achieved great feats in the football competitions and we were crowned the inaugural Sitting Volleyball champions. Both the Boys Football Team and the Sitting Volleyball Team will represent Waltham Forest at The London School Games early in 2019.

Attendance

Our attendance to date is 97.2% with the national figure being 96%. We have had 372 late arrivals so far this year and 99 late collections.

Attendance and punctuality remain a priority for the school. Regular and punctual attendance is both a legal requirement and crucial to a child's success – there is a clear link between a high rate of attendance and high achievement. If pupils are not in lessons they cannot learn.

Please support us by ensuring your child is in school and ready to learn by 8.50am every day.

Festive Attire

It is always lovely to see the sprinkling of Christmas hats and tinsel headbands which start adorning children's heads during December! As is our tradition, the last day of term will be an optional Christmas Jumper/Hat Day. All children must wear school uniform, but they can choose to wear a Christmas jumper instead of their school jumper.

End of Term Celebration

Please join us, weather permitting, in the KS2 playground from 2pm on Thursday 20th December for festive songs and carols. School closes promptly at 2.30pm on Thursday 20th December. We look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday 7th January at 8.50am.