

Newsletter: June 2019

Dear Parents

Thank you for supporting our **Summer Fete**. It was great to see everyone there enjoying themselves and supporting the school at the same time. Thanks to you we have made a profit of approximately £4,400! As pledged in my recent letter to each of you, every pound raised will be spent on and for the children. The fund raising focus for the fete was to refurbish and revitalise the playground activity trail. Your attendance and support for the fete has made this project viable and I am pleased to tell you that work on this exciting project will begin on Monday 15th July 2019.



The summer term is such a busy time in school. Children and staff continue to work so hard to secure the best learning outcomes as the school year begins to draw to a close. Class and end of key stage assessments are completed, reports written and plans drawn up for the new school year commencing Monday 2nd September. And while all these things are happening the children continue to enjoy lots of exciting activities and experiences.

At the heart of our curriculum are the fantastic school trips and workshops which we run to inspire learning and satisfy the children's unquenchable thirst for new

knowledge, skills and experiences. This month alone the children have enjoyed:

- **SPORT** – Y5 Tri-Golf at Copthall Golf Centre, Y2 Tae Kwon-do lessons x 6 weeks (sport enrichment), Y3 Power League football, Y2 girls Power League football, KS2 Athletics at Allianz Park, Y6 football tournament at Livingstone School, Reception gym at Hendon Leisure Centre x 2 (sport enrichment), Y6 kayaking and Bell Boating at Welsh Harp Reservoir (sport enrichment) and Y5/Y6 rugby at The Orion School.
- **The Wider Curriculum** (previously known as the creative curriculum – please see our 'Wider Curriculum' power point on the school website) – Y6 School Journey to Cromer, Norfolk, Y5/6 Growth Mindset BMX workshops, Y2 outing to Sun Trap, Epping Forest, Y4 African Drumming Workshop, Reception outing to Celtic Harmony, Hertford, Nursery Zoo Lab workshop and Y3 canal trip at Lee Valley and a Y1 picnic in Friary Park.



Y6 School Journey: Bush Craft

- **Still to look forward to** – Y2 trip to Knebworth House, Y1 and Y2 swimming galas/fun swims, Y1 trip to The Little Angel Theatre, Islington, Y1 gym at Hendon Leisure Centre x 2 (sport enrichment), Y5/Y6 swimming gala at Copthall Pools and last but not least our

Y5 and Y6 summer show (16th and 17th July – tickets available from the school office).

So there is never a dull moment which is just as we all like it! My thanks to the PTFA for the financial subsidy they provide for our wider curriculum and sport enrichment activities and my thanks to the teachers and teaching assistants who work so hard to provide wonderful activities for the children. Although I have said it many times before, these incredibly enriching experiences do not commonly occur in other primary school settings. Most children, if they are lucky, will have only one class outing a year. Sports activities will rarely be as comprehensive and wide ranging as the programme we run. The children, with your love and our commitment to their academic and social welfare, enjoy the best opportunities and experiences possible. As a staff we are mindful of this and at school we remind children from time to time of just how lucky they are to have so much when others often have so little! I am sure that you share these sentiments and you too encourage your children to appreciate and value what they have and never take anything for granted.

Congratulations to our **Junior Athletics Squad**. Last week we took a team of 47 children to compete in the annual borough athletics competition. Our children excelled in effort, performance and behaviour. As a consequence we won the Field Events trophy and came third overall in track and field. This is a marvellous achievement for a small school and we congratulate the team for their success. Our sporting prowess is known across Barnet and performances this year have done nothing to damage our reputation in sport. **Our most recent success has been winning Barnet's inaugural Rugby League competition**. Unbeaten in the league this year, we faced The Orion School in the

borough final on Monday. From 1-3 down at half-time the score was level at 4-4 at the end of normal time. The final went to a 'sudden death' ending with St. John's eventual winners at 5-4. Congratulations to the team for the quality of their play this year and in the final particularly.

We have just purchased **new ICT equipment** thanks once again to a generous subsidy from the PTFA. We are very excited to have another 15 Chrome Books (we now have 30 new Chrome books for the children to use). We also have two fabulous new interactive whiteboards in the Reception Class and Y3. We also have a new projector for the school hall – long overdue and such an improvement on what we had before. As you know, IT equipment never comes cheaply and at these times of diminishing resources and poor funding streams we do struggle to maintain out ICT infrastructure at the level we need. Further interactive whiteboards are needed in the near future, our I pads are fast becoming obsolete and we certainly do need to invest in a few new laptops. But this is for the future. Thank you for all the help you provide in making our funds stretch a little further.

Please consult the school calendar on the school website to keep up with events for the remainder of the term. It is updated regularly and will have been by the time you read this newsletter!

Please remember that term ends on Tuesday 23rd July at 2pm and school reopens on Monday 2nd July 2019.

Graham Gunn

Head Teacher





**African Drumming workshop, Kayaking,
Y3 Lee Valley outing and Summer Fete
pictures below:**

