

Crow Orchard July Newsletter

I really do not know where this year has gone. We have had another wonderful year with results again showing further improvement in all 3 key stages. This means we now have 6 years evidence of rising results which we are very proud of.

We have actually achieved our best SAT's results since I have been at the school which not only celebrate great attainment, but show the fantastic progress the children have made in their 7 year journey at Crow Orchard.

And so for the final time this yearon with the news!



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Monday 20th July- Crow Orchard's Got Talent finals- winning parents will be notified
Tuesday 21st July- Junior Sports day if 16th July cancelled
Summer disco
Thursday 23rd July- 9.30am Year 6 Leaver's assembly
BREAK UP TODAY FOR SUMMER HOLIDAYS
Tuesday 8th September- SCHOOL OPENS FOR AUTUMN TERM 1

CLASSES FOR NEXT YEAR

Reception	Mrs Mahood
Year 1	Mrs Baldwin
Year 2	Miss Birch
Year 3	Mrs Heath
Year 4	Miss Baron/ Mrs Roberts (after Christmas Mrs Spence)
Year 5	Mrs McVey/ Mrs Meers
Year 6	Mr Spence

In this final newsletter I have asked the teachers and children to think about the highlight of their year.

RECEPTION



Reception highlights were their trip to Underwater World and their outdoor sculpting activity which took place at the Tawd.

Underwater World is such a great place for youngsters and ours loved the freedom to be able to take part in such a variety of activities. I am sure the Reception children will recall their first school trip with fond memories.

The outdoor sculpting activity is always a favourite. The children work in school studying the artwork of Andy Goldsworthy who creates sculptures using elements from nature. The children then go to the Tawd and collect all sorts of things to create their own group sculptures. These are then photographed as it would obviously be impossible to bring them back to school. I am sure Mrs Mahood will have pictures on her section of the website.

YEAR 1



The highlight for Year 1 was their trip to Blackpool Zoo. The weather was kind to them and they had an absolutely fantastic day. Mrs Baldwin said their behaviour was exemplary and they were far better behaved than any of the other schools there. The children got to see most things in the zoo and enjoyed the sea lion show. They also came back with goodies which had been pre-ordered for them. I am really glad that Lewis didn't bring any ostrich eggs home with him, as he told his brother he was going to! Well done teachers for organising yet another super trip.

YEAR 2



Year 2 loved making their puppets which hang proudly in the classroom, but I am sure they will be going home at the end of term.

They also had a super fantastic day at Eureka in Halifax. The children told me about:-

- the cars in the garage which had to be filled with petrol
- their lunch which they had on a Great Western train
- the body scanner which scanned their bodies
- the room called 'dig' which they crawled down with their special hats on
- the role play house, bank and Mark and Spencers- (sounds good)
- the sand pit
- and finally from Paul- the nose which was full of snot and sneezed ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺

And another highlight was of course their lead in performing the Christmas production, which was as usual brilliant.

We must also celebrate Year 2's achievements in their SAT's this year which again are an improvement on the last 5 years. We really are getting better and better!

Reading Level 2+ 91% Level 3 41%

Writing Level 2+ 96% Level 3 23%

Maths Level 2+ 91% Level 3 32%

Excellent results!

YEAR 3 NEWS



Mrs Heath didn't have to think very long to decide upon their highlight of the year. It had to be their trip to London. I will remember the day when she came into my office and told me that she and Mrs Anderson (although I am led to believe that it was Mrs Anderson who planted the seed!) had had an idea and she wasn't sure I would allow it, but she was going to ask anyway. When she told me she wanted to take the class to London, I nearly fell off my chair! However they went and had an absolutely brilliant time. Everything went exactly as planned and the children will never forget their day in London. The one thing which I was

so proud of was how many members of the public commented on what a super group of children they were and how well they behaved. Way to go Year 3!



YEAR 4

Year's highlight was their trip to Chester where they all became Roman soldiers. They marched through the streets of Chester with their swords and shields making what can only be described as a terrible din! Chanting their battle calls they brought people out of the shops coming to see what on earth was going on. Needless to say Year 4 who are such a quiet bunch were in their element! Usually grownups tell us to be quiet but here was an opportunity to make as much noise as they could. They did do quite a lot of learning also on this day but the highlight was definitely marching through the streets. Again, another thing which will be remembered from their school days.

YEAR 5 NEWS



This term Year 5 have had great opportunities through the 'SLICE' project which we signed up to. Their highlight for this year was linked to this activity and it was when they went to The Horse And Bamboo Theatre and performed their shadow puppet show in front of hundreds of strangers. They showed us the puppet show during their class assembly and I really was wowed with what they had produced. The puppets were so intricate and I have no idea how they managed to cut them out. The script was produced by the children and the way they manoeuvred their puppets showed great skill. Well done guys- really good effort!



YEAR 6

I thought Mr Spence might choose this as his highlight!
The Year 6 highlight was obviously their SAT's results. They are the best set of results we have received since I have been head at Crow Orchard and I know all the children are extremely proud of what they have managed to achieve.

We had the following results:-

Reading Level 4+ 90%

Writing Level 4+ 86%

Maths Level 4+ 96%

SPAG Level 4+ 86%

These results are fantastic but then look at the Level 5's!

Reading 38%

Writing 33%

Maths 48%
SPAG 52%

We are also pleased to show our progress from KS1 to KS2. This is reported on how many pupils make 2 levels of progress in this time:-

Reading 100%
Writing 100%
Maths 100%

This really is not only a highlight for Year 6 but for the whole school who have worked for 7 years with these children and have all contributed to this amazing success!

Have you noticed how not one single class wanted to highlight their fantastic English and Maths lessons..... interesting- I must look into this!

BREAKFAST CLUB/AFTER SCHOOL CLUB



Breakfast Club and After School Club have had another fantastic year. The numbers are forever rising and this is down to the fantastic things which the staff plan for the pupils. Can I ask any parents or carers who have outstanding payments to make, to get the money to us by the end of term. It is very awkward and embarrassing when we are constantly having to ask for overdue payments, so please make sure the staff who run these clubs are not put in this position.

NAMES IN UNIFORM



Please put names in all of your children's uniform when they come back in September? We are constantly trying to locate lost items of uniform. When children lose their uniform it can be very upsetting and annoying for parents and it makes it so much easier for all concerned if the items are named.

SCHOOL DINNERS



If you pay for school dinners, from September we will need the dinner money on the day your child wants a dinner. We cannot let arrears of payment build up as it has with some families this year. If you were going out for lunch it would not be accepted to order it and eat it, but not pay, so we are going to have to insist on same day payment.

If you have genuine difficulties providing money on the day for whatever reason, please speak to the ladies in the office or give us a ring to let us know when you will be able to

make a payment. We will not accept children who just come in and say they are hot school dinner without any money.

IF YOU WANT YOUR CHILD TO HAVE DINNERS NEXT WEEK- THE MONEY MUST COME IN ON MONDAY FOR THE FULL 4 DAYS

ATTENDANCE



Can we thank everybody this year for the fantastic effort which has been made in getting your children to school. Our attendance figures are again pleasing. We also appreciate the understanding from most parents in not taking your children out of school for holidays during term time. This has also had an impact on our percentages. Next year however it is expected that there will be tougher penalties introduced by the Government in relation to holidays and schools will have to issue penalty fines. Please think about this before booking a holiday.

Let's all try as hard next school year and see if we can further beat our targets?

SHARES HOLIDAY SWIMMING CLUB

SHARES are running a holiday club for keen swimmers from Monday 27th July to Friday 31st July at Nye Bevan pool. The sessions will run from 10.00am-11.30am and cost £25. If you are interested or require more information look on the SHARES website.

THANKYOU MS JONES

**Thank
You**

Ms Jones has worked in our school on a voluntary basis for three years. I often forget that she is not a paid member of staff! I would like to thank her for her consistent support and passion for the school and particularly for the help she has given us this term in helping to run the Breakfast Club in Miss Dowling's absence.

Many, many thanks Ms Jones for everything that you do.

THANKYOU GOVERNORS

I would also like to thank our school Governors who are so supportive in their contributions towards running the school. They help in so many ways, from working in school, to attending meetings and organising events. Thank you to all of you. A relentless role with no pay- but I know you love it really!

AND FINALLY



It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to two of our staff- Mrs Boardman and Mrs Etherington.

Mrs Boardman has worked in the office for ever! She has always been a smiley face in the morning (well sometimes) for parents and visitors to school. I know that working at Crow Orchard has been a huge part of her life and she is really emotional about leaving, but wants to spend more quality time with her husband and family. I am sure a new arrival of a granddaughter also had something to do with it. I personally want to say a huge thank you to Linda who has been a tower of strength to me as Headteacher of the school. Being a Headteacher is a lonely place sometimes and Linda has been there on many occasions to listen to me letting off steam or giving me support and advice. I know she will be missed by all of the children, parents and staff, but have a sneaking feeling she may be a regular guest at school events. Make sure you come and visit us often Linda, or I will be round to get you!

Thank you from all of us Linda and enjoy your retirement. ☺

Mrs Etherington has decided it is time for a career change- I think we frightened her off! She is looking towards working more in the social care side of things and I wish her lots of happiness if this is the route she chooses to take. Julie has been with us for 7 years and during this time has taken on lots of different roles and duties and has taught every age range in the school. She has always been the first one to have a laugh in the staff room and has frequently shown great kindness to people in school. I am sure everyone will join me in thanking Julie for everything she has done for the school and wish her well for the future.

AND FINALLY, FINALLY

Farewell to my super fantastic current Year 6. I once again got all teary eyed when completing their end of year reports and am really so proud of the results they have achieved at our school. You are all superstars and you must follow your dreams, because you all have the ability to achieve them. I wish you every success in your new schools and look forward to keeping tracks on what you are doing in future years. Keep in touch and visit us often!

WE HAVE HAD A GREAT YEAR AND I WOULD LIKE TO SAY THANK YOU TO ALL THE CHILDREN, STAFF, PARENTS AND GOVERNORS, BECAUSE WITHOUT YOU WE WOULDN'T BE THE FANTASTIC SCHOOL THAT WE ARE!
HAVE A GREAT HOLIDAY AND.....



SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER.