



# Hardwick and Cambourne Community Primary School Newsletter

5th October 2015

Dear Parents and Guardians

The last few weeks have certainly been very exciting and it's been wonderful to welcome so many people into our new building in Cambourne. Many of you came to our opening event last Friday and enjoyed the activities and cake! Once the rest of the building is finished, hopefully this will be completed before the summer, we will have an "official" ceremony. We are very much looking forward to saying farewell to the builders, though having them still on-site has helped a lot with the snagging!

We will send out another reminder before half term, but Monday 2nd November is a training day and Tuesday 3rd is school photos day, so you might like to send them in looking even smarter and tider than usual!

Can we also remind you to return any contact detail forms this week if you need to notify us of any changes.

Mr Matthews and Mrs French

## Reception news

The children in Reception have had a fabulous start to the term, settling in quickly and learning the new routines. They have coped brilliantly with lunchtimes, and are already very independent. We have all enjoyed getting to know the children, during our first topic, 'All about me', where we have been finding out about ourselves and our families. Next week we will be thinking more about our houses and homes. We are planning to build model houses, and would appreciate any donations of small boxes (tissue / shoe / cereal boxes are ideal). We will explore the houses made by the three little pigs, which will lead us nicely into our next topic, Fairytales.

We will also be starting phonics next week, where we will be focusing on the sounds made by letters. This will be done through practical activities with objects, and lots of games to help the children hear sounds and rhyme. As the children become familiar with the first set of sounds, we will send home some ideas of activities which will help you to support their learning.

More details of our topics, along with information about life in Reception and the wider school can be found by visiting our [It's Learning](#) website

Please could we remind you to check all your child's belongings are labelled clearly, to help us reunite children with their own things, if and when they lose them!

We have noticed a few children have brought in toys from home. Although we are happy to look at special toys during our show and tell sessions, we would discourage children from bringing in toys regularly to play with at school, as they tend to get lost or broken.

Finally, thank you to all parents who have already sent in the reply slips for the Audley End trip. Although it's still a while till Christmas, we are really looking forward to it as it's such a magical experience for the children!

## Year 1/2 news

Year 1 and 2 have enjoyed a fantastic start to the year. After a few weeks of settling in, we are now well into the swing of our learning all about castles and fairy tales. We had a fantastic trip to Warwick Castle on Tuesday where we had the chance to climb the towers and ramparts, explore the great hall, meet a real princess and break a fairy tale spell to save Prince Guy. We saw the enormous trebuchet and learnt about how it would have worked. We are now basing our learning around the adventurous tales of Sir Charlie Stinky Socks and will be writing our own alternative fairy tales. Thank you so much for all the fantastic homework that has come into school so far. We are really impressed with the standard and the range of homework that has been produced – keep it up! Parents, please be sure to check the Year 1/2 page on the learning platform for updates, letters and information about supporting your child's learning at home!

### **Year 3/4 news**

We have had a fantastic start to the year with our Caribbean topic. The children are really enjoying learning about and writing their own Anansi stories as well as, singing Caribbean songs and learning about plants in Science. The Hardwick site have been enjoying playing the steel pans and the Cambourne site have this to look forward to! Thank you for your commitment to your child's home learning so far. We are pleased to see you are regularly reading with your child at home and helping them with their spellings and times tables. Don't forget to record their reading in their reading records and remind them to practice their spellings in the back of this book. At the Hardwick site we look forward to seeing you at our Caribbean afternoon on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October and at the Cambourne site on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October.

### **Year 5/6 news**

It was lovely to meet so many Year 5/6 parents at our meeting and to see the support you are giving your children in completing their first homework tasks. Everyone is really settling in to the new term and very much enjoying their India and Empire topic. We are learning a lot about how life in Britain has changed since the Victorian era and some facts about the dangerous jobs children did in the past have shocked us - and made many of us very grateful to be in school! Thank you to everyone for returning your permission slips for our trip to Bhaktivedanta Manor early next half-term; we are all really looking forward to this visit. Next half-term seems a long way off, but it will soon creep up on us and so if any of you would like to help with our Indian activity week please see your child's teacher for details. It can be a great opportunity to get involved with your child's learning and to share your cooking and craft expertise with us. It would also be great if you could look out for spellings that have been introduced into our curriculum this term; children all have a copy of these 100 new words to learn and they are also posted on our Learning Platform.

### **School Dinner Charges**

Just another reminder that school dinners have risen in price again

They are now **2.25 per day, £11.25 per week**

Please ensure you are in credit when ordering school dinners for children in KS2. It is very time-consuming for us to chase debts and we won't be able to provide meals for children unless you have paid for them. If you don't have an online account for payments, or have lost your login details do contact either school office and they can provide you with all the details you need.

### **Governor News**

The Governing Body recently met for the first time in the new Cambourne campus building. We enjoyed a full tour, and were extremely impressed with the facilities. We would like to say a huge thank you to all the staff who worked so hard over the summer to get everything ready for the start of term.

At the meeting we welcomed our new pupil governor, Issy Down, who gave us the impressive hustings speech that resulted in her election by the pupils. Issy will play an important part in our work this year by gathering information about the thoughts and concerns of pupils in the school, which will help us in our decisions.

We would also like to congratulate the school on their success in the SATs in the summer. The results showed an immense amount of effort on the part of pupils and staff, and the importance of the support of parents. We look forward to another exciting year and to building on that partnership and success.

### **Headlice...**

Now we are all back at school small creatures are starting to enjoy the variety of heads they can explore! Can you please check your child's hair regularly and treat it if you find little visitors.

### **Newsletter by email**

We hope that if you have recently asked for this letter via email, it will have come to your mailbox! If you would like an electronic rather than a paper copy of the school newsletters either email the school office, or the newsletter hotmail account directly, [hardwickprimary@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:hardwickprimary@hotmail.co.uk)