

Highwoods

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School Newsletter October 2017 Issue

Welcome to the first issue of the Herald for this academic year. As you can see we have had a very busy and excellent start to the year.

The children look very smart in the new school colours.

Our Nursery and Reception children have settled remarkably well as have the rest of the school.

Our partnership with our fellow trust schools – Tranmoor, Southfield and Bessacarr goes from strength to strength. Teaching staff and the leadership team are working closely together on school improvement across the whole trust.

I know we have recently returned to school but parents with children in Year 6 and Nursery will soon need to apply for their child's next school place.

For Year 6 this means their Secondary school, for our nursery parents you must apply for a place at Highwoods Academy – places are not automatically allocated.

You apply online via Doncaster Council's website – school admissions section. We will send out reminders as there are deadlines that need to be met.

G. R. Rhodes Head Teacher

Flu Vaccinations

The school nursing team will be in school to complete this year's flu vaccinations on Tuesday 28th November. Children in Reception, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 & Year 4 will be receiving the vaccine. Consent forms for this will be sent out to parents on Monday 6th November.



Highwoods Nursery

Our new nursery is in full swing having opened at the beginning of term. We have welcomed lots of new children and they are enjoying every minute; numbers are rising rapidly! If you are interested in a nursery place for your child or for family members please see the office where you can fill in an application form. We are accepting early start children for the January and April terms.



Macmillan Coffee Morning

Thank you to all the parents that attended our coffee morning and donated buns and cakes. It was a successful morning and as usual the MaD group were a huge help in organising the event.

We raised a fantastic £300

Thank you for your continued support as always.



Bike IT

We have launched the **BikeIt** scheme at Highwoods, which aims to promote cycling to school. You may have noticed the new cycle racks and scooter racks, those have been donated by **BikeIt**, we would like to see more and more children cycling to school.

On 19th September we had the **BikeIt Breakfast** which was a huge success. The children had a nutritional breakfast and **Dr BikeIt** came in to fix bicycles that were brought in, he managed to fix over 40 bicycles (the most he had ever done!!)

Tom, the **BikeIt** lead, is back in on the 17th October for a bike skills day and he will be revealing the **BikeIt** crew to the school. Get your applications in if you are interested.

Year 5 & 6 Eden Camp Visit

On the 28th of September, Years 5 and 6 visited Eden Camp to support their current learning challenge 'How could Hitler convince a nation like Germany to follow him?'

During the day, the children had the opportunity to see what life would have been like living during World War 2. In one of the huts, the children were able to experience the blackout and in another they experienced life on a German U-boat. To top off a fantastic day, the children were treated to a puppet show.



London Visit 2017

We have started to finalise our numbers for this year's London Residential for years 5 & 6. Any children who initially showed interest in the visit have received a letter, please hand this in to the office if you haven't already done so.

Can we remind parents to continue paying their balance for the visit through ParentPay, we can give PayPoint barcodes if required.

ParentPay

Can we remind parents that payments for school dinners, after school clubs, breakfast clubs and visits should be paid for in advance to avoid any outstanding balances. If you cannot make payment or are having issues with ParentPay, please see the office for further support.



Year 3 & 4 Magna Visit

Year 3 and Year 4 enjoyed a fantastic educational visit to Magna. We were fascinated by the history of the museum and were enthralled and amazed by the 'Big Melt' show. We explored all the pavilions and were captivated by the interactive displays. The fire tornado was a big favourite as was the water cannons! While we were there, we took part in an amazing magnet workshop where even Ms Adams and Mrs Flint learnt something new!

We explored magnets in toys, magnetic fields and electro magnets as well as learning about early uses of magnets from as long ago as the Viking times! Many of us enjoyed the volcano workshop best where we explored how volcanoes were built up, layer on layer. We particularly liked the reaction from mixing bicarbonate of soda and vinegar together to make our 'lava'. Ask a Y3 or Y4 child about it!



Harvest Festival

Thank you to all parents and family members who came to watch our Harvest Festival and donated gifts. The Year 6 children have delivered the items to the senior citizens of our community.

Thank you for your ongoing support.



Halloween Discos

This year's Halloween Discos will be held on the 26th October organised by the M.a.D group. All children are welcome to attend including Nursery and Reception children provided that parents remain with them.

Our DJ will be there!

Further details will be given at a later date.

