



Thursday 23rd May 2024

Newsletter 6 – May 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I can't believe that we only have half a term left of this academic year. Where has this year disappeared to? I think the summer term is possibly my favourite term in school because we can make better use of our outdoor spaces. For some children, not having to wear their coat outside is the best thing ever. We have tried to ensure that there are lots of different play opportunities in school for lunchtimes and playtimes and the big sandpit has been reopened. If you have any unused costumes for the stage box or any games/equipment that you no longer use then please send them in to enhance our playground provision.

We were delighted to take delivery this week of 15 new ipads for the children to use in computing lessons. The cost of the ipads was paid for by money raised by FOBHHS. In addition, FOBHHS have bought some new books for our guided reading sessions. A huge thank you to Martina and the FOBHHS crew who have put on some fabulous events this year to help us buy these resources. Thanks to all of you who are attending and supporting these events. A date for your diary is 29th June (1-3pm) when we are having our first Black Horse Hill Fest. Do come along and support this event.

If you have been in any of our classrooms recently, you may have noticed the rather large smart interactive TVs that have replaced our outdated Interactive White Boards. The teachers have said that they have really helped support the delivery of high quality lessons. Thanks to our governors for approving this spend.

School Policy Updates

We understand our responsibility to deliver a high-quality, age-appropriate and evidence-based relationships and health curriculum for all our pupils. This Relationships and Health Education policy sets out the framework for our relationships and health curriculum, providing clarity on how it is informed, organised and delivered. This policy is updated annually and is available on our school website.

In addition, we have presented a new policy to governors which outlines our procedures for dealing with children with Allergies/Anaphalaxis. If you wish to comment or add any further information to this policy, please do not hesitate to contact us. Just a reminder, whilst we are on the subject of allergies, any child bringing in a packed lunch should not have nut products included e.g nutella

If you wish to discuss any of these policies then please contact school.

Year 2 Statutory Assessment Tests

The KS1 Statutory Assessments are no longer mandatory for our Year 2 pupils. We have chosen to deliver the optional SATs to our children in order to support our teacher assessment judgements and to provide as much information on where our children are working to support the transition to the

Junior School. Previously there would be strict protocols around the administration of the test (or quizzes as we chose to call them), but they will be administered in a more relaxed manner this year. The information about where your child is working across the curriculum will be reported to you in your child's annual report which will be sent to parents on 5th July.

The government have a leaflet explaining the optional SATs for this year if you require any additional information.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/key-stage-1-and-2-national-curriculum-tests-information-for-parents>

Phonic Screening Check

The phonic screening check for Year 1 pupils is still a statutory requirement. Pupils in Year 1 will take the phonic screen w/c 10th June.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/phonics-screening-check-information-for-parents>

Online Safety

Our children hear online safety messages as part of their Computing lessons. It is important that these messages are reinforced at home. The NSPCC has a wealth of resources and guidance which families may find useful.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/>
<https://www.lego.com/en-gb/sustainability/online-safety-tips-for-parents>

Open Events

Next half term we are holding two open events for families in the area who are considering sending their children to Black Horse Hill Infant School in September 2025 (F1 or F2).

If you know anyone in the area who is looking for a F1 or F2 place then could you signpost them to the following events. They are a great opportunity to see our school and meet the Early Years staff.

Teddy Bears' Picnic – Thursday 27th June 2-3pm at Black Horse Hill Infant School

Summer Sing-a-Long –Thursday 4th July 2-3pm at Black Horse Hill Infant School

Sun Protection/Procedures

Uniform

Children should wear school uniform at all times except when it is their PE day. On PE days they should wear black or blue shorts/leggings and a white t-shirt. For safety reasons children need to wear appropriate footwear to school. Sliders, crocs, flip-flops or strappy sandals are not permitted. Socks should also be worn.

Sun Hats

On sunny days all children are expected to wear a sun hat. If your child does not already have a sun hat in school please could a labelled hat be sent in, which can be left in school for the remainder of the Summer Term. If you wish to purchase a Black Horse Hill sun hat these are available to buy on ParentPay at a cost of £5.50.

Sun Cream

Parents are requested to apply appropriate sunscreen for their children. This should be applied before the children come to school in the morning. If you have any concerns about this please speak to your child's class teacher. We do encourage children to find a shady space on hot days and we do limit time outside if it is extremely hot.

Water Bottles

Children should always have a water bottle in school. These can be refilled throughout the day from the water cooler. As we are a health-promoting school children should only have water in their bottles.

Attendance

A reminder that (school) holiday requests cannot be approved in term time. Holiday leave may be granted in exceptional circumstances. The principles for defining exceptional are: 'rare, significant, unavoidable and short', with 'unavoidable' meaning an event that could not reasonably be scheduled at another time and proof of these elements would need to be obtained.

Healthy Body and Healthy Mind week

During the week commencing 17th June our children will participate in a range of activities linked to keeping physically and mentally well. On Thursday 20th June we will be having our annual Sports Day (weather permitting) and you will find below the times for your child's year group.

- 9am - 10am Yr2 parents/carers
- 10am - 11am Yr1 parents/carers
- 11am - 12noon F2 parents/carers

Parents/carers are invited to attend to watch their child take part in a carousel of sports activities. Those of you who have attended before will know that sports activities are set out on the field for children to attempt. They are set out in a circular shape and the children move round the activities on a given signal. There will also be a competitive element to Sports Day with children competing for their colour team.

If the weather is bad, a decision on whether the event will run will be made at 8.15am on the morning of Sports Day. Parents/Carers will be informed if the event is cancelled via our text to parents system.

Mrs Lucan will be organising activities for F1 across the whole week so that children attending on different days will not miss out.

PE days for next half term

PE days are the same as this half term.

Wednesday – F1, Yr1 and Yr2

Friday- F2

Annexe Rental

Our annexe is currently used for our before and after school club. This operates from 7.15-9.30am and 2.30-5.45pm. The building is, however, available for hire between these times. If you are interested in using this building then please contact our school office for rental costs and more information.

Out of School Club

On **Monday 23rd September** we will not be offering any after school provision because Out of School Club staff are involved in whole school Safeguarding Training.

Family Toolbox

<https://familytoolbox.co.uk/>

I have already signposted parents/carers to this site but I thought it may be worth a little reminder that this site has many resources and support for parents. They offer guidance and help with anxiety, sleep routines, aggressive behaviour and ADHD so it might be worth a look if you feel that your child needs some additional support.

Diary Dates

May

- Friday 24th May - Finish for half term and FOBHHS Bottle donation

June

- Monday 3rd June - Staff Development Day
- Tuesday 4th June - Children return to school
- w/c 10th June - Year 1 Phonic Screening Check
- Tuesday 11th June- Photographer in school for class photographs
- Monday 10th June - Breakfast Judo club
- w/c 17th June - Healthy Body, Healthy Mind Week
- Thursday 20th June Sports Day - (9-10am Yr2 parents, 10-11am Yr1 parents, 11-12 F2 parents)
- Monday 24th June Open Classroom for F2, Yr1 and Yr2 Parents 2.30pm
- Wednesday 26th June Mental Health Team Transition Workshops for Year 2

July

- Wednesday 3rd July Year 2 to BHHJS for transition
- Friday 5th July - Reports out to parents/carers
- Monday 8th July F1 Summer Sing Along at 2.15pm
- Tuesday 9th July F2 Class Assembly at 2.15pm
- Wednesday 10th July 1RMcL Class Assembly at 2.15pm
- Thursday 11^h July 1DH Class Assembly at 2.15pm
- Tuesday 16th July Year 2 Performance at 2.15pm
- Friday 19th July Finish for Summer- Non Uniform Day

September

- Monday 2nd September - Staff Development Day
- Tuesday 3rd September - F1, new F2 pupils, Yr1 and Yr2 children return to school
New F2 children will start school on this day (those who are in our current F1 class will start Wednesday 4th September).
- Wednesday 4th All children in school

Yours sincerely,

Julie Morris
Headteacher