

## IMPORTANT DATES

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September –  
Birmingham City Ladies football  
match

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September – Y1  
parent reading meeting 2.45pm

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October –  
Individual school photographs

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October –  
Parents' evening 4–6pm

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October –  
Parents' evening 4–7pm

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October –  
- Y4 trip to Lunt Roman Fort  
- Y5 trip to Cosford  
- Y6 assembly  
- Children break up for half  
term

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> October – Friday  
28<sup>th</sup> October – Half term  
holiday

Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October –  
- Children return to school  
- Deadline for secondary school  
applications

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November – Y2  
trip to Dudley Zoo

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November –  
- Y6 trip to Chester Zoo  
- Y3 assembly

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November – Y4  
assembly

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November – Y4  
Roman day

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November – Y5  
assembly

# NEWSLETTER

15<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2016



Welcome back to a new academic year and a special warm welcome to all of the new children and families who have joined us. We all hope that you have had an enjoyable summer break. We are looking forward to a new academic year and enjoyed an exciting Mad Science assembly on Monday. The children are settling very well and are looking very smart, thank you!

We welcome three new teachers; Miss Pullinger, Miss Walker and Miss Hallybone. We also welcome two new members of support staff; Miss Wild and Miss Tullett and a new lunchtime supervisor, Mrs Crouch.

I would like to remind you that we will operate a Co-Headship model this year, with Mrs Heap performing the role of Head Teacher on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and Mrs Garratt on Thursday and Friday.

If you have not already, you will shortly be receiving a newsletter from your Phase Co-ordinator who will provide you with details of the curriculum and topics that the children will be covering. Further details can also be found on the school website.

### New Year Reminders Breakfast Club

Breakfast club is available at a cost of £3.50 per day. We are almost full but have a few spaces. Please enquire at the school office to book a place.

### Free Meals for Reception, Years 1 and 2

A reminder that all of the children in Reception, Years 1 and 2 are entitled to a free school meal every day, regardless of your circumstances. This saves £10.50 per week per child and a lot of trouble making packed lunches! Our lunches are very popular and we have two serving points enabling us to serve the children as quickly as possible. Please ask at the office (or refer to the school website) to see the school meal menu.

### Reception & Secondary Admissions

The online application process for Secondary places for September 2017 is now open and will open for Reception places on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September. If you have a child currently in Nursery or in Year 6, you will need to complete the online application form. Children in year 6 will have received a letter in July explaining how to apply. Nursery children will receive a letter week commencing 19<sup>th</sup> September. If you need any support to complete the online application, then our Learning Mentor, Mrs Adams, will be pleased to help you.

### Attendance and Punctuality

A reminder that school starts at 8.50am and children should arrive in school PROMPTLY and be in class in time for the first bell. Lessons start immediately after registration and so if children are late, they often miss the teaching for their first lesson which doesn't provide a smooth start to the day.

When dropping off and collecting your child please refrain from standing in the yellow boxes directly in front of the KSI gates, this will help speed up children getting into and out of school but most importantly will ensure the safety of the children.

### School Gateway

Don't forget that you can make payments to school via credit or debit card via our new 'School Gateway' service. You can use this service to pay for dinner money, breakfast club, and school trips. School Gateway also provides us with a text and email service. If you have a smartphone you can download the 'School Gateway' app from your app store. Alternatively you can login via the website at [www.schoolgateway.com](http://www.schoolgateway.com). If you would like any assistance, please visit the school office.

### School Website

Please visit our school website at [www.highfields.sandwell.sch.uk](http://www.highfields.sandwell.sch.uk), which has lots of useful information such as school policies, important dates and copies of letters. Each class has its own page which teachers update with details of the children's learning activities.

### Newsletters

To help save the school time and money, and be environmentally friendly, all future newsletters will be issued via email and will be available on the school website. If you don't have an email address, don't worry, you will be able to obtain a copy of the newsletter from the school office or view via the school website.

### Year 4 Swimming

Year 4 swimming lessons will take place on Wednesday afternoons during the Autumn term. Children will leave at 1.45pm and return to school at approximately 3.30pm. Children will need a separate swimming bag with a swimming costume, towel, bobble/cap for long hair, goggles and drink (optional). Children are not allowed to wear jewellery. If your child needs an inhaler, please make sure they have one in school with them.

### Music Tuition

If you have signed your child up for music lessons, auditions are taking place this week and next week. We will then let you know if they are allocated a place. Lessons will take place on the following days;  
Monday – Y3 Brass (children do not need to sign up for this)

Tuesday – Keyboard

Wednesday – Violin

Thursday – Cello and Woodwind

Friday – Brass