

Our Ref: HP226

3 July 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

**Re: Hunsley Primary Newsletter**

**With only three weeks of term left to go, it is hard to remember the very beginning of September 2016, when our current Reception pupils joined us and Year 1 took their first steps into Key Stage 1 learning. Now, we look forward to a new group of children making their start with us, as well as a new member of staff in Mrs Gray, and our existing pupils moving onwards and upwards in their learning journey. With much to do over the next weeks, including a range of visits, induction lessons and exciting activities, I am sure the time will pass before we know it. Please do take the opportunity to make contact with us before the end of the term, if you have any questions, feedback or suggestions for next year – we always welcome your support.**

**Pupil End of Year Reports**

We will soon be issuing the final report of the year for our Reception and Year 1 pupils and this report will summarise the children's progress this academic year. This is primarily a data report which builds upon the discussions you have shared throughout the year with your child's teacher and with Mrs Hudson too. As you know, we collect and use all the feedback and information our families share with us about the development of children at home as well as at school and this all contributes towards their end of year assessment. Thank you for keeping us informed throughout the year – it means we can celebrate each child's unique achievements. If you wish to discuss your child's report at any point, please arrange a meeting with Mrs Hudson via the main office.

**Hunsley Primary Sports Event – Tuesday 18 July**

Thank you for your understanding with regard to the postponement of our Sports Event due to the wet weather. We are pleased to inform you that our Sports Event has been rescheduled to Tuesday 18 July, 10.00am – 12.00noon. We are happy for families to join us at this event, however please be aware that parking will be limited.

If you would like to attend, please do let Mrs Hitchin know by email, telephone or in person.

**Reading Books**

Please could we ask that all Bug Club reading books are returned to Hunsley Primary by Friday 14 July to enable the school to carry out a reading audit before we break up for summer. We will be issuing suggestions regarding summer holiday reading activities in due course.

**Reception Musical Skills Workshop**

Thank you for expressing your child's interest in the Reception Musical Skills Workshop. Relevant parents will receive a consent letter today. Please return the consent slip by Friday 7 July to confirm your child's place.

**National School Book Tokens Competition**

As you know, we love to take the children to the library at South Hunsley for story-telling workshops and we are very excited about setting up our own learning resource centre in the brand new building. We give book tokens as part of our World Book Day celebrations each year and we now have a chance to spread the joy of reading even further with this easy-to-enter competition, initiated by National Book Tokens. If you love reading and would like to nominate the school, and stand a chance of winning book tokens for your own family too, have a look at the following link. The prizes include book tokens for the school library as well as for families who enter. To enter the competition online, it only takes a minute at <http://po.st/schools17>

### **Trust Surgeries**

As a Trust, we value feedback from all parents/carers and we will be holding a Trust surgery at Hunsley Primary on Thursday 13 July, 3.30pm – 5.30pm. This is an opportunity to meet with Chris Abbott, CEO or Jonny Uttley, Executive Principal should you have any queries regarding The Education Alliance or the school. A letter detailing how to book an appointment was emailed to parents on Wednesday 28 July. If you did not receive the letter please do let us know.

### **Head of Hunsley Primary Appointments**

The Head of Hunsley Primary sessions give parents an opportunity to book an appointment with Mrs Hudson throughout the year, in addition to our Parents' Consultations and meetings we hold and to discuss specific matters of concern relating to your child. Our Head of Hunsley Primary appointments will take place this week on Wednesday 5 July. If you would like to make an appointment with myself please do let Mrs Hitchin know.

### **Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers**

Thank you for collecting the Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers. Our grand total this year is **4129** vouchers. We will soon be placing our order for some exciting new sports/cooking equipment!

### **Spotlight on Attendance**

Hunsley Primary are very pleased to work closely in partnership with parents to help ensure that every child has the opportunity to fulfil their potential. Regular attendance in school is vital for each child to engage fully in learning and achieve very well.

The attendance of individual pupils and 'whole school' attendance is measured using a percentage score which we monitor weekly. A percentage of 95% or above is the benchmark for good school attendance.

### **Understanding your child's school attendance rate**

Once a child has missed 10 school days (2 weeks) during a school year. They will not be able to achieve a 95% school attendance rate for that year. Below is a table that you can use as a rough guide when considering the impact of your child's yearly school attendance rate.

Attendance Rate	95%	90%	85%
Equivalent number of school weeks missed	2 Weeks	4 Weeks	6 Weeks

As you can see from the table, a pupil with an 85% school attendance rate for the year will have missed nearly a whole school term. This level of school absence would affect their ability to do well and achieve at school.

With regard to the attendance of young pupils who may be more prone to tiredness, coughs and colds than their older peers, the priority of Hunsley Primary is to support and encourage parents to ensure that it is possible for their child to achieve 95%+ school attendance. Our high levels of care offered throughout the day should offer reassurance to parents who may have concerns about sending their child.

### **Why is 95% school attendance so important?**

Recent research has demonstrated that there is a clear link between poor attendance at school and lower academic achievement. Please see below the results from this research.

School Attendance Rate	% of pupils achieving 5 or More A* - C grades (including English & Maths)
Above 90%	73%
90% - 80%	35%

Below 50%

3%

If you would like to discuss any concerns or questions you might have about your child's attendance, please contact the main office.

**Keep the date!**

Please see below some key dates that you may wish to add to your calendar. If you would like any further information with regards to these please contact the school.

Head of Hunsley Primary Appointments	Wednesday 5 July, 4.30pm – 6.00pm
Gardening Workshop 2	Thursday 6 July, 3.30pm – 4.15pm
Induction afternoon for new Reception pupils (Reception 2017-18)	Tuesday 11 July 1.00pm – 2.30pm
Meet the Teacher event	Tuesday 11 July, 5.00pm
Trust Surgeries	Thursday 13 July, 3.30pm – 5.30pm
Gardening Workshop 3	Thursday 13 July, 3.30pm -4.15pm
Hunsley Primary Sports Event	Tuesday 18 July, 10.00am – 12noon
Summer Holidays	Monday 24 July – Monday 4 September
School open for Reception children born between 1 April and 31 August 2013, all Year 1 and Year 2 pupils	Tuesday 5 September
School open to all remaining Reception pupils	Wednesday 6 September
Hunsley Primary Open Event	Saturday 16 September, 10.00am – 12noon
Hunsley Primary Open Event	Saturday 2 September, 10.00am – 12noon

Yours faithfully



Lucy Hudson  
**Head of Hunsley Primary**