



Horspath Church of England Primary School
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Headteacher: Mrs. Emma Coleman
Chair of Governors: Mrs. Munaza Dogar

17th June 2016

Dear parents,

I always look forward to this final term of the year, just because of all the traditional summer term activities. What I forget every year is how squeezing everything in before the end of term feels like a race we have no hope of winning! Keep a close eye on the diary dates below!

I am sure you have all seen the new climbing frame in the playground, which is proving to be a very popular playtime activity. It's great to see that the children have learnt how to queue politely – very British! The hard work of the PTA, and your kind donations and cake purchases throughout the year, have made this purchase possible so thank you one and all.

Annual Maths Challenge

Every year we hold a maths challenge for the year 5 & 6 pupils, in memory of Steve Drywood, who was a school governor. A cup is awarded to the winner, which is displayed, along with their photo, in the cabinet by the office.

This year's challenge was sent home yesterday with your child and should be returned by Friday 1st July. Please encourage your child to have a go and take part.

Thank you

Mrs Michelle Bailey

Family Challenge 2nd July

Please start collecting boxes, tubes, plastic bottles, newspaper etc. for this year's family challenge on Saturday 2nd July.

Mrs Michelle Bailey

Lime Class

The class have been investigating soil as you can see from the photo below.



Queen's Birthday Party

There are some lovely photos of all of us enjoying our ice cream at the party last week and a video of the school band in action on the school website:

<http://www.horspath.oxon.sch.uk/gallery/queens-90th/>

Classes for 2016-17

We understand that pupils and their parents want to know about their new classes as soon as possible. Admissions for each year group are finalised in mid-June, at which time we work out our class structure and who will be in each class and let everyone know in time for Move Up Day on the 8th of July. If you would like an explanation of how we work out the classes please see <http://www.horspath.oxon.sch.uk/classes/structure/> .

Lunchboxes

We have reminded the children that they need to take home any left-over food and wrappers from their packed lunches. This policy hasn't changed but it has been a while since we reminded everyone. We do this so that you can monitor how much your child has eaten from their packed lunch.

Governor Academies Update

The school governing body has spent a lot of time this year researching the pros and cons of converting to an academy. As you will probably have seen, this has been a hot topic in the news in recent months, with first the government announcement that all schools must convert by 2020, followed by a partial retreat from this. So if this has left you a little confused, it is not surprising - it is a complex topic which the media has not always explained at all well.

On June 28th the governing body will be voting on whether the school should convert to an academy and, if so, which multi-academy trust the school should join. We would therefore like to invite all current parents, and parents of children joining the school in September 2016, to a meeting on Tuesday 5th July where we will explain these decisions. Depending on the result of the vote, this may be an informal update about an ongoing process, or the start of a more formal consultation process. We will let you know which of these it is prior to July 5th, after the result of the vote is known, but we wanted to give you advance warning of the date of the meeting.

The meeting will be held three times on the same day, from 9am-10am, from 3.15pm-4.15pm and then again from 6pm-7pm to give as many of you as possible the opportunity to attend. The evening meeting is an addition to those meetings already advertised in my email last week. We look forward to seeing you on July 5th.

Munaza Dogar

Chair of Governors

Summer Term dates for your diary:

Music Assembly Rehearsal – No Family Assembly	Friday 17 th June
Music Assembly	Friday 24 th June <u>2.30pm</u>
Year 6 Toplink Festival	Thursday 30 th June (am)
Enterprise Week	27 th June – 1 st July
Family Assembly 2.45pm	Friday 1 st July
Family Challenge and School Fete	Saturday 2 nd July
Academies meeting	Tues 5 th July 9am, 3.15pm & 6pm
Year 6 Transfer Days	7 th -8 th July
Whole School Move up day	Friday 8 th July
No Family Assembly	Friday 8 th July
Sports Day	Tuesday 12 th July
Alternative Sports Day	Thursday 14 th July
Leavers' Service	Friday 15 th July (pm)
Area Sports (Years 4,5 & 6)	Friday 15 th July (evening)
School Closes	Wednesday 20th July 1.30pm

The term dates for 2016/17 are on the school website.

I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Emma Coleman
Headteacher