



Thursday 20th July 2017

Welcome to the last newsletter this year – what a year! There are so many things to celebrate and be proud of.

KS2 SATs results in comparison to the statistical first release are looking very good, with our school above the National Average in all areas.

KS1 SATs results all show increased scores from last year and should all remain above the Swindon average. No local or National data is available for comparison yet.

Foundation Stage Good Level of Development has increased from 63% last year to 78% - awesome!

The year 1 phonic screening score has also significantly improved by a huge 15% this year!

In-house data for other year groups also shows many year on year improvements as we continue to master the delivery and assessment of the new curriculum.

Well done staff and children and thank you for all of your hard work.



The Curious Cat's Adventures at Haydonleigh

What a wonderful year I've had at Haydonleigh, but with a heavy heart I meander through the corridors one last time.

Foundation Stage

Wow, what an amazing year it has been with our youngest children in Foundation Stage. I can still remember how small they looked in September as they arrived for their very first day at school. We have had so much fun along the way – visits from the Police, Paramedics and Fire Station, trip to the pantomime, performing 'Whoops-a-daisy Angel', trips to the farm, a visit from Jonathan's Jungle and a fun-packed day at Weston-Super-Mare to end the year. We have watched the children grow and achieve and are so very proud of them all. We know they are all ready for the adventures to come in Year One. Well done Robins, Ducklings and Puffins!

Year 1

Me-wow! What a year the children have had in Year One! I remember when they first came tweeting, flapping and waddling up from Foundation Stage. It's wonderful to see the progress they've made. They had a roarsome time when they went to visit Bristol Zoo and showed off their learning in some fabulous fact files. They have become expert describers, describing settings, aliens, animals, mini beasts, characters and most recently their very own monsters. I also couldn't believe all the ways they have found to solve different problems. The children can use their fingers, cubes, counters, number lines, hundred squares, they can draw pictures and they can also do some things in their heads! Whew!

They have worked hard to improve some of their art skills, imitating Beatrix Potter's sketching and water colours, as well as learning about her life. Earlier in the year, Katie Morag paid them a visit and helped them to learn about the United Kingdom, as well as how to write a nice letter. Luckily theirs didn't end up in a puddle! The children pulled it out of the ground when they performed The Enormous Turnip for their class assemblies.

I'm still a little disappointed that they didn't save me any vegetable soup or save me any fruity smoothies; come to think of it the children in Year One also had a fantastic time when they headed off all over the globe to visit other countries, learning to work with children of all ages to showcase their works. The school motto certainly held true that individually the children are all talented, but together they were amazing!

Year 2

What a pawsome year it has been in Year 2! Looking back through the year the children have really enjoyed all the different stories we have looked at in English, especially ending the year with a performance of Fantastic Mr Fox, which the children performed purrfectly, but I am glad I didn't meet the nasty farmers! As I strolled through the corridors this year, my cat eyes noticed a great improvement in all of the children's super handwriting. Throughout the year I have been amazed how much the children have learnt about our wonderful world, from tropical rainforests to the beautiful beaches at Sandbanks.

Year 3

What a busy time Year 3 have had! They've met new characters: An osprey called Iris and a pirate named Long John Silver. They adventured to the fire pits of Mount Merapi, through wardrobes to Narnia and survived a storm by swimming to Liliput (not me luckily, I much prefer keeping my tail on dry land). They've learned to count in paws... I mean fours... and eights and learned new methods for calculating in maths (grids, number lines, columns). They've even convinced my old pal Colin to change his mind (as his maths can be a bit CAT-astrophic at times.)

In Science, they've experimented with magnets and discovered how rocks are made using chocolate – almost as delicious as my cat food.
They have learned how to eat like a Roman, drink like a Roman and PARTY like a Roman!
And visited Legoland and the aquarium!
It has been PAWSOME!!!

Year 4

It's been a busy year looking back at Year 4. It was only last week when the children were preparing a piece of work for their end of year report when we discovered how much they had done and how far they have come. There has been cooking, Roman day, Pirate day, African drumming, class assemblies and more but I think that PGL was the most popular choice of memory for the children. I did sound like they had a great time and next year; I may try and sneak on the bus. There must be room for at least another small one right? The other aspect of this year is Sports Day, especially for the Cougars who have been busy rattling their brains as to when they last won the annual event! They are all definitely excited for holidays and Year 5!

Year 5

Year five have had a paw-some year! Some of their favourite memories are: the squash with Dax was purrfect; their solar systems were very su-purr-ior and the Oreo moons were very clever; they really enjoyed finding out about lifecycles, especially the purr-sonal SRE learning. World War II was a popular topic; they liked making the Anderson shelters, what a tail-ended bunch we have! The Year 5 team wish them all a successful Year 6 – they certainly have the right cat-itude!!!

Year 6

It's with a tear in my eye I write the last black cat news for our Year 6's, as they prepare to leave Haydonleigh and set off on their new adventures at secondary school! The children have been busy visiting their new schools, preparing themselves for September. I've spied upon them rehearsing a purrrfect poem they've penned and sharing lots of special memories for their Leaver's Assembly (make sure you pack some tissues as there are a few tearjerkers!) As I prepare to lift my paw and wave goodbye to our pawesome Year 6's, I'm sure our paths will cross again soon.

Enjoy your Summer Holidays, and I look forward to pacing the corridors once again in September.



Staff vs Year 6 Rounders

Thankyou to everyone who participated in, or came to cheer on, the Year 6 pupils in their annual rounders match against Haydonleigh staff. The sun was shining and despite Mr Brock's best efforts to claim victory, the champions were... the Year 6 pupils! A special

mention to Nicole O'Leary who was the only person to hit a ball clean out of the field – wow! The victors were rewarded by our lovely kitchen team with hot dogs, squash and ice creams all round. Thankyou to everyone who has helped us celebrate the Year 6's final week at Haydonleigh, as we prepare to wave them goodbye.



Key Stage One

Classes 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9

As you are aware, Key Stage One have been lining up outside their own classroom doors this week.

The children have coped with this change and behaved in a very sensible manner.

Due to this and the fact that they have been in class and ready to learn quickly we have decided to continue with this arrangement for September 2017.

We hope this will allow children to be in school and learning and parents to be able to continue their journeys!



School dinners for September, can be ordered online from 1st August.



On behalf of all staff may I say thank you for the generous gifts that have been given at the end of term. I hope that everyone has a relaxing summer.

Goodbye to year 6 and a few other families who are leaving us for other schools – we wish you all good luck in your futures.

School opens again on Monday 4th September

Yours sincerely,
Frances Billinge
Headteacher