

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER – July 2018

Headteacher's Report

Well here we are at the end of another successful school year!

What a fantastic half term it's been, with the sunshine further helping us to enjoy all our school activities. Our Year 2's excelled themselves with a brilliant Graduation Performance, our whole school trip to Marwell was great fun and we received lots of great feedback about our sports day and the children.

It has been such a pleasure to spend our year with your fantastic children. I truly believe I have the best job in the world and am lucky enough to be surrounded by a team who are passionate about doing their best for your children. This is reflected not only in the way they care for your children each day and try to plan exciting opportunities across the curriculum but also in this year's results, which look like they will be in line with National Average or above in all areas measured by the DfE and show we are improving every year.

We would like to thank Mark Russell for offering his brilliant tree surgeon skills to school, free of charge, recently. Not only did it help us with a tricky tree situation, our Year R children absolutely loved watching him work as part of their jobs topic. He may just have inspired another generation of tree surgeons!

Our uniform providers, Brigade, have been very efficient in creating uniform with our new school logo which is now available to order via their website. We have been told that orders will need to be submitted by 7th August to be delivered in time for September. In September I will be sending out a copy of our uniform policy for all parents to read and sign. However, I would like to take this opportunity now to remind parents of some key points of our uniform policy ready for September as it would appear standards of uniform have slipped across school this term and we would like to start the new school year as best we can:

*No trainers are to be worn in school.

*No jewellery, with the exception of small stud earrings, should be worn to school.

*Children should not have haircuts that could serve as a distraction to other children. Hair should be of a 'natural' colour. Long hair should be tied up and ribbons, bobbles, hair bands and slides should be simple and practical in style. Short hair should be not too harsh and should not have 'fashion' markings shaved into it (e.g. tram-lines)

It's the time of year when sadly we need to say goodbye to some of our amazing team. We are very happy to be welcoming Mrs Topazio-Collis back after her maternity leave but sadly this means we have to say goodbye to the amazing Mrs Foy who has been such an asset to our team over the last two years. Mrs Foy was, unsurprisingly, snapped up by Bidbury Infants and we know she will continue to teach the children in her care with the same warmth and humour as she has Stingrays this year. We wish her every future success and know that Bidbury are going to love her!

We are also losing the lovely Mrs Peddell, who has been a Teaching Assistant at our school for nearly 26 years! Mrs Peddell is taking on a new challenge in Year 2 at a school a little closer to her home in Portsmouth. I know that many of you will have experienced Mrs Peddell's nurturing and enthusiastic approach first hand and will understand how much we are all going to miss her (and her secret chocolate stash) around school. Again her new school are incredibly lucky to have gained such a superstar.

After over ten years with us Mrs Allen in the office has also decided the time has come for her to enjoy her retirement. She will be back with us for the first week in September but will then be leaving to hopefully put her feet up and get a well-deserved rest. Mrs Allen has been involved with our school for over 45 years, with both her children and granddaughter attending. I know you will all join with me to wish her a happy and healthy retirement and thank her for all her years of being a welcoming face to visitors in our school.

This means that next year our classes will look like this:

Year R Penguins	Mrs Topazio-Collis
Year R Puffins	Mrs Simms and Mr Young
Year 1 Sharks	Mrs Hoare and Mrs Hemsley
Year 1 Stingrays	Mrs Pinnell
Year 2 Squids	Mrs Carter
Year 2 Turtles	Mrs Moth and Mr Lunnemann

Finally, may I take this opportunity to wish you all a happy and healthy summer holidays and to thank you for all your support this year. We look forward to seeing our new Year 1 and 2 children in September and wish our current Year 2's every success in their new school.

Lindsay Rebbitt
Headteacher

Governor's Report

Once again this final newsletter of the academic year has come around much quicker than expected! It is always a bitter sweet time as we prepare to say goodbye to our Year 2 children, but also celebrate all that has been achieved through the year and prepare to welcome new pupils into Year R.

I believe it has been a good year for the school. Our end of year data is excellent, with results that are inline or above National Averages in most areas. This demonstrates the effectiveness and quality of the teaching we offer. So, once again, I congratulate Lindsay and all her staff for their hard work through the year. And I congratulate all our children (your children!) for their willingness to learn and grow. The extent of this growth was clearly demonstrated at our Graduation and End of Term performance by Year 2 recently. The confident way in which they presented a powerful story and message was really inspiring. I was particularly impressed by the quality of the narration this year, which was clear and fluid, whether read out, or done by memory. Amazing!

This will be my last newsletter as Chair of Governors as I am stepping down from that role at the end of term. I have really enjoyed being Chair, and I am proud of the work the governing board has done this year. We have achieved a lot. We began by compiling a clear statement of our vision for the school, which you can now find on the website. From this we developed a set of priorities which we feel the school needs to achieve to fulfil that vision. These priorities have driven the monitoring we have done this year to assess progress on the school improvement plan. It is good to see that this monitoring is already having an impact through changes in practice. It was good to see five 'Values Champions', each given a prize at the Graduation Ceremony. I am particularly proud that, at the suggestion of the governing board, Creativity is now one of our five core values. One of the things I love about our school is how creativity has always been at the heart of so much that we do. The whole school is an amazing creative space! This is so important because it is all too easy for a governing body, and a school, to become exclusively focussed on areas that are externally tested, to the detriment of the broader education that enables the whole child to grow and develop into an exciting, inspired, interested and interesting individual. I believe that encouraging and rewarding examples of Creativity, as we now do, really helps to ensure this broader growth and to value this essential part of a child's development. As the saying goes, 'Art makes children powerful!' Lastly, I would like to thank you, the parents and carers, for all the hard work you have put in this year to support your children's learning. I don't need to tell you how important this is. I hope you have a good summer (that the fine weather holds!) and that your children's transition to a new class, or a new school, goes smoothly.

Peter Cole
Chair of Governors

Year R

It is our last newsletter of Year R! We have been having lots of fun this half term. On our Science day we made balloon rockets, balancing butterflies and bubbles!

We found out that the bubbles work better through a sock and a plastic bottle. We also made our own slime!

We have been lucky to have lots of visitors during our topic of 'jobs' - we had a Policeman and Vet visit, we also had a farmer, a chef and Speedy George the tortoise! We have also been travel agents and travelled to Italy. This week, we are sports men and women!



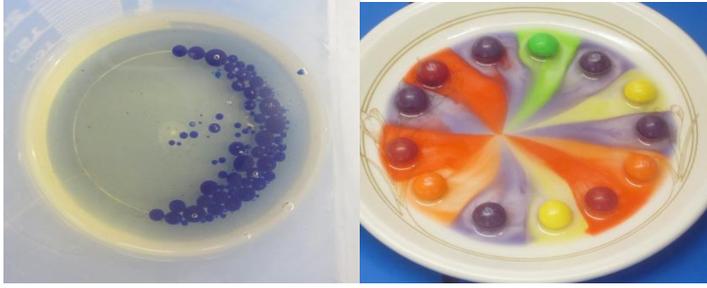
Year 1

In Year 1 we have been having lots of fun! On our Science day we made sugar crystals, windmills (which we tested in the wind) and made our own bubble wands. We discovered that the bubbles are always round even if we made a heart shape bubble wand. We also made our own slime and sherbet. Yummy! We visited Mengham Junior school for a picnic, stories and sports. We loved singing our body song to the Year 2 children and parents. We have been practising for team games and individual races for Sports Week.



Year 2

What a fantastic summer term we have had in Year 2! We



We have enjoyed so much learning, especially during our school science day when we made sherbert and

slime, as well as carrying out lots of fantastic investigations. We tested dye in oil and water, and had a go at the skittles test.

We also had lots of fun learning and performing our end of year production - 'Eddie and the Penguins Save the World'. We are so proud of how well the children performed in the play and have loved watching them grow this year. They all did so well in their Graduation and we will miss each and every one of them. We had a great Sports Day with lots of sunshine and enjoyed our trip to Marwell Zoo to see all of the different animals. We hope you all have an excellent summer and that the children enjoy being in Year 3!



Hayling Island Lions Club



Bring your teddy to a Picnic



Wednesday 15th August
West Town Park/Community Centre
(will be held indoors if raining)
1.30pm - 4pm

Races & Children's Entertainer
'Silly Scot'

Please bring your own
food and drink

If you wish to receive this newsletter by email please ensure we have your up to date email address on file at school.

This newsletter is also available on the school website.

Check out our school website for lots more information and pictures:

www.mengham-inf.hants.sch.uk