



Ravensmead Primary School

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No.5

NEWSLETTER

6th May 2016

Dear Parents/Carers

I thought I would write to you today to give you some dates for your diary but also to let you know about the imminent retirement of Hilary Askew, our friend and colleague.

Hilary Askew

Mrs Askew has had a teaching career spanning over 30 years with the majority of those being spent at Ravensmead Primary School. Many of your children will have been very fortunate to be taught by Hilary and it has to be said that there is a likelihood that a number of you, now as parents, were also fortunate to be taught by her. She is retiring on May 26th. Mrs Jones will be teaching her class for the remainder of the academic year, alongside Miss Nicklin.

Hilary is an extremely popular member of staff and has a County-wide reputation for her expertise in literacy. Over the years at Ravensmead she has been involved in many many residentials and has always given up a great deal of time to provide extra curricular opportunities to children. It is appropriate that she gave up a lot of her time for children because she would frequently demand their time looking for "her glasses". She has always had a lovely manner with children, would never put them down, always gave them the benefit of the doubt whilst at the same time having the highest of expectations.

Hilary belongs to a very sporting family and I will personally miss our regular discussions on all sorts of sporting issues. Parents and carers may wish to make a contribution towards a leaving present for Mrs Askew and if this is the case I would ask that you donate through a labelled envelope via your child's class teacher although, clearly, those fortunate to be in Hilary's class should forward any envelopes only to the office. We will all miss Hilary Askew greatly but we are hoping that we will see plenty of her in the future.

Miss Colclough

As many of you will by now be aware, Miss Colclough recently married and is now known as Mrs Bond. I am sure you would wish to join me in congratulating her and her new husband.

Dates for your Diary Up To May Half Term

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| Monday 9 th May – Fri 13 th May | Year 6 SATs
Year 6 to be offered breakfast in Mrs Askew's room daily from 8.30am and for this week only their siblings may attend the early Breakfast Club from the same time in the Nurture Room |
| Friday 13 th May | Live Music Concert by an orchestral ensemble in the morning |
| Tuesday 17 th May | 9.30 Foundation Stage & KS1 Sports Day |

Wednesday 18 th May	Eco Group Litter Pick
Thursday 19 th May	9.30 KS2 Sports Day Alsager High School visit for some Year 6 pupils
Monday 23 rd May	9am – 10.30 Nurse Drop in
Tuesday 24 th May	Foundation/KS1 Reserve Sports Day
Wednesday 25 th May	KS2 Reserve Sports Day
Thursday 26 th May	School breaks up for Half Term
Friday 27 th May	In Service Training Day
Monday 6 th June	School Re-opens

School Dinners

The school's £100 school uniform voucher continues to be on offer for any family who now meets the criteria for Free School Meals. Please enquire in confidence via the school office.

Front Of School Issues

In many ways the situation at the front of school is much improved but we should never be complacent over the safety of our children and families. Can I remind you once again that you are endangering everyone if you park close to the farm road as this is a thoroughfare for so many of our children. Increasing numbers of cars are now making regular use of the Audley Football Club car park open before and after school and closing at 9am and 3.30pm. We are grateful to the Parish Council and the Football Club for facilitating this arrangement and it has helped greatly. Can I also ask you to be courteous to all our local residents and avoid at any time parking across their driveways.

A small number of parents have asked me to ask you to avoid smoking near the school entrances so that pupils and families can avoid walking through the smoke.

Summertime

As the weather starts to tease us with increased temperatures could I ask you to take all measures to keep your child safe. Caps and water bottles can be purchased through the School Office and we would ask that where necessary you apply sun screen to your child when dictated by the weather.

Multi Academy Trust Conversion

The Consultation over the possible conversion towards a Multi Academy Trust, alongside our colleagues at Wood Lane, Richard Heathcote and Sir Thomas Boughey has now closed. All questionnaires will be collated and considered and the Governing Boards of all schools are meeting next week to consider these responses and to consider any potential next steps. This most important decision will be taken by our Governing Board and not by the Senior Management in the school. As soon as any further steps or decisions are made by them following this Consultation I will immediately contact you to inform you of the same.

I do hope the weather remains favourable and that everybody, especially our Year 6 pupils, enjoy a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely

D Bell
Headteacher