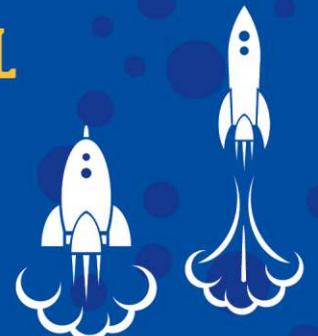
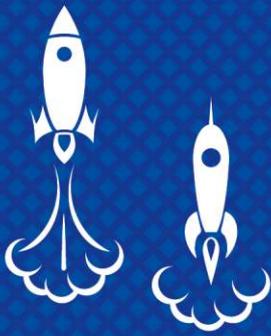


WARWICK ROAD PRIMARY SCHOOL



Issue 05

5th January 2015

School Year 2014-15



House DISCOVERY



House ENDEAVOUR



House ENTERPRISE



House INTREPID

Message from the Headteacher

Happy New Year!

It was wonderful to see nearly 150 parents attend the KS1/EYFS Festive assembly. Nostalgia certainly kicked in as many parents joined in with the singing; the children's faces beamed with delight as they noticed their parents taking part.

In addition, Santa Claus made a visit to EYFS, bringing with him gifts for the children and also a story. However, I was disappointed to hear that photographs were taken without the consent of school and then posted on social media.

Please note that photographs must not be taken in school without the permission of staff.

I do hope all parents managed to have quality time with their children over the holiday period. I trust all children have had plenty of rest and are ready for the term ahead.

We have many things planned over the next term and we will be sending out regular updates.

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Mathematics

This is an exciting term for Maths! On the week beginning 19th January we will be holding our first ever Maths Week, where we will be celebrating Maths in a range of activities across school. The aim of the week is to promote a love of Maths, teach children that it's okay to get it wrong as long as they don't give up and build confidence across school with arithmetic skills. We will also be thinking about how Maths is part of everyday life - not just something you do in the classroom!

During this week your children (and hopefully yourselves) will be involved in a range of exciting maths activities. It will be a fantastic opportunity for us to enjoy and celebrate the maths that takes place in our school.

During the week children will engage with Maths in art, music, PE, Creative Curriculum and many more subjects. On Friday 23rd we have a non-uniform day with the theme 'numbers' and those children staying for school dinners will be treated to a number themed dessert. We also have 'The Problem Solving Days' company coming in to work with children from Reception to Year 6, in addition to a range of competitions across school.

During the afternoons we will also be running Maths workshops for parents to attend- keeping you up to speed with our Calculation Policy. Updates will follow.

Staffing

We have appointed a new member of teaching staff, Miss Gemma McLeavy. She will join the Y1 team. We are sure she will be a great asset to our wonderful school.

Some parents had the opportunity to meet her last term. Miss McLeavy has spent time getting to know the children and I'm sure you will give her the warm Warwick Road welcome!

Miss McLeavy will cover the long term sickness absences that have occurred last term. We hope that her appointed will bring some consistency to Y1. She will continue in Y1 until at least the end of the school year.

Attainment and Progress

Writing is a key focus on our school development plan this year. It has been pleasing to see so much progress made in this area. During this term we will be spending some time looking at the 8 parts of speech; nouns, adjectives, determiners, adverbs, verbs, pronoun, prepositions and conjunctions. By the end of year 6 it is expected that all children will understand what these parts of speech mean and also how to apply them correctly to make improvements to their writing.

In addition, phonics assessments carried out in December have shown that we are continuing to make good progress in this area. The teaching of phonics has improved significantly over the last year. As a testament to this, there's been a 20% increase of children passing the phonics test for Y1 in June.

Please continue to read frequently with your child as it is with your support that the children are making so much progress in this area.

I'd also like to thank parents for encouraging their children to create wonderful homework masterpieces. We are very pleased that our children are continuing with the learning at home and that parents are getting involved too.

We may need to have a special assembly and start to reward parents too!

Attendance

Attendance for last term was 96.3. This shows an improvement of 0.88 from the previous year.

The children this term were rewarded with a cinema party; which included popcorn, marshmallows and a drink. They thoroughly enjoyed the movie, Mr Peabody & Sherman!

Some parents were disappointed that although their child had 100% attendance, they were not awarded the attendance treat. This was due to unauthorised lateness, sometimes running into hours of missed lesson time.

Please note that all children are required not only to come to school but also arrive on time to achieve the reward. Lateness not only disrupts the other children in the classroom who have already started learning. The child who is late also feels uncomfortable and some of the younger children find it difficult to settle.

Please remember that the children should be in their line when the bell rings at 8.45.

House Championships

Well done to House Intrepid who are in the lead with 30 points!

	House INTREPID	30
	House DISCOVERY	25
	House ENTERPRISE	20
	House ENDEAVOUR	17

School Trips

Our children had the opportunity last month to visit the Peak district, Bolton Castle and Saltaire, feedback received from the providers was very positive.

The rangers at the Peak District were very pleased with the depth of knowledge our children had about mountains and were pleasantly surprised that all our children had the correct clothing, boots and coats. The leaders at Bolton Castle were so pleased with our children they sent an email to me. They felt the school leaders should know that our children were delightful, well informed and eager to learn. Year 5 also had some excellent feedback from their trip to Saltaire which read, in part, 'Thank you very much for bringing such a bright, well behaved and brilliantly briefed group of children to Saltaire. All the guides agreed that the pupils were special and a total credit to your school. (No doubt down to the excellent teaching staff)'.

I'm sure you'll agree that this really is feedback to be proud of!

Governors

A skills audit was carried out in the autumn term, it identified two areas where we have a lack of skills; the budget and data.

For that reason it was necessary to appoint two new governors to the school.

Mr Phil Riozzi has a background in education and is now an educational consultant, he is also HMI trained.

Mrs Sonya Patel has a background in finance and works in the private sector.

I'm sure their skills set will greatly benefit the governing body.

School Dinners

The school dinner menu has changed from 5th January 2015. We have taken suggestions from the children, the Parent Forum and indeed from staff and governors.

We'd like to know what you think, so please don't hesitate to get in touch with your views.

Dates for Your Diary

Week beginning 5th January

- Progress meetings with teachers

Friday 9th January

- Class newsletters

Monday 19th January

- Maths week - details will follow
- Governors meeting:
 - Standards & Effectiveness
 - Full governors meeting

Monday 20th January

- BBest Governor training - British Values



Feedback from Pupil Survey

Recently our children completed their annual pupil survey. You can see below some of the things that the children liked and also those areas that they felt we needed to improve further.

Areas of Strength

- 98% of children like school
- 98% of children have friends at school
- 99% of children feel they are taught well
- 99% of children felt that their teachers ensured that they understood their work
- 100% of children said they liked their teachers
- 98% of children said they know they are making good progress
- 98% of children said they feel safe and secure in school
- 100% of pupils said they would tell a teacher if someone was unkind to them

Most of the responses from the children were positive and above approval ratings were above 95%.

Area for further development

- Children would like more play equipment at lunchtimes and would like the lunchtime supervisors to be trained in play skills.

Therefore, we will be making further changes to lunchtime play to enhance our children's experiences. This will include training for the lunchtime staff.

Only 87% of children were happy with lunchtime play:

We need to ensure all our children are happy at all times in school!