Newsletter No.2

West Horndon

Friday 9th September 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

School Performance

I was delighted to receive a letter from Clare Kershaw, Director of Commissioning: Education and Lifelong Learning at Essex County Council congratulating us on our summer results. It read:

"I would like to personally congratulate you and your staff on your 2016 summer results. I was pleased to see that your school is in the top quartile of Essex schools for the percentage of children who attained at least the expected standard in Reading, Writing and Mathematics combined at Key Stage 2*. Congratulations to you and your colleagues on this success, we know that achieving high standards and significant improvement with children is very demanding."

Radio Workshops

It's been an exciting first week in school. A particular highlight has been our whole Key Stage Two radio project culminating in two fantastic live broadcasts. You can listen again to these by visiting our website.



I'm delighted to announce my first Radio Professional Residency for this year. I'm spending a day each half-term at West Horndon Primary School with their Head Matt O'Grady developing all the associated skills with producing a live radio show. We've identified some key areas for development and through the medium of Live Radio we'll be building skills, confidence and resilience for the whole of KS2.



Exciting events coming up:

19th September - Talk like a Pirate Day
Children come to school dressed as Pirates.

Parent Information Session

We will be holding an information session for parents at 7.00pm on Wednesday 21st September. Parents are invited to come along to find out about:

- Our school improvement priorities for this year
- How and why we encourage growth mindsets with pupils
- How to access and best use our homework resources

There will also be an opportunity to sample our new menu. We hope that you will be able to attend.



This year we would really like to celebrate the cultural diversity and heritage of our pupils and their families. The first step is to have a flag representing each country around the school. If you consider your child to have strong connections with another country please let us know by completing the attached form so we celebrate and value their family background.





As part of our commitment to *Spread the Happiness* as well as fun, exciting learning events in school we will be celebrating Chocolate Milkshake Day on Monday. All children will be provided with a celebratory milkshake at lunchtime and we will be adding some milkshake themed reading materials to our class libraries!

Yours sincerely

Matt O'Grady, Headteacher

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