

Newsletter - February 2016

GYMNASTICS

Five teams from Ballifield took part in the city Key Steps competition on the 28th January at Hillsborough Leisure Centre.

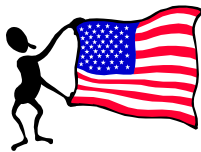


All the children did amazingly well. The Y3/4 A team came first and the Y5/6 A team also came first against some very strong competition.

Both teams will now go onto represent Sheffield in the South Yorkshire Finals on the 9th March.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Once again, Ballifield has been chosen to host a group of student teachers who are visiting the UK to see our teaching practices in action.



We will be joined in April by students from University of Georgia in the United States. I'm sure our entire school community will make them feel very welcome.

As well as visiting school, they will get to experience the culture of our city and the surrounding countryside.

SCHOOL DINNER PAYMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATIONAL VISITS

As in common with other schools in the city, we are now unable to accept cash in school for meals and visits. This is due to cutbacks in the collection of monies from schools and our insurance not covering large sums of cash on site.

All parents have access to our online payment system which can be accessed via our website www.ballifield.co.uk. If you do not have access to the internet, please ask in the office and we can issue a PayPoint card where payments can be made in the post office, local convenience stores etc...

At present we can only accept cash for School Uniform orders, however we are currently developing an online store. This should help reduce the waiting time for orders and allow us in future to pass on cost savings much quicker.

Thank you for your support during the changes and we welcome any feedback on the new system.

Ballifield will close for the half term break on Thursday 4th February at 3.15pm. (Friday is a staff training day)

We re-open on Monday 15th February

PTA

Thanks to everyone who supported our fashion show. This event raised over £400.



The next school fayre takes place on Sunday 3rd July between 11am and 1pm. PTA meet regularly on most Monday evenings and everyone is welcome to join in.

PARKING

Can we please remind parents to park considerately when picking up and dropping off children. We have received many complaints from our neighbours regarding blocked drives and restricted access to properties.



The police have asked us to warn parents that due to the number of complaints received they will be stepping up patrols and issuing fines.

Can we also please remind parents not to park or drop children off on the yellow zig-zag lines. They are there for the safety of **ALL** children.

Parents and carers should also note that due to the limited access our car park should not be used **at anytime** for picking up and dropping off children.

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER...

It's been a busy start to the term, especially for our Y6 pupils who are starting their final preparations for the end of Key Stage 2 SATs tests which will take place week commencing 11th May.

There will also be assessments taking place in other year groups at the same time and throughout the first half of the Summer Term after Easter. It will be important that the children achieve a high attendance as every lesson counts!

I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome our new school cook, Katherine Hudson who joined the Taylor Shaw team in the kitchen after Christmas. Many of you have already expressed positive feedback on the improvements already taking place.

I know many of you appreciate early notice of the holidays and training days so please find the calendar for the next academic year on the back of this newsletter. This will also be available on the website

Many thanks for all your support this term.

Sheila Haigh

School Holiday Calendar 2016/17

		Autumn Term												Spring Term																																																																							
		Sept 2016				Oct 2016				Nov 2016				Dec 2016				Jan 2017				Feb 2017				Mar 2017				Apr 2017																																																							
Mon						3	10	17	24	31					1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	30					3	10	17	24	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	30																																			
Tues						4	11	18	25					2	9	16	23	30					3	10	17	24	4	11	18	25					4	11	18	25	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	3	10	17	24	4	11	18	25	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24																		
Wed						5	12	19	26					3	10	17	24					4	11	18	25					4	11	18	25					5	12	19	26					5	12	19	26					6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25	7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25	7	14	21	28	7	14	21	28	7	14	21	28	7	14	21	28
Thurs						6	13	20	27					4	11	18	25					5	12	19	26					5	12	19	26					6	13	20	27					6	13	20	27					6	13	20	27					7	14	21	28	5	12	19	26	8	15	22	29	8	15	22	29	8	15	22	29	8	15	22	29
Fri						7	14	21	28					5	12	19	26					6	13	20	27					6	13	20	27					7	14	21	28					7	14	21	28					7	14	21	28					8	15	22	29	9	16	23	30	9	16	23	30	9	16	23	30	9	16	23	30				

		Summer Term																																																		
		May 2017				Jun 2017				Jul 2017				Aug 2017																																						
Mon										3	10	17	24	31					1	8	15	22	29	7	14	21	28																									
Tues										4	11	18	25					2	9	16	23	30	8	15	22	29					1	8	15	22	29	8	15	22	29	1	8	15	22	29								
Wed										5	12	19	26					3	10	17	24	31	9	16	23	30					2	9	16	23	30	9	16	23	30	2	9	16	23	30	2	9	16	23	30			
Thurs										6	13	20	27					4	11	18	25					4	11	18	25					3	10	17	24	31	10	17	24	31	3	10	17	24	31	3	10	17	24	31
Fri										7	14	21	28					5	12	19	26					5	12	19	26					4	11	18	25	11	18	25	31	4	11	18	25	31	4	11	18	25	31	

 = Bank Holiday
 = School Holidays
 = Staff Training Days