

Highwoods

Pyramid



School Newsletter

May 2017

Academy Update

We have had confirmation today that on the 1st June 2017 Mexborough Highwoods Primary School becomes Highwoods Academy.

You will not see any difference in the day to day work of the school – we are formalising the arrangements with our partner schools in the multi-academy trust - namely Armthorpe Tranmoor Primary School, Armthorpe Southfield Primary School and Bessacarr Primary School and in order to do this we are required to become an academy. Highwoods Academy will be a founding member of the Empowering Minds Academy Trust.

New Logo / School Badge

Our change to academy status means the school is changing it's name and logo/badge. Here is a sneak preview...



Change to uniform

We are making a minor change to Highwoods school uniform – we are changing from red polo shirts to **white polo shirts**.

As we are in the summer term and I appreciate parents/carers may be already purchasing uniform for the new school year, I wanted to give you as much notice as possible.

The change will be introduced from **September 2017** – we do not expect everyone to be in white polo shirts from this date nor to have sweatshirts with the new school badge – we anticipate a gradual change over.

School Uniforms from TESCO

Also, school will no longer be selling uniform – we have partnered up with **Tesco**, who are offering an on-line ordering service for uniform. You can have the items embroidered with the school logo as part of the cost. We will be sending out further information shortly after ½-term. We are selling off our current stock of uniform – please enquire at the office.

Sporting Successes



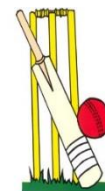
This week, Year 4 and Years 5 & 6, took part in a Tag-Rugby competition organised by the Mexborough Pyramid of Schools.

We entered several mixed teams of boys and girls – the teams had very little preparation and those taking part volunteered to play. Part of their success is credited to the excellent coaching they received last week!!

The Year 4 teams came 1st and 2nd and the Year 5 & 6 Teams came 1st and 3rd.

Congratulations to all those who took part – we are really proud of them. Well done for winning and showing good team effort and sportsmanship. Again the children were complimented on their conduct and behaviour. Two of our Year 6 children were commended on their skills and ability – well done Cayden and Summer!

Last week Years 5 and 6 took part in a Kwik Cricket tournament at the Athletic Club. Schools in the Mexborough Pyramid took part. We came 3rd and 5th in the league. Well done to those who took part.



Highwoods School Nursery

Plans are well underway for the opening of our new nursery in September.

Nursery children will have the same uniform as the rest of the school.

Letters are going out shortly inviting parents in for our Nursery open day.



After a few teething problems we seem to be up and running again with **ParentPay**. Thank-you for being patient with us whilst we introduced the new system. Feedback from parents has been very positive.

Can we please ask that payments for dinners/breakfast club/ after school clubs and school visits are paid for in advance. If you have any problems or questions regarding ParentPay please ask at the school office.

Attendance Reward Visits

Those children who achieve 97% or more will be rewarded with a free visit to the seaside. Those who achieve 100% will go on an additional free visit to Gullivers' Kingdom.

The visits will take place on **Monday 24th July and Tuesday 25th July**. This is during the first week of the school holidays.

We have had to organise the visits during this week for health and safety reasons and safeguarding - so that we have enough staff to accompany the children on the visits as we have more children this year who have successfully reached the attendance targets.

House Points

We haven't counted the House Points this half-term – we are waiting until the end of the summer term to reveal this year's winners.

A reminder of the positions at Easter:

Yellow 4,086

Green 3,870

Blue 3,664

Red 3,444

Below is a photograph of the house point display tubes – have **GREEN** regained the lead?



London Residential

Deposits are now being taken for our London Residential 5th – 8th December 2017 for those pupils who will be in Years 5 and 6 next year. Information packs have been sent out to parents giving information on the itinerary, the kit list and other useful information.

Deposits may be paid via **ParentPay** or by using the barcode letter sent out in the information pack so you can pay at **PayPoint** retailers.



P.E/ Games kit

We ask parents / carers to please make sure your child has the correct P.E kit on their P.E. days.

We are now closely monitoring this, you will receive a text message if your child doesn't have their kit.

We are preparing for sports day / rounders and other inter-school competitions so it is important your child has their correct kit as they can become upset if they are not able to take part.

If your child wears earrings please make sure they are either covered with plasters but preferably please take them out for P.E. days.

School Visits

- **Years 3 & 4:** Children in Years 3 and 4 visited Leeds Royal Armouries on Wednesday 3rd May 2017. They had a brilliant time exploring different types of armour, warfare and costumes. This was to prepare them for their current history work on *The Normans*.



- **Reception Class** visited the Tropical Butterfly House last Friday 19th May 2017. They came back after a very exciting day chattering about all the creatures they had seen that day. Miss Mason said the children were extremely well behaved and had had a fantastic day.

Upcoming visits:

- Primary Sing Out Doncaster Dome – 14th June 2017
- Austerfield Residential for Years 3 and 4 - 10th and 11th July 2017
- Years 5 & 6 visit to Jorvik / The Dig to support work on the Vikings – date to be confirmed

Y4 Pedestrian Training



Y4 are to take part in road safety pedestrian training in June. The children will be going outside in groups to learn about safety when crossing the road. The training will be led by Doncaster Council.

Year 6 SATs

Well done to our Year 6 children for working extremely hard in preparation for their SATs that are now over!

A massive thank you to parents for your on-going support at home with your child during this time.

The results will be published in early July.

Year 2 SATs

Well done to our Year 2 children who have been doing their SATs over the last two weeks.

Results will be shared with parents as part of the end of year report.

Year 1 Phonics Check

We have one more set of tests to complete - this is the Year 1 Phonics check that will take place the week beginning 12th June.

The phonics screening check is a short, light-touch assessment to confirm whether individual children have learnt phonic decoding to an appropriate standard.

Results will be shared with parents as part of the end of year report.