



Newsletter – September 2016

Dear Parents and Carers

What a busy September – the month seems to have flown by. One minute we are returning from a rather warm summer break and the next practising our songs for Harvest and debating whether the heating should go on!

We have 217 children on our roll and our school continues to grow. I remember a few years ago asking the children what they would like at The Reddings and their response was more children so they could have more friends – it is lovely to think that this has now happened.

Our new website launched this month. We are still uploading a few bits and pieces and tweaking the design, however, I hope that you will find it useful and informative. The great news is that it is compatible for mobile devices. Should you have any thoughts or suggestions about the website please let us know.

So that we are able to share some of our exciting news the school now has a twitter account. If you already tweet or new to twitter it would be great to start a following. Our first bit of news shared is achieving the Silver Modeshift Travel Award and that Mrs Beaven, Mr Prickett and two children will be attending the official award ceremony in London next week.

I would like to take this opportunity to warmly welcome all the new parents to The Reddings. I do hope you are settling in well and feeling part of 'The Reddings Family'.

I'm hoping that those of you who attended the Welcome to Year found the sessions beneficial. The teachers were discussing the year's expectations and the drive on spellings and handwriting.

I have had many parents ask how they can help their child at home and the simplest advice I have is reading. Children of all ages love having a book read to them, especially if you 'do the voices'. Sharing a book is a magical moment and children are never too old for a book at bedtime.

I am looking forward to seeing you all at our Harvest Festivals next week.

Tracy Prickett

Governor News

Mrs Gordon, one of our Parent Governors, has stepped down from her post. This coincided with her younger daughter leaving The Reddings and transferring to Secondary School.

Mrs Gordon played a significant role in making the school it is today and served for over 6 years on the Governing Body. During her time at The Reddings she worked relentlessly to ensure the work of The Reddings benefitted all the children at the school. Thank you Mrs Gordon – you and your children will always be part of The Reddings family.

Awards

I am delighted to share with you the following Awards.

For Bronze five merits need to be achieved, for Silver 12 merits and Gold 22 merits. These merits are awarded to children for participation in events, providing personal high quality pieces of work, overcoming tricky challenges or by going the extra mile. The children received their Awards in July 2016 and September 2016.

Bronze Award		Silver Award	Gold Award
Ailya	Sanya	Sophia	Erin
Kristyian	Ryan F	Isabelle	Zandile
Pharren	Ryan P	Emily	Luana
Humaira	Katy	Alexander U	Jess L
Amna	Meicha	Madiha	
Keane	Vagelis	Buntu	
Aqeel	Khadija	Kaitlyn	
Kristers	Inas	Bradley	
Aiya	Paula	Finlay	
Palak	Aisha	Kristians	
Noor	Desmond		
Shahveer	Paula		
Lacey			

The following children received the Head Teacher Exemplar Learner Award:

Erin
Kristers

Luana
Taylor O

Bronze/Silver/God Awards are displayed within Key Stage 2 classrooms with a celebration display in the hall.

Maths Whizz

Your children should have been given their username and password for our online maths learning portal, Maths Whizz. Please encourage the use of this system to the children as it works best if they complete between 10 and 20 minutes per day, plus it will support them at their own level if they work independently.

If your child has not received (or has lost) their details, please contact the class teacher first.

Please note: Maths Whizz recommend that their website (www.whizz.com) is accessed from a PC, not a tablet, as it needs Flash player to work properly. It is possible to access it through the Puffin Academy app, although certain sections can be unreliable. The school is unable to offer technical support around this.

Mr Battersby

Keys Found

Have you lost any keys? During the first week of term keys were found on the playground – please speak to the Office Team if you have lost some keys.

Secondary School Open Evenings/Morning

If your child is currently in Year 6 you will need to apply for their Secondary School by 31st October 2016. The opening evenings/mornings for Secondary Schools in Hemel Hempstead are listed below:-

Hemel Hempstead School – Saturday 1st October 2016 (9.30 am to 12.30 pm)

Longdean School – Monday 3rd October 2016 (6 pm to 9 pm)

JFK School – Tuesday 4th October 2016 (6 pm to 9 pm)

Astley Cooper School – Wednesday 5th October 2016 (6.30 pm to 9 pm)

Adeyfield School – Thursday 6th October 2016 (6.30 pm to 9 pm)

It is also worth visiting the Secondary Schools if you have a child in Year 5 as this will give you a better understanding of what the schools have to offer your child.

Nursery Admissions Open for 2017-2018

Following the changes from Central Admissions we are delighted to inform you that the Nursery Admissions Process is now open.

If you have a child who will be eligible for Nursery in September please contact the School Office either by e-mail – admin@reddings.herts.sch.uk or pop into the Office to advise the team that you would like to be put on the list.

If you know of anyone else who maybe interested in joining The Reddings Family, please let them know that tours are available as it would be lovely to meet them.

Breakfast Club

If you would like your child to attend Breakfast Club, please speak to the Office Team as this must be booked in advance by completion of a form and payment. There are a limited number of spaces available and therefore the drop-in system is no longer available. Breakfast Club is £2.50 per child per visit.

Reading Volunteers

We need your help! We are looking for volunteers to come into school on a regular/weekly basis to hear children read. Ideally we would like one volunteer for each class. If you have some time to spare and would like to help please let your child's class teacher know. All volunteers would need to have a DBS check which can be arranged through the school office.



Teaching Assistant's Day

Friday 16th September was National Teaching Assistant Day. This gave us the opportunity to say a big thank you to our Teaching Assistants and Support Staff. All Teaching Assistants and Support Staff received a 'What a Star' certificate and a thank you photo card. We very much appreciate the hard work and dedication shown by all of our TAs and Support Staff. Please join us in our appreciation by saying your own thank yous when you are next in school.



Ready to Learn Focus Attending School Everyday

Key Dates – Autumn Term 2016

- 5th October 2016 – Year 5 - Anglo Saxon Village
- 6th October 2016 – Gourmet Burger Lunch
- 7th October 2016 – Harvest Festivals (EYFS/KS1 – 9 am/KS2 – 2.30 pm)
- 14th October 2016 – Reports to Parents
- 19th & 20th October 2016 – Parent Consultations
- 1st to 4th November 2016 – Languages/Culture Week
- 4th November 2016 – Open Morning for Parents
- 9th to 11th November 2016 – Kingswood Residential Trip
- 16th November 2016 – Year 4 - Verulamium Museum
- 17th November 2016 – Kingswood Residential – Parents Meeting
- 25th November 2016 – Year 6 Class Assembly
- 21st November 2016 – Governor Visit Day

Electing our School Council 2016-17

All children in Years 1 – 6 were invited to create a poster over the summer holidays to promote themselves as a candidate for the School Council 2016-17. Posters were displayed in classrooms in the lead up to the elections. On Thursday 15th September, the International Day of Democracy, those wishing to be considered as representatives for their class were invited to give a short speech to their class.

The Dining Room became the Polling Station during the day. Each class came into the Polling Station where each member of the class was giving a Ballot Paper prepared with the names of those wishing to stand for their class. Papers were marked and placed in the Ballot Box ready for the counting.

During our Celebration Assembly on Friday 16th September 2016, the new members of the School Council were announced.

Year 1	Chloe Jack
Year 2	Valeria Isabella
Year 3	Ali-Reza Aahana
Year 4	Caitlyn Taylor
Year 5	Kamile Kamron
Year 6	Jessica Nokukhanya

