



Micklefield C.E. (C) Primary... 'a GOOD school', Ofsted 2013

Newsletter



Autumn themes: New beginnings and Faith (Trust)

Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Proverbs 3 v5

17th September 2015

Welcome back to school

We have had a lovely start to the term, with everyone looking their best, *most* people smiley...and no floods! Our summer work has included painting outside railings and walls, the bandstand and the pirate ship; pointing and repairs to the roof; replacement of a roof window; new finger protectors on the inside doors; replacement of the flood-damaged office furniture (finally!) and new trellis for the garden.

Themes and values

Our SEAL theme this half-term is **new beginnings**. Everyone in school will try to:

- Help to make people feel welcome
- overcome a fear
- solve a difficult problem
- know how to calm themselves down when things are difficult

Our five core Christian values are:

Forgiveness; service; compassion; faith (trust) and peace. This term we will be thinking about **faith (trust)** and what it means. We will be hearing about people who trusted God in all kinds of situations. We will try to grow into the kind of people who can be trusted, as well as developing our own faith and trust, whatever that may be based on.

Caring for others

As a church school, we recognise the importance of living out our faith in practical ways too. There are several ways we are showing our love for others this term:

Jeans for Genes

Mrs. H. Walton organised our Jeans for Genes day today. Thank you to all who allowed their children to come to school in jeans with their donation to the charity.

Harvest Festival

Our Harvest Festival will be on Thursday 24th September at 9.30 in St. Mary's Church. We are looking forward to seeing Father David after such a long time. The children will be taking their Harvest gifts up to church to put on the Harvest table. We would be grateful for any donations of tins of food to add to the collection. Father David will be taking the gifts to help the homeless at a local centre.

The Silver Snake

Along with us, many of you will have felt helpless and upset by the ongoing Syrian crisis. I received information mid-week of a centre in Leeds which will be taking in some of the Syrian refugees and we had an idea for how we could help. We are making a silver snake in school, with all those pesky 5ps that lurk in the bottom of our purses and pockets, as well as any other silver coins you send in. The children are very enthusiastic and have almost filled one windowsill in a day! We will be putting our SEAL theme into action through **helping to make people feel welcome** by sending the money we raise to the Leeds centre providing support for the refugees.

School Governors

The school governors' Strategy committee met in the first week back and had their full Governing Body meeting this week. Gary Craven was re-elected as Chair and Jayne Hartley as Vice Chair.

As she steps down from being a governor, we thank Jennifer Riley for all the time she has given to her role. We will be sending out letters asking for nominations for another parent governor. Please think about whether you would like to be a governor. There are four main meetings each year, with sub-committee meetings before these.

New Housing

At the end of the summer term, I was informed by Leeds City Council that there are significant changes planned for Micklefield in the form of several housing developments over future years. Obviously, school capacity will be an issue if this happens. There is a team coming to school on Monday 21st September to discuss it and I will let you know any outcomes from this meeting; I know parents are concerned about how the demand on places will affect them, given that some of these new houses will be geographically closer to the school and will therefore have priority for admissions.

Moans and groans

I'm glad that the playground is such a positive place these days. I am trying to be out there after school as well as every morning so that you can share any moans and groans with me. Parents are feeling able to share any complaints or concerns directly with me more and more these days. It means that I can sort things out quickly or sometimes explain why I can't!

Holidays

We are still under pressure from the local authority and the government because our attendance is below 95%, although we have moved from 92% to 93%.

Just a reminder that I am not allowed to authorise holidays unless you have a letter from your employer or your doctor to explain exceptional circumstances. Fines will be charged this year for unauthorised absence.

Music tuition

It is part of the new curriculum, that all children should have the opportunity to learn an instrument. In the autumn term all of Classes 3 and 4 will be having a go at playing brass instruments. Those children who already play will be continuing with their individual lessons and will be invited to join the Wednesday evening junior band when they reach the intermediate level. We are very proud of our players!

PARKING

- **It is illegal to park on the yellow zigzags outside school and very dangerous for our children.**
- **Please don't obstruct our neighbours' drives.**
- **Please, either park further away, in the Blands Arms' car park...or walk to school.**

KEEP OUR CHILDREN SAFE!

Dates for your diary:

September

Thursday 24th September: Harvest

Festival at St. Mary's Church

Monday 28th September: training day

October

5th – 9th: themed week – cultural diversity through the arts

15th Parents' assembly

***20th Photographer – *please note change of date**

21st and 22nd Parents' evenings

23rd Child of Achievement

HALF TERM