



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

Newsletter



Spring themes: Good to be me; Peace

Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone. Romans 12v18

31st March 2016

Easter Celebrations

Easter fell in term time this year, which meant that we could celebrate the whole festival instead of just the sad part – we usually finish school on Maundy Thursday or even a whole week before, so we miss out on the joy of the Resurrection.

We began with a Palm Sunday assembly the Thursday before Holy Week, which just happened to be the day of our SIAMS inspection. Father David brought palm crosses for all the children and we waved them as we processed round the hall following the Easter candle. We had a great time and so did the inspector, who commented on the feeling of joy – and the children's impeccable behaviour!

On Maundy Thursday, we went up to St. Mary's Church for our Easter Service with our Golden Book and Child of Achievement awards. Father David showed his braver side as he washed some of the children's feet as Jesus did for his disciples at the Last Supper, showing that no-one is too important to serve others. This morning, we had our Resurrection Service in school. Father David lit the Easter candle from the fire pit outside, which is what happened up at St. Mary's on Easter Saturday night. A group of our talented Year 6 children re-enacted their own take on the Good Friday events, including a TV interview with Jesus and then the Easter Bunny. Well done Tylan, Jake, Mia, Kristal, Heath, Charlie and James-Henry.

SIAMS inspection

Our SIAMS inspection went well and we are now awaiting the report, which we will share with parents when it arrives. The inspector looked at our photos, the children's books, RE lessons and talked with the children individually and in a group. He also spoke to parents in the playground and to governors.

SEAL themes and Christian values

Our SEAL theme this half-term has been **Good to be me**. Our targets at school and at home are to:

- Do something to be proud of
- Use our skills of assertiveness
- Be helpful when someone is worried
- Stop and think before we act

Our Christian value for the whole term has been peace, we've been looking at how we can help to promote and achieve peace where we are and in the world around us. The children have made white doves with prayers and thoughts which are hung in our Quiet Zone.

Please encourage your child to talk about their targets and values at home.

Family Unit changes

After the holiday, there will be a slight change to the entrance arrangements for the Family Unit children. The Reception children will come into school at the south end of the Family Unit as usual, but the Nursery children will enter through the middle door under the large canopy. This is to prepare for our new provision for 2 year olds which will begin during next term.

Holidays in term time

We are concerned that several families have decided to take their children out of school in term-time, which will affect our attendance percentages significantly. This will also affect our next Ofsted inspection judgement on behaviour and welfare and may make it impossible to achieve a good or outstanding grade overall. Please consider the effect on everyone in the school community when you are making a decision about booking a term-time holiday. I cannot authorise any holiday unless I have evidence from your employer or GP that the holiday is exceptional because it is necessary and/or unavoidable.

Curriculum evening

If you missed our curriculum evening and would like the information on the new, **higher expectations** for pupils, please ask for the handout at the office or from the class teacher. It is really important that you know how to support your child at home and that you are also aware that progress is measured in a completely different way now that there are no assessment levels.

All children start the year below expectations, because the expectations now refer to the end of each school year. By the end of the year they should reach or exceed expectations, if they were at the age-related stage at the end of last year. If your child had not yet reached the expected level at the end of last year, his or her teacher will tell you if they are making enough progress to catch up and how you can support them at home.

Friends of Micklefield (FOM)

We are looking forward to the FOM disco after school tomorrow. Thanks to all involved in the organisation of this and also for the updates about school on the parents' Facebook page.

Brass Band

Well done to our Brass Band who went to play in the Easter Musical event at St. Patrick's R.C. Primary School. We are hoping that the St. Patrick's players will be able to join us for our summer Musical Celebration next term

Fire inspection

We had our Fire Service inspection recently and are pleased to say that we met all the required standards.

Parking

The Blands Arms staff are always really helpful with school parking by allowing cars to use their car park. However, they have asked me to let you know that the car park will no longer be available for use on **Wednesday afternoons** due to deliveries at that time.

Academisation

You will have heard on the news recently, that the government are intending that all schools will become academies in the next 4 to 6 years. Our governors are looking into this and will be collecting information on multi-academy trusts and what this would mean for our school. We will keep you informed of the options that will be open to us and how we will decide on the best option; we will be looking for the one which will be of most benefit to your children.

Dates for your diary:

April

Monday 18th School begins; Parents Evenings this week

May

May 5th Ascension Service

May 9th SATs week

May 19th Pentecost assembly

May 27th TRAINING DAY

June

Monday 6th New classes

Monday 20th PE Themed week – Sporting values

Wednesday 22nd Open morning PE

Friday 24th Games day

July

Friday 22nd Year 6 Leavers' Service St. Mary's Church

Monday 25th Key Stage 2 performances

Tuesday and Wednesday 26th and 27th

TRAINING DAYS

September

Monday 5th September BACK TO SCHOOL

TRAINING DAYS 2016 – 17:

23rd September 2016 **3rd January 2017**

1st November 2016 **26th May 2017**

5th June 2017