

24th May 2021

NEWSLETTER



STARBECK
PRIMARY ACADEMY

Dear Parents & Carers,

We have reached the final week of this half term and I know that children are looking forward to a short break after working so hard over the last 7 weeks. Our final day of this half term is this Friday 28th May.

ANCIENT GREEKS DAY

To celebrate and enhance all their learning in History this half term, Year 5 took part in a special themed day with Ancient Greeks arriving in style at school for the day. The children dazzled us with their amazing costumes, with Medusa, Zeus and even a Centaur! The day was filled with lots of hands-on learning, eating Greek food, designing mythical creatures and applying Design and Technology skills to make some Greek vases. It was a fabulous day for everyone. To finish off the half term, they have filmed a special class assembly which will be heading out to Year 5 parents this week.



RETIREMENT NEWS

Sadly, Mr Wild will be leaving us at Starbeck at the end of this half term. Many of you will know our fabulous Caretaker, who has looked after our school for 12 years. Clearly we will be giving Mr Wild a great send-off however I know that many of you will wish to say your own goodbyes to him before he leaves. We thank him for his wonderful contribution to Starbeck School over the years and wish him a long and happy retirement.



INSPIRING LEARNING

There has been so much great learning taking place over this last half term. I have seen high quality learning outcomes for Maths and English across the whole school, with children really rising to the challenges set and showing true resilience to achieve their targets following the lockdown earlier this year. We saw the welcome return of educational visits, with Year 1 most recently enjoying a 'History Walk' in Starbeck comparing buildings now to the photos of days gone by. Year 4 impressed us last week with their DT project to research, plan and design, make and review their own bread. We had a wide range of flavours and shapes and the children clearly loved tasting them most of all! Year 2 were also busy last week designing and making healthy pasta salads.

We have also seen many new activities linked to our PSHE and Wellbeing agenda. Our weekly Wellbeing Wednesday class assemblies cover a wide range of crucial aspects linked to managing feelings, self-esteem, resilience and coping with pressures. Our Starbeck Stars also link to this and we have seen 'Cloud Watching', 'Fossil Hunting', 'Woodland Art' and lots more. Next up for Reception will be to watch a butterfly grow!

REPORTS

We would like to confirm that as normal in the second half-term of the summer term, parents and carers will receive a full written report on your child's academic year. This will include updates on progress and achievements across all curriculum areas as well as next steps in learning for the next school year. Our teaching staff are now beginning their hard work in writing these reports and these will be ready later next half term. In the meantime, as always, if you have any questions about your child's learning, please do speak to the class teacher.

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CLASS PHOTOGRAPHS

For those parents and carers who ordered copies of the individual school photographs, these have now arrived at school and will be coming out to you shortly. Our photographer will be returning on **Friday 11th June** to take the class/group photos, after which you will be provided with details of how to order a copy if you would like one.

WASTE AGENDA

As part of the 'NSAT Year of Waste' Challenge, one of the issues that Year 6 identified was that a recycling bin was required in the playground for plastic bottles and cardboard. After discussing this with Mr de Castro-Morland, they are now delighted that a new bin has been purchased and installed in the playground in front of the Key Stage 1 building. Please do support our children's efforts by using this for any appropriate plastic or cardboard waste.



SCHOOL TERM DATES

School closes for summer half term – **Friday 28th May**

School re-opens – **Monday 7th June**

School closes for summer holiday – **Friday 23rd July**

School re-opens for Autumn 2021 Term – **Tuesday 7th September**

Please do take note of our first day back in September to avoid booking any holidays that run into the start of term. All children must be back in school on 7th September.

Thank you to everyone for supporting us during the return from the Lockdown in March. You have kept us up to date with information and stuck with our guidance linked to Covid-19. This has helped us so far to keep all classes/bubbles open and children attending school throughout the whole half term. What an achievement. There will be no changes to our routines when we return from the half-term break, however we will keep you informed of any developments as we continue to receive the national DfE and government guidance for schools.

We hope you have a relaxing half-term week.

Yours sincerely,

Mr G de Castro Morland

Headteacher