

# STAR PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS LETTER

September 2013

## Head Teacher's Message

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the start of the new school year. As you are aware the school was inspected during the last week of the Summer Term on the 16th and 17th of July. The outcomes were very pleasing. Ofsted state that Star Primary School is a **good** primary school with **outstanding behaviour** and **safety of pupils**. Quotes from their report, which can be viewed on the school website, include: "Positive relationships contribute to an inspiring atmosphere for learning throughout the school."

"Equality is championed at all levels". "Pupils' attitudes to school are extremely positive . They behave **outstandingly** well in lessons and around the school."

I would like to thank all the staff for their hard work, enthusiasm and dedication throughout, and a big thank you parents for all your support and encouragement. The whole school community rose to the challenge and proved to the inspectors what a great school Star is!!!

We still endeavour to raise standards and with your continuous support feel positive that this will be achieved.

Pupil attendance remains a priority for the school as an area to improve. Please make sure your child attends everyday and on time.

Please may I also remind you about school uniform. It is important that children come to school in the correct uniform and wearing proper black school shoes.

We continue to work at improving our school building and its surroundings. I am sure you will have noticed the improvements to the school field! An all weather pitch will enable the space to be used throughout the year for P.E. and playtime.

Due to the retirement of Mrs Dixon last term, a new deputy head has been appointed, Mrs Ormerod. Many parents know Mrs Ormerod well, formerly known as Miss Morely, as she has worked at Star for a number of years. We are delighted on this appointment and wish Mrs Ormerod the very best in her new role throughout the school.

There is an important meeting for year 6 parents on Wednesday 18th October at 5:30 pm. At the meeting teachers will outline expectations for the year 6 pupils, and also make clear the transfer process from primary to secondary school. Please make every effort to attend.

Regards,

C. Wilson

Head Teacher



### Upcoming Dates

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2013** - School closed for Eid

**Monday 28th October 2013 to Friday 1st November 2013** - School closed for half-term

**Monday 23rd December 2013 to Friday 3rd January 2014** - School closed for Christmas Break

At Star Primary, we are lucky enough to host a wide range of extended services. We hope that the information in this newsletter will help to answer all of your questions about these services. However, if you have any further queries, do not hesitate to make an appointment to speak with Miss Stockley, the 'Out of Hours Learning' Co-ordinator.



### Gallery of Stars



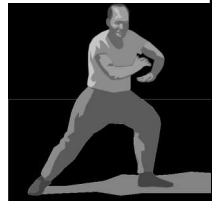
A big congratulation to all pupils who managed to gain a bronze, silver or gold certificate for the number of hours they committed to our clubs! You will soon see a 'Gallery of Stars' appear in our lower hall, showcasing all pupils who achieved the highest gold award, attending a minimum of 48 club hours. Our 'Clubs Champion of the Year' trophy will be presented to Michelle Ssuvume in 6H for clocking up a massive 81 hours of commitment to clubs - well done!

### Clubs

Clubs for this year will begin on **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November**. This allows us time to respond to the views of the pupils and ensure we can provide a wide selection of clubs. As it was so successful last year, children will select their clubs this term and will attend these for the entire year. This enables clubs to run smoothly and gives pupils the opportunity to develop their skills throughout the year. The clubs launch assembly will be held on **Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October**. The clubs booklets with pupil's choices will also be handed out on this day.

When pupils select their clubs, they are asked to sign a pledge. This is important as it shows their commitment to their chosen club and ensures they understand what is expected of them. Each year, many children drop out of clubs, wasting spaces that may have been available to others. Therefore, it is really important that children think carefully about their decisions before making their final choice! Pledges will need to be returned to school by **Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October**. Any pledges received after this time cannot be guaranteed a place in a club.

Pupils will receive a letter the first week back after half term to let them know which clubs they have been selected for. If there are any spare spaces in our clubs, these will be advertised in the following week's newsletter and can be signed up for at the school office.



### Breakfast club

Our breakfast club has already begun, running daily from 7.45am until the beginning of school.

For only 50p pupils have access to a healthy breakfast and a range of activities, including games, arts and crafts, basketball and reading, all supervised by fully qualified staff. Pupils can pay upon arrival and sign up on the day. Please remember that breakfast stops serving at 8.15am.

### 6 O'clock club

6 O'clock club also runs daily from the end of the school day until 6pm to provide parents and carers with a flexible and affordable childcare service. Prices remain at £8 a day (discounts are available when booking weekly or monthly). Prices include an evening snack and daily activity planned and staffed by qualified staff including sports, role play, cooking, arts and crafts, dance and ICT activities. To sign your child up, fill in a registration form at reception. All booking and cancellations for 6 O'clock club should be made by 12 noon each day.

### QISS award

We are proud to announce that this year at Star primary School we have been recognised for our dedication to extended services by gaining the emerged level award for 'Quality in Extended Services'. We hope that this is the start of a continued commitment to developing these services to gain the next level award.

### Have your say!

Pupils are encouraged to share their views and ideas to improve the clubs we offer at Star. If you have any suggestions on how we could improve or would like to offer your skills and expertise in running a club this year, please place your comments on the slip below and return to the school office.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent of: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments/Suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_

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