



Newsletter

Friday 15th July 2016

This Week at Yorke Mead

Year 3 Orchestras

Our annual Year 3 music concerts were again an amazing success with the children performing wonderfully for their parents. The First Access Programme (formerly Wider Opportunities) has enabled some amazing talent to be found. One former pupil, who began his music career through this programme, last week performed at National finals in Birmingham as part of the Watford Youth Orchestra. From little acornsas we say.
Well done to all of Year 3!



Sport's Day



Well we tried! Thank you to all the very supportive parents who put up with the cramped eating arrangements and the waiting around for any chance of the clouds clearing. As the saying goes '*Better to have tried and failed, than never to have tried*'. We will try to get the sports day finished - if we have a dry day when other events are not planned. This looks like it might need to be a morning. We will send out a message on the day - this will be late notice as rain could stop play and we cannot cancel again!



Well done to all the children for the parts we did get completed.



Tough Mudder

We needed rain for this one and got bright sunshine! The children loved it and I think it has to be a key event for the future. Thank you to Mr Rees and Mr Furlong for sorting it!



Next week

Mon 18th July : Bastille Day Celebrations*
Y6 Leavers Evening 6:30pm
Tues 19th July: Y5/Y6 Drumming Concert 2:00pm
Wednesday 20th July: Funday Friday payment deadline 12:00 noon
Thurs 21st July : Celebration Assembly 9:15am KS2
Celebration Assembly 11:00 am Rec/KS1
Charity Stalls (pm) *
Fri 22nd July : Funday Friday *
Term ends 2:15pm

**please see note on next page*



A softer start

We are well aware that traffic outside of school is awful every day, and we have thought long and hard about how to ease this. Next week we will trial a 'soft start' to our day.

Why are we doing this?

We hope the day will start in a relaxed and calm way for the children. Traffic in the playground and school cloakrooms will be eased and hopefully the early birds will have left and parking around the school will ease.

How will this work?

The classroom doors will open for the children at around **8:45 am** and stay open until around **8:55 am**. This gives a 10 minute slot for children to arrive. No bell will be rung. As children arrive they will then go straight into classrooms. If your child is on the school premises from 8:45 am they should be in classrooms and not playing on the playground. **There is no reason for children to be arriving any earlier than 8:40 am.** We will have staff on the main entrance gates to school and I would encourage parents of older children, year 4 upwards, who feel they are able to trust their children to walk into school to do so independently, leaving them at the entrance of by the office gate or by the new entrance to the infant playground. This judgement call is obviously your own; it will begin to prepare them for the next steps of transition when they go to secondary school and mum/ dad does not walk them there. The school will take responsibility for ensuring no child leaves the playgrounds.

We will trial this for the last week of term, and if it is successful will continue from September.

Funday Friday

The school council have placed their order for more musical instruments. They plan to have a final Funday Friday to allow them to complete the final fund raising for this event.

As the office has to complete all banking for the end of term all payments for Funday Friday must be in school by 12:00 noon on Wednesday 20th July. The office will not be accepting any payments after this time.

Celebration Assemblies

After careful consideration we have decided to run two assemblies – one for KS2 and one for KS1. This is to allow space for parents to attend and also the children. Children in KS2 will have the chance to perform their instruments. Reception and KS1 children can enjoy a few songs.

Attendance and DARE TO certificates will be issued – we hope you can join us.

KS2 Assembly is at 9:15am

Rec and KS1 Assembly is at 11:00 am

Charity Stalls

Please ensure you have given your children their money for the Charity Stall events on **Thursday 21st July. The office will not be making any phone calls and will not be delivering money to classrooms.** We do not mean to be unhelpful but as a two form entry school such things are just not manageable any more. Please ensure you are organised for the start of the day.

Bastille Day

We do plan to continue with our Bastille Day plans. Obviously the events of yesterday have somewhat changed the way we may do things, but whether this was the action of a single person, or an organisation, it is essential we do not let such an attack stop us in our lives. We will mark the event for the Key Stage 2 children with two minutes silence, and explain about the three days of National Mourning that has been announced.

Please could the children come to school wearing anything red, white and blue? There will be a whole day of fun events for your children as well as quiet reflection on the terrible events. Merci !

End of Term

Please ensure that your children take everything home with them on Friday. Mr Culverhouse will not be working next week and so school will close and there will be no access to school after I leave for the end of the day.

Please remember that term ends at 2:15pm on Friday .

Lucille Pollard
Head teacher