

The Hill Top Community Way

15th July 2016

office@hilltopprimary.org.uk

www.hilltopprimary.org.uk



We are now very nearly at the end of another extremely busy school year. This year has seen Hill Top Primary School become part of the Leodis Academies Trust as we have joined with East Ardsley, Westerton, Woodkirk and are now Hill Top Primary Academy. We are keeping our own identity but will be working more closely with our partner schools to improve all sorts of areas for your children, using all the available expertise now at our disposal. One of the first areas to be worked on will be Transition from Hill Top to Woodkirk which, although already good, can be made even better.

I am also very proud of our achievements this year for all children academically and especially so in Year 1, Year 2 and Year 6 where the children have sat national tests. It has been a difficult year with a new Assessment system as well as embedding the National Curriculum through the IPC. All Staff have worked exceptionally hard to ensure that your children receive the best possible curriculum differentiated for each individual child and this has been reflected in our very good SAT and Phonic results. We have had more children attain the Year 1 Phonics this year than we have in previous years, our Year 2 children, despite the mess the Government made of some of the tests have also achieved very highly and our Year 6 children have smashed the national average for achievement in their SAT's. The average nationwide for gaining the expected standard is 53% - our staff and children have achieved 68% - this is an amazing achievement in a year where the exams are much harder than any we have seen before. Your children have risen to the challenges set by staff and have been succeeded. This figure comes from the combined scores of the Maths, Reading and Writing tests—so 68% of our children achieved all three subjects at the standard expected but all children in Year 6 have far exceeded their expected outcomes and I applaud each and every one of them for doing their absolute best. We are also the highest achieving school within our Academy.

Sporting achievements this year have surpassed any that we have achieved in previous years in many different sports from skipping through to tennis. Our greatest accolade this year has been getting to the West Yorkshire Schools sports in the tennis having beaten opposition locally, then within Leeds and finally achieving Silver against five other local authorities in West Yorkshire. Our team of Amelia Wade, Alice Champagnon, Jenson Rankin and Ben Hambleton were relentless, very focussed and simply brilliant—certainly stars of the future.

Throughout the year we have also been involved in many musical activities from putting on our Christmas performances to singing in the Leeds School's Choir at the Town Hall to children singing at our Garden Party to celebrate our Queen's 90th birthday, all coming together in our Musical Extravaganza Evening—a truly memorable year. All the staff at Hill Top have gone out of their way to make 2015-16 a great one and for this I say a huge 'Thank you' to them all.

I do think this is a prudent time to inform you that Mrs Blunstone is taking 'Early Retirement' and Mrs Sherrie Beards is leaving to explore pastures new and will have their last days in school with us on the 21st and 22nd July respectively. I know you, like us, will want to wish them all the very best and thank them for their dedication and loyalty to Hill Top Primary.

FOHT have played a huge part in events this year in school and have raised a considerable amount of money which is all used to benefit the children. I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and everyone of you, more especially the main committee of Mrs Thorpe, Mrs Chadwick, Mrs Duffield and Mrs Briggs without whom events wouldn't be organised.

That just leaves me to say a massive 'Thank you' to you the Parents and Carers for your continued support. I do firmly believe I am the luckiest Principal around because I do have the most delightful children at Hill Top Primary Academy. Have a lovely summer break and see you on Tues. Sept 6th. 2016.

Housekeeping

When sending in a cheque to school they now need to be made payable to—'Leodis Academies'.

INSET days 2016-17: Mon 5th Sept 2016; Mon 3rd July 2017; Mon 24th, Tues 25th, Wed 26th July 2017

Important Dates before we finish school

18th July—Talent Show Final (Held in school for children only)

20th July—Head Teachers Award

21st July—Attendance Award—Parents of Gold Awards will receive a text message inviting them into the assembly—Please watch out for this if you feel your child should be on the list.

22nd July—Leavers Service for Parents Grandparents/Carers of Year 6 children ONLY