

# Tividale Community Primary School

## Newsletter October 2014



### Thank you...

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents for your support so far this year. We have had a great start to the new year and all the children have settled in really well. We have already had some fantastic homework projects sent in this term and we are currently trying to organise a more central place to display some of them so that they are on view for all visitors to school to see to excellent quality of the projects.

Thank you also to the Key Stage 2 parents in particular for your patience in collecting your children from the gated area. We are aware that it is a very congested space, but are grateful to the parents who are now taking a few steps back and waiting further away for your children to come to you. Please be assured that safety for the children remains just as important in this situation, as children are only allowed through the gate when teachers are sure that parents are there.



### Parking thanks...

Thank you to those parents who make every effort to continue to park considerately and safely to help protect our children.

Unfortunately, there is still a small minority of parents who are parking on yellow lines and even across neighbour's driveways. We have had a few complaints over the past weeks. You will also be aware that the police are now be making regular visits during peak times and I have been told they have already issued parking tickets to those cars that are parking illegally.

### Wet Mornings ...reminder....

On wet mornings children will be allowed into school at 8.45am when staff will be available to take responsibility for them. When mornings are wet, please try to ensure that your children do not arrive in school before 8.45am. Key Stage 1 and Reception children should enter school through the door in the Key Stage 1 playground where a teacher will be on duty and Key Stage 2 children through the Year 3/4 door.

### A busy month at Tividale....

October has been a hive of activity here at school, so I wanted to take the opportunity to tell you about some of the things our children have been doing...

It started with Y6 going on a trip to Liverpool. They have been learning all about the Titanic and visited the museum there to aid their studies. They spent time following the experiences of different passengers, researching their lives, the reasons for them leaving England to make a new life in America, and ultimately their fate. Survivor or Victim? Whilst in Liverpool, the children had a chance to cross the River Mersey on the ferry which was a great opportunity. The following Monday morning, I received an email from a passenger who was on the same ferry with her family. Here is some of what she had to say:

**" I live in Wallasey on The Wirral. I was off on Friday and was taking my sister and niece (who are visiting from South Africa) on the Mersey Ferry from Seacombe to Liverpool. Whilst waiting for the ferry at Seacombe, the ferry terminal was suddenly invaded with Year 6 pupils and their teachers from your school :)**

**I am writing this email to say how impressed I was with their behaviour, the children were polite and quiet and listened to their teachers with respect. I would like to convey my thanks to them all as they made the ferry crossing very pleasant.**

**I hope they enjoyed their time on the Wirral and in Liverpool.  
They were a credit to your school and the staff and pupils should be very proud of their conduct."**

## A busy month at Tividale (continued)....

Year 4 were also great ambassadors for our school when they went out on their school trip to the Black Country Museum. They also spent time following the life of a particular child from the Victorian era, and learned about clothes, food, school, work, homes and leisure activities that the children would have been involved in during their lifetime.

Our assemblies this month have shown us all about the exciting learning that has been taking place in some of our year groups. Class 5 taught us all about habitats, food chains and the importance of a balanced diet to have a healthy lifestyle. Class 12 made us think about why Greece might be a good place for a holiday destination because of its wealth of history. Year 3 gave us a vibrant explanation about the Islamic festivals of Eid, and helped us to understand the importance of these festivals to Muslims and the influence of the moon in the timing of the festivals of Eid and Ramadan. Y6 had a special assembly visit from our PCSO's last week to talk about the importance of staying safe and being respectful citizens during Halloween and Bonfire Night. This was well received by the children, who asked lots of very important and sensible questions. As I write this, we are halfway through our Harvest Assemblies. Having watched a very well performed Early Years and KS1 assembly this morning, I am very much looking forward to welcoming you at our KS2 event this afternoon. The Year 5 Diwali assembly is taking place after half term.

As well as all of this, the whole of the month of October sees children at Tividale celebrate Black History month. Black History Month is held every October in Britain. The aims are to:

- promote knowledge of Black History and experience
- disseminate information on positive Black contributions to British Society
- heighten the confidence and awareness of Black people in their cultural heritage.

All across our school from Nursery to year 6, our children have enjoyed listening to assemblies, stories, role-playing, researching and learning about important events and people from Black history which have had an impact on the way we live our lives in today's society. This work will be continuing and spilling over in some year groups into November to fit into specific themes and project work.



### Important Days/Dates for November

3 - 7 <sup>th</sup>	Parent Workshop week
6 <sup>th</sup>	Halloween Disco
6 <sup>th</sup>	Early Years Halloween Day
7 <sup>th</sup>	Y5 trip to the National Space Centre
7 <sup>th</sup>	Class 7 assembly
11 <sup>th</sup>	WW1 Commemoration Day (Details to follow)
14 <sup>th</sup>	Non-Uniform day for Children in Need
21 <sup>st</sup>	Year 5 Diwali Assembly

### Finally...

Thank you to all parents and carers who donated towards our Harvest Festival. The food will be donated to nominated local senior citizens and a food bank, where it is always gratefully received.

May I wish you all a happy half term break.....

Head Teacher

23<sup>rd</sup> October 2014