



## **Message from Mrs Crocker**

What a wonderful final week of a fantastic half term! The sun is shining, we've enjoyed a brilliant Highland Games this week, and Key Stage 2 had an amazing experience at the Hay Festival yesterday. Although it has been a busy half term, there has been a tremendous amount of learning and fun – but I think everyone is now ready for a well-earned rest!

## **Highland Games / Sports Day**

Thank you to everyone who came along to support our wonderful Highland Games Sports Afternoon. The weather held (very Scottish!) and the children were absolutely fantastic! A special mention also goes to the parents who bravely took part in the adult tug of war – it was great fun to watch (and my most nerve-wracking bit!).

## **Statutory Testing**

### **Year 6 SATs**

We were incredibly proud of our Year 6 children (we're always proud of them, of course – but especially so at this time). A couple of weeks ago, they completed their SATs and handled them brilliantly. As always, the SATs breakfast was a big hit (and a useful distraction!), and they certainly enjoyed their well-deserved treat on the Friday after all their hard work.

### **Year 1 Phonics Screening**

In the second week after half term, all Year 1 children (and a small number of Year 2 children) will take part in the annual phonics screening check. This is nothing for the children to worry about; it simply confirms that they are decoding phonics at an age-appropriate level. Mrs Flanagan will be sending out further information to parents.

### **Year 4 Multiplication Check**

Also in the second week back, all Year 4 children will complete the multiplication tables check. This consists of 25 questions (up to  $12 \times 12$ ), with 6 seconds to answer each one. The children have been practising hard in class, and any additional support at home over half term—particularly with the trickier tables—would be greatly appreciated.

### **Next Academic Year**

We have already begun planning for the next academic year. We are in the fortunate position that staffing will remain largely the same. Mrs Flanagan will

continue in Acorns, and when Miss Cook returns from maternity leave later in the year, she will job share with Mrs Davies.

### **Summer Term Events**

After half term, things certainly won't be slowing down! Please keep an eye on the calendar on the school website, as well as emails that are sent out. Let's hope the sunshine continues!

### **Preschool News**

This half term seems to have gone by very quickly, with children and grown-ups busy at play! Our theme this half term has been *Spring – the season to grow*.

We have planted potatoes in our garden and discovered the strawberry, raspberry and blackcurrant plants already there. During our seed experiment, the children found out what happens if their seed has too much water!

Our favourite story has been *Jack and the Beanstalk*. We have enjoyed planting and watching our own beans grow, making a very tall beanstalk, and creating stick children to climb it. This week, lots of sunflowers have also been planted.

There was great excitement on the day Martha brought her chicks into pre-school!

As we continue to spend a lot of time outdoors, and with hopefully more sunshine to come, please ensure sun hats and sun cream are in your child's bag.

At the end of this term, we say goodbye to six children who will be leaving pre-school to join Reception next door. As is our tradition, all children and parents are invited to a leavers' celebration afternoon. This year, we are very fortunate to have *The Sea Legs Puppet Theatre* entertaining us.

### **Important Dates**

- **Monday 1st June** – Welcome back to pre-school
- **Monday 15th June** – Pre-school closed (staff safeguarding training)
- **Monday 22nd June, 2.00pm** – Father's Day (mummies welcome too!) mini sports afternoon
- **Wednesday 15th July, 2.00pm** – Leavers' celebration: Sea Legs Puppet Show

Thank you for all your support, and enjoy the half term holiday—hopefully with some warm sunshine!

Julie and Beth

**[Dates- All our upcoming events and important dates can be found on the calendar on our website here.](#)**