

Quinton House Junior School

*Bi—Weekly Newsletter
w/e Friday 30th September 2016*

A WORD FROM THE HEAD:

Voices rang out in St Michael's church on Wednesday as the children in Q4-Q6 joined together for the Harvest Festival celebrations, ably led by the Year 6 pupils. The children in Q1-Q3 had received a sneak preview on Tuesday afternoon. Both Ms Cozens and I were delighted with the service and thought that the singing was superb. Everyone enjoyed the poems, sketches, dances and prayers that the children delivered eloquently and confidently. It was also nice to have representatives from our youngest children in the Nursery and QR, who brought their produce to the church at the beginning of the service. Thank you to all of you who donated Harvest produce, the goods will be collected by a representative from the Hope organisation in the next few days.

I would like to make a special plea regarding school uniform. I do understand how frustrating it can be when the children come home having 'lost' their PE kit or other items of uniform. Please can you ensure that all such items are named in order that we can return any items found to their rightful owner. We have already, this term, accumulated a large amount of unnamed uniform items and it would be much easier to return these if they were named. We are already seeing the start of some inclement weather and can I please ask you to ensure that the children all have their black winter coat with them so that they can still enjoy break and lunchtimes but remain warm.

Kind regards

Mr S Pape

ANNUAL CONSENT FORMS

We still have a few students who have not returned their completed Annual Consent form. Students **cannot** attend trips and sporting fixtures if a form has not been returned. Please can you make sure that your child's Annual Consent form is handed in to Mrs Brown by **Monday 3rd October**.

CONTACTING MRS RIHAL— PA TO HEAD OF JUNIORS

To contact Mrs Rihal or to book an appointment to see Mr Pape please call her direct on

01604 684829

CONTACTING AFTER SCHOOL CARE

If you need to contact the after school care team for any reason between 4.00—6.00pm please call them direct on:

07815 693051

HEAD'S AWARD—THURSDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER 2016

- RCB** **Sadie Jackson** for excellent participation in phonics lessons.
- 1PW** **Evelyn Oakley** for always trying her hardest when working independently in class and for persevering when her tasks are difficult.
- 2PP** **Teni Odegbaro** for settling in quickly and showing all our school values.
- 3AU** **Charlie Jackson** for finding his confidence in the water at swimming.
- 3MC** **Isobel Thatcher** for producing excellent work in all lessons already this year.
- 4DH** **Bailey Henderson-Martin** for trying his very best in the Grammar Hammar skills test and doubling his results when working independently.
- 4KM** **Ellie Thatcher** for a conscientious approach in all lessons.
- 5MH** **Panashe Mukono** for showing a positive attitude and making a good start to the year.
- 5JS** **Daisy Blacker** for an excellent diagram to show the Earth is spherical.
- 6SW** **Isabelle Phipps** for showing such a positive attitude towards her extra responsibilities and executing them so well. A fabulous start as Head Girl.
- 6MW** **Eloise Ley** for her helpfulness and good manners in class.

HEAD'S AWARD—THURSDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER 2016

- RCB** **Blake Stanley** for excellent letter formation in handwriting.
- 1PW** **Oliver Horton** for remembering lots of facts which help him answer questions brilliantly in class.
- 2PP** **Joshua Walker** for writing some excellent descriptions of the Great Fire of London during our diary writing.
- 3AU** **Casey Rhodes** for a positive attitude to learning this year.
- 3MC** **Luke Phipps** for giving 100% in English lessons.
- 4DH** **Max Donlevy** for demonstrating his debating skills and showing a true understanding to our historical book; Invasion.
- 4KM** **William Mooney** for excellent science homework on characteristics and classification of living things.
- 5MH** **Manav Mistry** for making a really good effort on his science homework about the first landing on the moon.
- 5JS** **Frances Brough & Jack Derbyshire** for being responsible, organised and helpful.
- 6SW** **Felicity Hamilton** for detailed and well researched geography work.
- 6MW** **Hattie Johnson & India Hodges** for their amazing work choreographing and performing a water dance at the Harvest Festival.

QR NEWS

Last week in Reception we read 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' and enjoyed using different craft materials to make story maps to re-tell the story. Children also made and decorated binoculars which they proudly wore when we went into the woods for a Bear Hunt.

We also read 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' and children have been busy making character masks to act out the story in the role play area. In numeracy children have also been ordering items by size and using vocabulary such as small/smaller/smallest and big/bigger/biggest.



This week we have enjoyed learning about Harvest and have completed activities linked to our story 'The Little Red Hen'. In literacy we have been using our phonics to write simple sentences about the characters. Children worked together to make bread dough by weighing out the ingredients, then they carefully shaped their dough into hedgehogs. Mr Pape was very pleased that the children had made him a hedgehog roll and he said it was delicious!



Miss C Billington



Q2 NEWS

Q2 have settled into the new routine of being in Year 2 and are rising to the challenges set.

We are looking at 'Living Things and Their Habitats' in science and are spending time outside for this. Please make sure your child has a named black coat in school at all times as the weather has now turned cold and wet.

Q2's class assembly will be taking place on Thursday the 20th October at 3pm in the courtyard. We hope as many of you as possible can attend this. Please help your child with his /her lines as we are now starting the rehearsals. We are hoping to borrow 3 Firemen dressing up outfits. Please contact either of us if you can help.

Mrs Å Pearson/Mrs L Phillips

Q3 NEWS

Year 3 have been getting very active on Fridays with swimming and double games lessons. The children are really enjoying developing their swimming ability and some are even swimming independently for the first time. A real achievement.

In topic lessons we have continued to be Romans, learning about Roman entertainment. In Big write the children became Romans writing a diary entry as if they were a gladiator. We even designed chariots from Lego and then made our own from cereal boxes. Well done Casey, Charlie and Ozzy who won the 3AU chariot competition. The judge was tough but he was also very impressed by the team work exhibited.

In science we have continued to be wowed by the amazing human body. We took a journey into the body to understand the digestive system and could not believe the length of the small and large intestine. In RE we have been looking at the signs and symbols of many religions and applying that to create a Q3 symbol.

We have also been getting into the festive spirit and have designed our Christmas cards for this year. Watch this space!

Watch out for more Roman adventures and amazing body facts over the next few weeks.

As the summer weather sadly beginnings to disappear please can we remind all children in Q3 to ensure they have their black outside coat in school every day. This means we can still get outside for some fresh air in all weathers.

Miss K Miller-Chalk & Mrs A Underwood

DH4 NEWS

4DH have been very busy over the last few weeks and have enjoyed looking at their new topics; historical fiction, new beginnings and living things.

During our science lessons, 4DH have explored the meaning of 'living things' and have discovered that all living things require the seven life processes. Recently, the children went into our very own insect habitat; the woodlands, and investigated lots of invertebrates. The children discovered where the insects hide out, and what makes a good home for them. They used magnifying glasses to find the smaller details which links to their current art topic. As a team, they really enjoyed searching and classifying the different animals.

Throughout our Maths lessons, the children have been using Numicon to aid their subtracting skills. They have found lots of methods to work out different calculations and are applying these to their Maths skills test! Well done children!

We have been trying to upstage our writing in our Literacy lessons and have enjoyed working as a team to craft a complex sentence.

Have a look at what we have been working on:

'I like Rollo because he is brave.'

'Rollo is my idol because his bravery is through the roof! He never gives up on his missions and does whatever it takes to do the right thing. Rollo has proved this because he fearlessly jumped off a tall tree to save his own idol, Duke William.'

Keep up the good work 4DH!



Miss D Howard

CELEBRATING HARVEST FESTIVAL WITH Q6



We were delighted to see so many parents join the Key Stage 2 pupils and in particular Q6 for our Harvest Festival this week. Q6 did a fantastic job of showing us all the wonders of the colours we see around us with choral speaking, plays, poems, rhymes, song and even dance. It was a pleasure to watch them perform with confidence and speaking so clearly. All of the Junior School were able to see the performance and join in with our celebration, especially the singing of Conkers, which I am sure gets louder every year.



We are very grateful for all your donations which are now bagged up and ready to go to the Hope Centre. The Hope centre help feed and support the homeless of Northampton and in their performance the Q6 were very good at explaining why it is so important for us to help others less fortunate than themselves. It is a message I'm sure the Q6 will remember and one which we support in many different ways throughout the year.

Well done to all of Q6 on their assembly and the hard work that went into it.

Miss J Stone

TABLES BADGES

Congratulations to the following who have been awarded their tables badges this week.

2 Star

Frances Brough
Olivia Crane

3 Star

Louis Clark

Middle School Times Tables Badges

Dates for Autumn Term (1) 2016

TUESDAY lunch time

4th October
11th October

Silver Star (all tables) - 40 sums in 3 minutes
Gold star (all tables) - 50 sums in 1 minute (spoken)

A decorative border made of a repeating musical staff pattern with notes, framing the entire page.

WHY DO WE PLAY MUSIC?

Music affects the brain in many positive ways. It makes you smarter, happier and more productive at any age. Listening is good, playing is even better.

I spend a great deal of my time during a school day working with the children and playing instruments. We learn to play together and at other times listen to each other. This is just in lesson time and throughout each week more than 12 groups are offered to the students in the school covering all age groups and instruments we hope. We also have a huge range of individual lessons that are on offer to the children from Q2 onwards depending on the size of the instrument and child.

I am a great exponent of why children should play instruments but don't always have the chance to explain why I feel it is a life skill worth learning. I decided that writing an article for your newsletter might be a good way to share how important it could be to your child.

[‘Musicians Have Better Brains’](#)

[‘Music Can Improve Your Mood’](#)

[‘Music Boosts Brain Chemicals’](#)

[‘Music Helps You Learn’](#)

The accepted theory now is that taking music lessons as a child enhances brain function and structure.

Children with musical training do better in subjects like language, reading, and math and have better fine motor skills than their non-musical classmates.

Early music lessons encourages brain plasticity — the brain’s capacity to change and grow.

And if children don’t stick with their music lessons forever, that’s OK.

There’s evidence that a little bit of music training goes a long way.

Just a half-hour music lesson increases blood flow in the left hemisphere of the brain.

As little as four years of music lessons were found to improve certain brain functions, even when tested 40 years later!

When exposure to music training begins before age seven, the brain enhancement that takes place can last a lifetime.

Kids who sing together in a choir report higher satisfaction in all their classes, not just music.

Music Training Can Significantly Improve Motor and Reasoning Skills

We generally assume that learning a musical instrument can be beneficial for kids, but it's actually useful in more ways than we might expect. One study showed that children who had three years or more musical instrument training performed better than those who didn't learn an instrument in auditory discrimination abilities and fine motor skills

Classical Music Can Improve Visual Attention

It's not just kids that can benefit from musical training or exposure. Stroke patients in one small study showed [improved visual attention](#) while listening to classical music.

Ambient Noise Can Improve Creativity

It turns out that a [moderate noise level](#) is the sweet spot for [creativity](#). Even more than low noise levels, ambient noise apparently gets our creative juices flowing, and doesn't put us off the way high levels of noise do. The way this works is that moderate noise levels increase processing difficulty which promotes abstract processing, leading to higher creativity. In other words, when we struggle (just enough) to process things as we normally would, we resort to more creative approaches.

Music Helps Us Exercise

Research on the effects of music during exercise has been done for years. An American researcher, Leonard Ayres, found that cyclists pedalled faster [while listening to music](#) than they did in silence.

This happens because listening to [music](#) can drown out our brain's cries of fatigue. As our body realizes we're tired and wants to stop exercising, it sends signals to the brain to stop for a break. Listening to music competes for our brain's attention, and can help us to override those signals of fatigue, though this is mostly beneficial for low- and moderate-intensity exercise.

How Music Affects the Brain: The Bottom Line

There's strong evidence that playing a musical instrument or listening to music can positively impact brain health and function. This brain boosting effect is evident at all stages of life. Everyone benefits, from babies to seniors. Music can improve mood, increase intelligence, enhance learning and concentration, and ward off the effects of brain aging. Music therapy can help various mood and brain disorders, including Alzheimer's. No matter your age, it's never too soon or too late to fill your life with music!

This information was taken from

<http://bebrainfit.com/music-affects-brain/>

<http://lifehacker.com/how-music-affects-the-brain-and-how-it-benefits-you-1469597259>

If you are still looking for more information then go to the Quinton House School website and onto the VLE where in Senior School - music you will find an interesting short video. We offer Voice, Violin and Viola, Brass, Cello, Guitar, Drumming and Woodwind lessons within school.

If you would like your child to be involved then please feel free to get in touch at

Joanna.stone@quintonhouseschool.co.uk

Miss J Stone

NURSERY NEWS 30TH SEPTEMBER



We have had yet another brilliant week of learning and exploring. The children have already investigated so much about the different countries and customs. We will continue to look at the world next week along with celebrating 'World Smile Day' on Friday 7th October.

The Nursery children showed how 'grown up' they are when we visited the church on Wednesday for the Harvest Festival assembly. We also said our goodbyes to chef Jess this week who is going on a world adventure. We are looking forward to receiving postcards from the different places Jess visits around the world.



SuperCamps

October Half Term at Super Camps

Super Camps, the UK's no.1 for childcare during the school holidays, will be back during October Half Term. The camps will be packed full of great seasonal activities, as well as the camp favourites. If you need

childcare or just want to treat the children, Super Camps is the place to be at half term!

Camps are open from 8am – 6pm, Monday – Friday.

Super Camps is offering parents a **year-round 10% discount off standard rates.**

Use discount code 'PARENT16' when booking online or over the phone.

Find out more at www.supercamps.co.uk or call **01235 467300.**