



QUEENSWAY VOICE

Inspiring Lifelong Learning

October 2016



HARVEST CELEBRATION



Thank you to all families who joined us for our 'Autumn Soup'. We enjoy this event and believe it is a positive way to make the Harvest celebration a family orientated event. We were delighted that nearly 200 parents, grandparents and other relatives came over the four afternoons. We are also very grateful to

Christine Irvine, our school cook, who stayed behind each afternoon to prepare the soup. This year all the vegetables came from our school allotment and the Fuel for Schools project.



OUTDOOR LEARNING

Our key driver this year is 'Raising Standards by Going Outside'. We are developing the opportunities for the children to use the outdoor learning environment to motivate and inspire their learning.

There are many potential benefits to outdoor learning, including:

- enhanced personal and social communication skills
- increased physical health
- enhanced mental health
- enhanced spiritual, sensory, and aesthetic awareness
- developed self-esteem, take personal responsibility, co-operate with and respect the needs of others;
- extended personal horizons through greater appreciation and understanding of the world and its peoples around them;
- understanding the need for sustainable relationships between people and their environment;
- enhanced practical problem solving and team work skills.

Staff in school have been involved in a training programme looking at how all subjects in the National Curriculum can be delivered through outdoor learning. Last Saturday we had a very inspiring training day at Skelton Grange Environment Centre, picking up lots of new and exciting ideas.



PEARSON TEACHING AWARDS

We are delighted to have received a nomination for the Teaching Awards. The nomination, was submitted by a parent in the form of a 'Thank You' and recognises the dedication of the whole staff team.

"I would like to say a huge thank you to all the staff at Queensway School for being amazing..... (Our daughter) is supported wonderfully by all the staff..... We would like to say thanks to them, the whole school is wonderful and we feel they all deserve recognition for everything they do. THANK YOU from very happy parents!!!!"

Obviously, I am very proud of the staff and fully endorse this praise. I know how hard they work and that we have a team of people who are determined to ensure that your children have the best opportunities possible.

SAFETY WEEK

All our children have been engaged in the first of three theme weeks on safety. We are aiming to deliver a programme of events that teaches our children to keep themselves safe when they are not in school. The topic of this week has been 'Safety on the Streets' and has included: road safety,

scooter safety, Bikeability, stranger danger, internet safety and self-defence.

Two further weeks are planned for later in the year focussing on 'Safety in the Home' and 'Safety on Holiday'.



PARENTS' EVENING

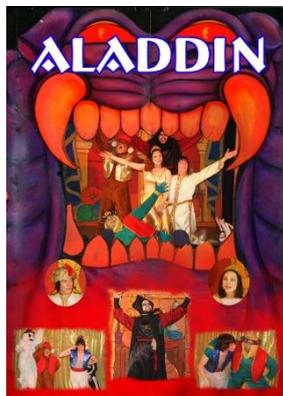
Parents' Evening will be held over two evenings this term; **Wednesday 2nd November from 3.20 to 5pm and Thursday 3rd November from 3.20 to 7pm.** All bookings should be made via the on-line booking system (a letter with details was sent home yesterday).

TERM DATES

The school calendar for 2017/18 will be slightly different to the one published by Leeds City Council for all Leeds Schools. However, the new dates have been proposed by the Aireborough Learning Partnership Trust to ensure all local schools have the same holidays. These dates have already been agreed by Guiseley High School. The main changes are to the Christmas break with school now closing on Wednesday 20th December 2017 and re-opening on Thursday 4th January 2018. All the term dates for 2017/18 are attached to the back of this newsletter.

FAMILY THEATRE @ QUEENSWAY

On **Thursday 10th November**, families are invited to an evening production of 'Aladdin', an all-time classic story brought to life in M&M's fantastic version. Join Aladdin and his best friend, the mischievous yet loveable monkey Abu, as they go from rags to riches with just one rub of an extraordinary lamp. Seating will be available for 80 people with tickets priced at £6 for adults and £3 for children (family ticket – 2 adults and 2 children £15). **All children will need to be accompanied by an adult.** Book early to avoid disappointment as last year was a sell-out.



NEW GOVERNOR

Following our appeal for new Parent Governors, I am pleased to announce that Mr Robert Harrison will be joining the school governing body. Mr Harrison works in finance and has two daughters in school. He has been an active member of the PTA for a number of years and is keen to become more involved in the organisation and governance of school.

We still have one vacancy for a Parent Governor. This is a wonderful opportunity for an interested parent to play an important role in supporting the school and creating the best possible learning environment for the children. You would be a valued member of the Governor team and would be able to share the opinions of parents across the school community. Governors are required to attend seven evening meetings per year (plus any extra-ordinary meetings) and should be willing to attend some school events and support school improvement. For more information you can contact the Chair of the Governing Body, Brian Shaw (b.shaw@queenswayschool.co.uk) or one of our current parent governors, Nick Humphrey (n.humphrey@queenswayschool.co.uk)

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Our School Council for this year has been elected and has already started to fulfil its responsibilities.

Year 6

Gracie Hewitt Chairperson
Sean Gibbs Vice-Chairperson
Chloe Harrison Secretary
Harry White

Year 5

Sophie Larner
James Durkin

Year 4

Evie Ingram
Simon Evans

Year 3

Joseph Nicholson
Jade Mainprize

Year 2

Hayley Snowden
Alexander Vaughan-Gillson

Year 1

Mia Scott-Trewartha
Noah Bassett-Williamson

The whole council met with the Fuel for School project to discuss how they can teach people how to prevent food from being wasted and on 15th November they will be visiting the Junk Food Café in Armley for lunch and to see the project in operation.

Recently the year 6 representatives have attended two events, an on-line safety roadshow in Bradford and the Leeds Youth Voices conference at Leeds Civic Hall.



At the start of November all members will be participating in a workshop about waste and how we can improve our environment.

In classes, the council representatives have been helping their peers to design a new school meal. Once agreed with the catering team at the next School Council meeting, the meals will be trialled at lunchtime. On the day a class's meal is being tried out, all the class will be offered the chance to eat a school meal for free! More details will be sent home soon.

DROP OFF

We are concerned that some children are being left unsupervised on the schools grounds too early in the mornings. **Children should not be on-site without the supervision of an adult any earlier than 8.50am.** The school breakfast club is available every day from 7.45am if required.

GARDEN

On **Saturday 29th October** a group of staff will be in school from **9.30 to 11.30am** to prepare the school allotment for the winter. Any parents who are willing to volunteer their time to help dig and tidy, would be appreciated. Bacon sandwiches will be provided!

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Individual and family group photographs will be taken in school on **Wednesday 3rd November**. Once again, we will be forfeiting any school commission to reduce the cost of the packages available for families to buy.

Unfortunately, we will not be able to include photographs with family members who do not attend school.

NUTRITION PRESENTATION

On **Friday 26th November** we will be hosting a presentation on 'Good Nutrition' delivered by staff from Nuffield Health. There will also be an opportunity for questions. The presentation will run alongside our coffee morning and is designed to support all families. Fresh coffee, tea, biscuits and cakes will be provided free in the school hall from **8.45 to 9.30am**.

LOOK AFTER THE LITTLE ONES

Some families are still using the Foundation Stage gate to enter school. To help the children in our Nursery and Reception classes feel safer, please only use the gate into the Foundation Stage outdoor area if you have a child in either the Nursery or Reception classes.

FRIDAY BREAKFAST

Over 50 children are regularly attending our free Friday breakfast. This is a great opportunity for children to eat a free healthy breakfast and to enjoy some social time with their friends. **All children welcome from 8.15 to 8.35am.**

HEALTHY EATING

We will be reviewing our recently revised packed lunch policy next half term and would welcome any feedback and views from parents. Please jot any you have onto a piece of paper or in an email.

ALWAYS WILLING TO LISTEN

We are always looking for ways to make our school a better place for children and their families and welcome your suggestions, ideas and compliments. I am usually outside the main entrance at the start and the end of the day or you can send me a message to headteacher@queenswayschool.co.uk



Alun Davies
Head Teacher

IMPORTANT DATES

Friday 21st October
School Closes for half term

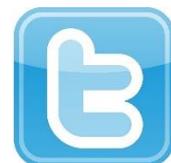
Monday 31st October
School re-opens

Wednesday 2nd November
Individual Photographs

Wednesday 2nd & Thursday 3rd November
Parents' Evenings

Thursday 10th November
Family Theatre Night

Friday 26th November
Coffee morning and Nutrition presentation



Connect with **Queensway Primary School Facebook** or **@QueenswayPS** to keep up to date with events in school.

Queensway School calendar academic year 2017-2018

Holiday	Schools close	Schools open
Summer		Monday 4 September 2017
Autumn mid-term	Friday 20 October 2017	Monday 30 October 2017
Christmas	Wednesday 20 December 2017	Thursday 4 January 2018
Spring mid-term	Friday 9 February 2018	Monday 19 February 2018
Easter	Thursday 29 March 2018	Monday 16 April 2018
May Bank Holiday	Friday 4 May 2018	Tuesday 8 May 2018
Summer mid-term	Friday 25 May 2018	Monday 4 June 2018
Summer	Tuesday 24 July 2018	

Term length

Autumn 73 days

Spring 56 days

Summer 66 days

Total 195 days

Bank Holidays include

Christmas 25 & 26 December 2017

New Year's Day (bank holiday) 1 January 2018

Good Friday 30 March 2018

Easter Monday 2 April 2018

May Day 7 May 2018

Spring Bank 28 May 2018

August 27 August 2018