



# QUEENSWAY VOICE

Inspiring Lifelong Learning

November 2016



## GREAT RESULTS AGAIN!

Our latest results show that children who attend Queensway make good progress in their learning and leave the school with achievements above the national expectations.

In 2016, 90% of children in our Year 6 class achieved the expected standard or above in maths and grammar. These results were only matched by one other school in Aireborough and were 20% higher than the national average. In addition, the number of our children who achieved expected standards in reading, writing and maths combined was also 9% higher than the national average.

We are proud of the success we are achieving at Queensway and want to say a big 'thank you' to our staff, our pupils and you parents for all of your dedication, commitment and hard work. Together we'll continue to make Queensway an innovative and inspirational learning environment for us all.

## MORE REASONS TO SAY 'THANK YOU'!

'Thank you' to everybody who came to our Family Theatre Night. The evening was again a huge success and we received very positive feedback (despite a questionable dance performance by Mrs Pape!). Next year we will be hosting a production of the pantomime Cinderella.

'Thank you' to all the children and families who attended the Christmas Lights switch-on at Yeadon Town Hall on Friday. Like last year, we had the biggest turn out of both children, staff and governors.

'Thank you' to all parents who completed the questionnaires on Parents' evening. We received 133 returns and the responses were very encouraging. A short questionnaire completed by the children on 'Friendship Day' also gave positive feedback. The staff and governors feel proud of what we are achieving at Queensway and are pleased that the children are enjoying their learning.

We were very pleased with the percentage of families who selected 'strongly agree' for many of the statements, demonstrating a significant increase in parent satisfaction over the last three years. 'Thank you' for your support.

Comments and headlines from the questionnaires are displayed below along with this Wordle created from the words the children used to describe school.



98% of our families said their children feel happy and safe at Queensway School.

All the parents who responded think that Queensway School is outward looking and wants to improve.

99% of our families said their children are making good progress at Queensway School.

No question received any less than a 97% positive response.

We also received some lovely comments but only have space to print a few.....

*"This is my son's last year a Queensway and he has developed every year with help and support from the whole Queensway team. I'm confident that he will transfer very nicely to high school with the help of his teachers."*

*"As parents we really appreciate the support we are given and the teachers are always very approachable and accommodating."*

*"My child is very happy to come to school, she has a good relationship with her peers and staff. Staff respond well to my daughter's worries and concerns, helping her gain confidence and a positive attitude."*

*"My child loves to attend Queensway and in the few months he has been here we have seen a big improvement in his development and confidence."*

*"Very happy how well my son has settled at Nursery. I definitely want him to attend this school for Reception and primary school."*

*"Very pleased with the school and the progress my child has made."*

## TAKEOVER CHALLENGE

On Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November, a group of our Year 6 children took control of the school. Throughout the day they shadowed staff and copied their roles and responsibilities. It was a fantastic example of how confident our children are and their willingness to challenge themselves. It also served as a wonderful opportunity for raising aspirations and learning new skills.



## SCHOOL COUNCIL

Earlier in the month, the School Council visited the Junk-tion Café in Armley to learn how the Junk Food Project supports people in the community through the 'Pay as you feel' scheme. Next week, some of the older council members will join children from three other primary schools to run a pop-up 'PAYF' Toastie Shop in the St John's Centre in Leeds. Our children will be running the shop on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December (10.30am to 2.30pm) and helping on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December.



Later in the school year, the School Council is going to use its new knowledge and skills to organise a pop-up café and bistro in school. Keep an eye out for more details in the New Year.

## RUGBY

Our school rugby team played its first set of matches last week. Children from Years 5 and 6 travelled to Roundhay for games against Kerr Mackie Primary School and West End Primary School. The players put on pleasing performances for their first outing, Ronnie Bland, Evie Cousins and Harrison Giles stood out as the team won one game and lost the other.

## HEALTHY EATING

Last week we sent home a letter requesting feedback on the recent changes to how we promote healthy eating in school and for any ideas of changes we could consider in the future. We look forward to reading your responses.

## MRS PROCTOR'S NEW CHALLENGE

Mrs Proctor will be leaving Queensway at the end of this term to start a new role as Deputy Head Teacher at St Philips' CE Primary Academy in Bradford. She is sad to be leaving Queensway but this will be an exciting challenge and a good career development opportunity. I am sure you will all wish her well for the next stage of her teaching career. Mrs Anwen Gair has been appointed to cover Mrs Proctor's teaching commitment in Year 2. Anwen has been a Phase Leader at Richmond Hill Primary School for nine years and will be bringing a wealth of experience and some new ideas to the teaching team.



## MORE GOODBYES

We will also be saying goodbye to Mrs Baldwin and Miss Childs in December. Mrs Baldwin is taking a well-earned retirement after twenty four years at Queensway. She is looking forward to daytime Yoga, walking the dog and spending more time with her husband, Dave, who also retired last month. At the opposite end of the career spectrum, Miss Childs is returning to university to continue her teacher training qualification having gained experience during the last nine months at Queensway. Exciting times lie ahead for both of them and we wish them good luck.



## CONGRATILATIONS CHRISTINE

Our school cook, Christine Irvine, was recently voted number one in Leeds. Christine received the award at the Catering Leeds awards ceremony held at the Civic Hall two weeks ago. This is great news for school and the children as we continue our drive to create a good food culture across school.



## CHRISTMAS CONCERTS

Letters inviting ticket requests for the Christmas productions will be sent home this week. Tickets will be available to book on-line or at the school office. **Only 80 tickets will be issued for each performance**, this is in-line with our most recent fire safety inspection. The dates of all the Christmas events are listed at the end of this newsletter.

## SANTA DAY

On **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December** we will be welcoming Father Christmas to Queensway. He will be with us for the day and children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will have an opportunity to visit him in his grotto. All children who visit Santa will also receive a small selection box. If you would like your child to visit Santa, please complete the slip sent home last week and return with £1 to your child's class teacher **no later than Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December**.



## SPECIAL PERFORMANCES

Two groups of children from Queensway will be making special performances at Leeds Town Hall next week. On Tuesday, eight members of the school choir will perform at the LMSA Annual Carol Concert and on Wednesday, a group of children will form the Nativity tableaux for the YAMSEN Christmas Carol Concert. Many



proud staff and parents will be attending to support the children. We would also like to thank one of the school governors, Anne Cook, who has prepared the choir for the LMSA concert.

## FAMILY CAROL CONCERT

Our school and community Christmas Carol Concert will be held on **Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December at St Oswald's Church in Guiseley**. The event starts at 6pm and all families and friends are invited to join us for a mixture of traditional carols, Christmas music and readings. This year, all children in Key Stage two will be leading the concert and we look forward to filling the church once more.

## CHRISTMAS CRAFTS

On **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December** we will host our Christmas Craft Sale in the school hall. All the crafts will be made and sold by the children. All items will be £1 or less.

Parents are also invited to attend the sale with their child/children at the following times;

- 2.00 Nursery & Reception
- 2.15 Years 1 & 2
- 2.30 Years 3 & 4
- 2.45 Years 5 & 6

If you would like your child to visit the sale but cannot attend yourself, you can send your child with some money on the day but **no more than £2 please**.

## NURSERY CLOSED

The Nursery will remain closed for an extra day in January to allow the staff to make home visits for the new starters. The Nursery will re-open on **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2017**.

**School re-opens on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2017 for all other classes.**

## CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

As part of our Christmas celebrations, and to raise money for St Gemma's Hospice, the children are invited to wear a Christmas jumper (or Christmas accessory) on **Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December** – the same day as the Christmas lunch. The children should wear their normal school t-shirt and trousers or skirt with their Christmas jumper on top. The staff will also be joining the fun! If willing, please send £1 on the day for our donation to ST Gemma's, who help to care for terminally ill people in the Leeds area.



We hope as many families as possible will join us over the coming weeks for our very busy Christmas programme of events. It is an exciting time for the children, made even more special when they share the celebrations with their family and friends.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Alun Davies'.

Alun Davies  
Head Teacher



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

# This term in pictures.....

## IMPORTANT DATES

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December

Christmas Craft Fair (2.00 – 3.00pm)

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December

Santa Day

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December

Leeds Town Hall Carol Concert (choir)

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December

YAMSEN Town Hall Carol Concert

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December

Foundation Stage Performance (2pm)

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December

Foundation Stage Performance (10am)

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December

Key Stage 1 Performance (2pm)

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December

Christmas Jumper Day

Key Stage 1 Performance (10am)

Christmas Lunch

Family Carol Concert at St Oswald's Church  
(6pm)

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December

Foundation Stage and Years 1 & 2 Parties

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December

Key Stage 2 Parties

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December

School closes for Christmas break

(re-opens on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2017)

