

Talbot Primary School Newsletter



Thursday 25th October, 2018



Library Launch

Last week we were finally able to unveil the newly renovated libraries to children, parents, carers and grandparents! Mrs Liddington, with the support of staff and some noble parent volunteers ensured that the launch was a success and celebrated 'all things reading' in school. We had quizzes, storytelling and reenactments to mark the occasion. Our former School Business Manager, Mrs Alvin joined Mrs Sweet, Mrs Liddington, myself and a group of children to officially open the libraries in both buildings with due pomp and circumstance.

Mrs Liddington is currently compiling a special newsletter on our libraries, to share and outline with parents and carers, the legacy we aim to create with their renovation. Of course, no such project would have been achievable had it not been for the extremely generous donations from the PTA. Chaired by Mrs Sweet, the PTA has fund-raised a phenomenal amount of money over a number of years to support the school – thank you to all those concerned and all those who have donated to the school. It is sincerely appreciated and, as you have seen, already is making an impact on our children.

This Month's Message From Our Digital Ambassadors (Year 5 and 6 Children Supporting Better Online Safety Practice):

'Don't play games that have an age restriction that is higher than your age'



I think we can hardly believe that the holidays are already upon us as parent/carer consultations conclude this week, bringing an end to another busy half-term here at Talbot. September began very well for all those connected with the school. We received a letter of recognition from the Head of Learning Improvement at the Local Authority, congratulating Talbot on its outcomes across the school. The letter states: *'The Learning Improvement team has been carrying out data analysis and review of outcomes for Early Years, KS1 and KS2 including closing the gap for disadvantaged learners. Initial analysis of attainment and progress at Talbot indicates that you have outcomes significantly above national in reading, writing and mathematics combined.'* The LA also offered their *'Congratulations to the whole team for their dedication and hard work which is positively affecting outcomes and will improve the life chances of all these children.'* Such outcomes are a testament to the collective efforts of the team here at Talbot, but also implicitly recognises that our home/school relationships are integral to this success. We will continue to work hard to do our very best for every child at our school.

We hope the consultations this week have been beneficial in ensuring you are well informed as to how your child(ren) have settled into their new year group and have progressed with their learning. All staff take great pride in providing a holistic view of the children's progress, and fundamentally appreciate the strong culture of two communications between home and school. As always, please do not hesitate to get in touch with your child's class teacher or phase leader (Early Years: Mrs Callaghan, Key Stage One: Mrs Liddington, Lower Key Stage Two: Mr Youdan and Upper Key Stage Two: Mr Middleton) if you have any questions or queries. Alternatively, myself and Mr Rivers are also available before or after school, or via the office for any specific queries.

You will have seen, during your appointments this week (and via Parent Mail), that we are consulting parents, children and staff on our Homework Policy via a questionnaire. Thank you to those parents and carers who have already completed the questionnaire. If you haven't managed to complete it thus far, the deadline for completed questionnaires is **Friday 16th November**. Completed copies can be sent in to your child's teacher or directly to the main office. Analysis and outcomes will be published in due course.

It is always a pleasure to end the newsletter with a 'thank you'. This month it is in regards to your support in encouraging the children to play sensibly before and after school; to respect our no bikes, no scooters, no unsupervised play and no ball games rules. This is a Health and Safety measure and ensures we minimise risks and safeguard children as best we can at all times.

I would also like to say thank you on behalf of PAFRAS (Positive Action for Refugees and Asylum Seekers), for the very generous donations received as part of the Harvest Festival celebrations earlier this month. The donations were a 'bumper harvest' for this organisation that does critical work for the local community.

I hope you have a restful half-term break and look forward to seeing you all on **Monday 5th November**.

Regards,
Mrs Parm Gill, Headteacher

Additional Information

Sports Summary Report

Welcome to the first of our half-termly Sports summary reports from Miss Ward and Miss Gilbert. We hope this provides an ongoing overview of our sporting achievements in school and in inter-school competitions.

The Autumn term has provided children at Talbot with some really fantastic opportunities in sport. The Year 3's started September with a trip to **Herd Farm** where they had the opportunity to take part in outdoor and adventurous activities. Children soared to the top of climbing towers, swung to new heights on the giant swing, battled it out on the obstacle course and got their steps in when orienteering.

Friday 28th September was a special day as we welcomed two professional athletes, **Lucy Hall (a triathlete)** and **Katherine Torrence (a diver)** to school. The children enjoyed learning about their experiences in their sports and how they worked hard and reached the top to win medals for Great Britain. The children thoroughly enjoyed the assemblies led by Lucy and Katherine and were subsequently put through their paces in the workout sessions ran by the athletes. Through the sponsorship for this event we managed to raise an incredible **£1,704.29** – thank you so much for your efforts. This money will go to support the athletes on their journey to the Tokyo Olympics and the school in purchasing additional sports equipment.

The first competition of the year saw some of the Year 1 and 2 children going to Roundhay High School to take part in the '**Rainbow Club**'. The children took part in various activities against other schools in North East Leeds. They bounced, skipped, ran and hurdled, showing off their fantastic skills and smiled all the way through! Similar smiles were on show, as we started the first of our **Key Stage Two half-termly football games**. Watch this space for further details in the next half-termly newsletter.

Please do take a look at the website: www.talbot.leeds.sch.uk for some of the pictures from these and more events.



The Rainbow Club at Roundhay



Year 3 children at Herd Farm



Meeting a medallist!
(left and right!)