



# Sedbergh Primary School



*'Excellence in the heart of the community'*

**School Newsletter – Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2017**

So, my first year as your Headteacher draws to a close...and what a year it has been! I thought I might just jot down some of my highlights from this year. I'm sure in conversation with your children you'll think of many more memorable moments from this year that aren't listed below but that is an indication of just how rich and broad life at Sedbergh Primary School is for all of us! Please do catch me before the term ends to talk about your highlights.

Thank you for all your support, working in partnership with us to achieve the very best for your children. Please do have a relaxing summer, and help your child to recharge their batteries ready for the next school year. Also, please remember that over the summer it is important that children continue to read and practice key number facts, like times tables, so that they will hit the ground running when the new term begins. All the best for a beautiful August!

- ✓ Ofsted – 'an inclusive, welcoming school where the achievement of pupils comes first and teaching and learning are enjoyable and purposeful.' – September 2016
- ✓ *Harvest Assembly - a wonderful celebration with all our classes performing.*
- ✓ *Remembrance Assembly - a sombre yet very special moment in the school's year.*
- ✓ **Christmas Enterprise Fair – 'sell, sell, sell'; hard work, creativity and business acumen all rolled into one.**
- ✓ *Christmas Concerts and Performances – magic!*
- ✓ *Year 3 Brewery Dance – amazing talent and energy on display and a performance in a professional venue.*
- ✓ *Science and Wildlife Garden – it's nearly finished; many thanks to Rob, Martyn, Pepy and Steve.*
- ✓ *Spring Concert – Y2 Ocarinas; so much musical talent on display from right across the school.*
- ✓ *50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations – a wonderful gathering of friends old and new.*
- ✓ *Windermere Outdoor Days – fun and adventure on the open water, well done to all.*
- ✓ *Y6 London Visit - Tim Farron, dinosaurs, landmarks, Lions and laughter!*
- ✓ **Y4 York Visit – trains, Romans, Vikings but not much sleep!**
- ✓ *Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies – 'fantastic, fantastic, fantastic!'*
- ✓ **National assessment outcomes – well done to all children in the school for your hard work in class. We have an excellent set of learning outcomes from national tests (see our website for more).**
- ✓ *Sedbergh Sports - a special evening; thanks to Howgill Harriers, Sedbergh PTFa and all at Buckbank Farm.*



As the term ends, we say goodbye to **Hannah Messenger**. Hannah has worked in Reception since September covering Jayne Jones' maternity leave. The children in Reception have had a brilliant year with Hannah, she has worked so hard to engage and inspire our youngest children and they have done incredibly well, securing excellent achievement and success. Many thanks to Hannah for all her efforts, we wish her every success in the future.

From September, we will see a new face in school. **Thomas Young** is completing a Level 2 apprenticeship course (based at Kendal College) and will be working with the Key Stage 1 team to support the children in Years 1, 2 and sometimes Year 3. I'm sure you'll all join me in making Thomas feel very welcome at Sedbergh Primary School.

**Governor Updates** - I am sad to say that this summer the school has lost some key members of the Governing Body who have served the school with dedication and determination over the last few years. **Sophie Lawson**, **Nicola Jermy** and **Andy Newbold** leave the Governing Body in July. All have provided excellent leadership and support to the school; their positivity, expertise and hard work will be sorely missed. In addition, both **Ed Cullen** and **Helen Wilberforce** have left the Governing Body in recent months. Many thanks to them for their hard work in support of the school.

I can announce the appointment of **Darren Mitchell-Whiteside** to our parent governor post. I know that Darren brings lots of local expertise and experience to our team. We also welcome **Pat Tunna** to the governing body as a Local Authority appointed governor. Pat also sits on the Governing Body of Settlebeck School. I know that Pat will be an important means by which we can further strengthen our links with Settlebeck.

Our school still needs to find 2 co-opted governors (people with specific skills who can use these to support the school – think finance or health and safety). If you, or someone you know, is in a position to support the running of our school please do contact me in September for a chat about this.

**NEWSFLASH** – From September, school meal charges will increase by 5p a meal to £2.35. This makes a weekly total of £11.75.



**Sedbergh Primary School PTFA**

Thank you so much to all of the PTFA team and all of you who have contributed to and supported school fundraising events over the past year. School has produced a pamphlet all about our PTFA and the wonderful work they do in making a difference for the children at Sedbergh Primary School (available in the foyer or from the school office).



I will remind you all again, that any help you can offer is always appreciated by the school. We need more PTFA committee members and still rely on offers of help for events during the year. We'll always text when we need your help but please do make yourself known to Gemma Suttle ([PTFA@sedbergh-pri.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:PTFA@sedbergh-pri.cumbria.sch.uk)) if you want to get stuck in!

Can I also extend a massive thank you to all the local business, organisations and clubs who support our school through donations and contributions. There are too many to name here but I want you to know that your support makes a big difference for our children and is really appreciated.



**Meet the Teacher** - In early September (see the dates below), all parents will have the opportunity to attend a group meeting with their child's new class teacher. The aim of these meetings is to outline and explain life in the school for the coming year – topics, projects, trips and special events. Also, we want to explain how you can help to support your child's learning journey with activities at home and our expectations for home learning.

**Reminder – absence reporting**

Please remember, if your child is going to be absent from school it is your responsibility to contact school before 9.30am to let us know. Recently, there have been reports in the press of children going missing and this only being discovered at 3.30pm when the child hasn't returned from school. We do our best to find out the whereabouts of absent children but this is made much easier if you let us know directly. Thank you for your help in this – the safety of your children is our biggest concern.



*Thank you to the teachers and parents who joined us for our last 'Grounds Day' in early July. The 'Science and Wildlife Garden' is really starting to look very good.*

*In September, when most of the planting work is complete, we are planning to hold an opening event, where the whole school community can get together and celebrate what has been achieved.*

**Diary Dates**

20/7/17	Year 6 Leavers' Assembly at 10.00am
<b>20/7/17</b>	<b>School breaks up at 2pm for the Summer Break</b>
1/9/17	Teachers in school for staff training
<b>4/9/17</b>	<b>Children return to school for the 2017/2018 Academic Year</b>
11/9/17	Nursery children start in Early Years Foundation Stage
13/9/17	Meet the teacher for; Year 1 – 3.30pm Year 3 – 4.00pm Year 5 – 4.30pm
14/9/17	Meet the teacher for; Year 2 – 3.30pm Year 4 – 4.00pm Year 6 – 4.30pm
14/9/17	Year 6 Visit to the Westmorland Show

Please regularly visit our school website [www.sedberghprimary.org](http://www.sedberghprimary.org) for further updates.