



Ancaster
Church of England Primary School

Newsletter 16

26th May 2017



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Dear Parents, Carers and members of the community, welcome to Newsletter 16-we hope this communication finds you well. Another half term has flown by in a flurry of activity which you will see in just a few highlights of the term shown in the photo story below. All the children have worked extremely hard and really deserve this half-term break in preparation for what will undoubtedly be a busy Summer Term 6 with much to look forward to. Let's hope this amazing weather lasts. We hope you all have a fantastic holiday and look forward to welcoming you all back in Term 6! Best Wishes, *Mr Sam Eden (Headteacher) & Mrs Clare Talbot (Deputy Headteacher)*

Term 5 - A Photo Story!



Choir sing for the Bishop * Gardening Club Creations * African Drumming



Rounders clean sweep * Wonderful worships * Hindu Mask Making



New Books Excitement * Station Garden Blooming * Y6 Cathedral Day



Amazing Art * WOW Days * AQT Singing Event



Shona McCallin MBE

As a school, we organise visits from as many different types of people and occupations as possible, to broaden our pupils' experiences and exposure to the wider world. Last week, we welcomed British hockey star Shona McCallin MBE to our school as part of our work with inspire+.

Shona began playing hockey at the age of six and has since found herself on a rapid ascent through the ranks of elite international players. In 2007 Shona made her International debut on England's U16 squad, in what would be the first of a remarkable 85 junior international caps. She has now blossomed into a senior level international.

She lives and trains full-time with the English national team just outside of London. She achieved her 50th combined international appearance for Great Britain and England during the Rio Olympic Final, a historic night for Great Britain Hockey. The team created history and won Great Britain's first ever Olympic Gold medal in women's hockey with over 9 million people watching on BBC 1.

During this visit Shona talked to the children about focusing on their goals in order to achieve their dreams and aspirations. It was another super visit which inspired the children and opened their eyes to the possibilities of the future.



Diary Dates:

Term 6 begins: **Monday 5th June**
 Y4 Church Schools ' Festival: **Tuesday 13th June**
 New EYFS Parents Meeting: **Monday 3rd July 4.30pm**
 End of Year Reports to Parents: **Thursday 6th July**
 Sports Day & Summer Fayre: **Friday 7th July**
 Move-up Morning & New EYFS Teddy Bears' Picnic:
Tuesday 11th July
 Class South Africa's Play performed to Parents:
Thursday 13th July 6pm
 Year 6 Leavers' Party: **Friday 14th July**
 Year 6 Bike ride & Picnic @ Woody's: **Tuesday 18th July**
 End of Term 6: **Wednesday 19th July**



Our wonderful Parents, Teachers and Friends Association work hard to raise money for projects in school and provide enjoyable social events for children and their families throughout the year. In order for this great work to continue we always welcome more members, with new creative ideas and the energy to continue to evolve what we do.

Being a member of the PTFA is both fun and rewarding, if you are interested in becoming a member and supporting the wider work of our school community, we would love to hear from you. Please contact our Chair of PTFA: Mrs Kirsty McGauley ancaster.ptfa@gmail.com

Attendance Update



Please also be reminded that we are still unable to authorise holiday requests. These types of requests are not deemed to be an exceptional circumstance and any holiday will be recorded as unauthorised unless you are informed differently. The number of requests for holiday are beginning to creep up, particularly as it has been highlighted in the media recently. Our official stance on holidays must echo that of the

Department for Education who state that children have a statutory entitlement to 190 days of education and therefore the academic calendar leaves plenty of opportunities for holidays when the children are not at school.

Parents should be aware that if we are not informed of the absence, and we have reason to suspect that the absence is a holiday, we will be given no choice but to unauthorise the absence.



AQT Singing Event

Yesterday we joined with 3 other schools, from our AQT partnership, for our first ever Year 3/4 'Singing Spectacular'. The children spent the afternoon rehearsing a collaborative song, their own performance song and learning a new song and warm-up as well as enjoying mixing with their peers from other schools in some much needed playtime in between the singing.

Despite the temperature in our hall, we were packed to the rafters with parents from all schools that came to watch the culmination of the afternoon in an informal concert. It was a fabulous afternoon, enjoyed by all – thank you to all the support and great comments we received from parents.