

# Leeming RAF Primary School Newsletter



July 2018

Dear All,

Well, the days have ticked by, the sun has been shining, the leavers have left, and the tears have been shed (truly!)... this can only mean one thing – the end to another year at Leeming. The summer term is always a rather strange mix of tremendous busyness and a relentless march to the finish line – but we have finally arrived at the holidays. The staff are not looking quite as fresh as we were at the start of the year (!), but we have made it!

Before I get to the details of the events and news from the last month however, I must pause for a moment to celebrate, and congratulate, our Year 6 pupils for an **amazing set of SATs results**. They have worked so hard all year, and have achieved superbly. The results are the best we have had in 3 years – ever since the introduction of the new tests, our standards have gone up and up and exceed the national average in all subjects. This is a huge achievement – and is testimony to the huge amount of hard work and commitment shown by the children, not to mention the skilful hours of effort on the part of the staff. We are so proud of them – and my thanks to all the parents who supported them during their preparations too.

We're not a school to 'take it easy' at the end of the year and we've packed July just as full of exciting opportunities for the pupils as every other month in the year. The month started with a brilliant Key Stage 2 Sports Day in which our children ran, jumped and clambered their way through the various activities and races to show off their athletic prowess! Well done to all.

We also took part in our local cluster schools' musical performance at the Forum in Northallerton; our school choir (ably led by Mrs. Gatrill) did a fantastic job of retelling the story of David the Giant Killer, including some fantastic solo performances and readings. It was interesting to note that the Leeming parents were the most 'boisterous' audience members – great to see (and hear!) such vocal pride in our school!

The Reception pupils had a great visit to Foxglove Covert nature reserve, pond dipping, finding mini-beasts, and generally getting 'back to nature'! Many thanks to all the parent volunteers who supported the trip.

Then followed the EYFS and Key Stage 1 Sports Day – hot on the heels of the English football team's disappointment the night before, the 'England' team at the Leeming Sports romped to victory and redeemed our nation's honour! Thanks to all parents who attended sports days – it was great to see so many of you there, I hope you enjoyed them. Staying with the sporting theme, we enjoyed a brilliant day of Fencing; a professional fencing coach came in and trained our children; the 'en-gardes' were ringing around the school, and I'm sure we have a few budding duellists in our ranks! We have also had the (hugely anticipated and highly competitive) girls vs. boys football contest – brilliantly played by all!

Last week also saw our Year 6s and Year 5s take to the stage to put on a brilliant summer play – A-lad-in Trouble featured the best of the pantomime genre: a naughty dame, laughing policemen, an evil villain, a cheeky sidekick, adventure, romance and even the occasional reference to the headteacher's "bloomers...". Thoroughly entertaining, brilliantly acted (and sung) and a great production – well done to everyone involved!



**Holiday Homework** – a real plea from us regarding the holidays; all too often, children spend the 6 weeks forgetting all the things they've been learning in school! Please try to keep their brains sparking through the holidays – practise times tables or number bonds, write a holiday diary or the occasional story, and, most importantly, please read with your children every day if at all possible. You don't have to follow school books: use comics, novels, newspapers, web-pages – whatever the children are interested in. Get them to read to you, and read stories to them – the development of vocabulary and reading is one of the most important skills – please keep this going over the summer. The Bedale Library is also offering a **Summer Reading Challenge**, so the children can enjoy a wide variety of material through the library too.

**New Arrivals** – the new term will see the arrival a lot of new pupils, either in the form of Reception starters or pupils posted here over the holidays. However, we also pass on our congratulations to Mrs. Holland who is expecting her own 'new arrival' next year – she will be heading off on maternity leave in December and aims to return at the end of May. We look forward to meeting the newest member of the (extended) Leeming family!

**And Finally...**

As we draw the year to its end, I wanted to take a moment to reflect and thank you all for your continued support of the school. It is a privilege to serve as headteacher in a school with such fantastic children, a dedicated and talented staff team, committed governors and lovely families. I look forward to all that 2018-19 holds – farewell to all who are moving to pastures new, and to those who are returning – I look forward to welcoming you all back after the holidays.

Best regards,

Rob Campbell  
Headteacher

