

# Ravensworth CE Primary School Newsletter



Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2014

Dear all,

I'm writing this with a somewhat desultory air, sitting in the office and wishing I'd been able to join the Green Beans and Blue Smurfs on their trip to Fountains Abbey... I am sure they'll be having an amazing time, and I look forward to updating you all on their adventures next week. What's more, the sun has just come out!

**Handwriting** - We are really working on introducing cursive script early in Year 1; ensuring that letters all have the 'flicks' and are formed correctly so that children can be encouraged to join from a very early age. Much research has been done on this, and the outcomes suggest that introducing joined script early in the school career helps with spelling, word recognition, sentence building and grammar (in addition to making it easier to develop fluent and neat presentation in later years). The attached sheet models how we will be encouraging all pupils from Year 1 upwards to form their letters when we explicitly teach handwriting. I hope this is helpful for you when working with your children at home.

**Reading Records** – hopefully you'll all now have seen the new reading records that we've developed and given out (Red Dragons have got theirs today). We have talked with the pupils at length about how these could be used, and there is a fairly comprehensive letter to parents in the front that I would draw your attention to. Some parents have already asked whether a child needs to be filling this in themselves – that's not necessary (although older pupils may wish to!) – it's fine for a parent / sibling etc. to do the writing. Please see the front two pages of the record for details, or by all means drop me an email if you want something clarified. Enjoy reading!

## **Dates for the Diary:**

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October – 1pm Fire Safety Talk for KS1 and 2  
Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October – 3:10pm Football Club  
Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October – 3:10pm Messy Church!  
Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October – 3:10pm – Football Club  
Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October – 5pm-7pm – Parents' Evening  
Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October – 3pm-5pm – Parents' Evening  
Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October – 1pm – Harvest Festival  
Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October – 3:10pm – break up for half term holidays

## **And Finally...**

Our hens are busy laying and there is usually a bowl of eggs in the staff room. We're operating a donations system, so if you drop your children off in a morning and fancy some freshly laid eggs, please do pop in and leave a bit of money in the golden box!

Every blessing,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rob Campbell'.

Rob Campbell