



Issue 02 – 1st October 2021

Dear Parents/Carers.

The whole staff team are very impressed with the positive attitude to learning displayed by all our pupils and the way they are settling into their groups. We are also extremely proud of the way our pupils are coping with their baseline assessments. Many have completed theirs already; we have one or two groups to mop up next week and then a final online test for everyone to do which gives us detailed information about gaps in word building skills/spelling. To those of you who have supported us by reassuring your child regarding these tests at home, thank you.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

On Monday 27th September we celebrated our Harvest Festival with a food collection for the Southampton City Mission Basics Bank. Can we please extend the warmest of thanks to all our school families for their generous and thoughtful donations. As you can see from the photograph, we managed to collect a lovely mountain of goods which will go to our chosen food bank to be given out into the community. The Harvest Festival was part of a larger focus on food banks and caring for our communities whilst also breaking down some myths and stereotypes. The students participated wonderfully and it was so heart-warming to see the levels of empathy and compassion displayed by this new generation of children.



LENGTH OF YARROW HEIGHTS SCHOOL DAY

We listen carefully to feedback from our pupils and one thing which several of them have raised is that they find our day rather long. We carried out a survey which our School Council discussed last Friday and the results are included with this newsletter. We would also be very grateful for parental feedback – your own thoughts and those which have been relayed to you by your child. We have included a questionnaire for you to complete so that we hear your feedback. Please return this to reception@yarrowheights.com.

AUTUMN WEATHER

There is an autumn chill in the air and we've had some rain on a couple of occasions. When the weather is rainy, we switch from using our beautiful MUGA (multi-use games area) to a choice of indoor sports in the hall (typically badminton or table tennis) or colouring/relaxation in The Hub at breaks and lunch times. Please send your child to school with a coat and a school jumper or cardigan, all clearly labelled, ready for wet and windy arrivals and departures.





SOCIAL MEDIA

We are aware that some of our pupils are chatting to others online during the evenings and weekends. We're delighted that friendships are forming; however, interactions on social media can become difficult for many children to interpret or manage and sometimes this spills over into school and the classroom, in a negative way. A leaflet is attached which gives guidance for parents on monitoring their child's activity online.

Hope you have a restful and enjoyable weekend.

Jane Straw

Head of Education

