

## Strawberry Teas

**Thursday 23rd May**

**Doors open at 1-15pm**

**Performances from 2-00pm**

Each class will be singing and dancing to keep you entertained. There'll be individual performances and a whole-school finale.

Please come along and support the children.

Admission is free and refreshments are generously provided by the PTFA

If the weather is dry, the school field will be open for parking. Thanks.

**School closes  
next Friday  
24th May  
(normal time)**

**School reopens  
Monday  
3rd June  
8-55am  
(Breakfast Club from 8-00am)**

### Hay Fever

At this time of year quite a few children may suffer from Hay Fever. If your child does suffer, please do not send tablets into school for staff to administer. Please give your child a whole-day hay fever tablet before they come to school. This is much more effective.



### Asthma

Children who suffer from asthma should always keep an inhaler with them. It is important that school has a 2nd inhaler, just in case of an emergency.

Please check the use by date on your inhalers.

**Staff will not administer any medicine unless parents have completed a fresh "Permission to Administer Medicines" form and returned this to school. Thank you.**

These can be found outside the office.

**If your child's medical information has changed since you last completed a form, please let us know so that we can amend our records. This is IMPORTANT. Thanks**

# **Halsall St Cuthbert's C.E. Primary School**

## **SUMMER NEWSLETTER**

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### Holidays During Test Week

Sorry for having to moan, but at present we have lots of children who will be absent during the last week of this half-term. This will cause QUITE A FEW problems in school. This is the time that the teachers administer the annual tests for each year group in order to gauge individual pupil progress.

When children are absent, they miss the designated tests days.

Sometimes all their tests have to be squeezed into one day because school has not been informed about the absence early enough. Children will often perform less well if this is the case, as they are not relaxed, their preparation is poor and they do not have the right test environment.

Children also miss the opportunity to work through the papers with staff, analyse their answers and learn from their mistakes. They miss out!

A child's performance in the tests is the basis of how we make decisions when year groups are split. If children's tests are disrupted and they perform poorly, they will be at a disadvantage.

Having to administer tests for children because they will be away on holiday during the test period is inconvenient. It creates extra work for staff and has an impact upon all the children in the class as teaching assistants are then not available to provide normal classroom support. This seems unfair.

The absent children also miss important lessons and learning.

Please consider the impact of these avoidable absences. Thankyou.

### Comment on Social Media

It has been brought to the attention of governors and staff that negative comments about Halsall St Cuthbert's have recently been posted on social media. The school actually prides itself on being a very inclusive school. It has a very high ratio of teaching assistants (2 in every class) in order to offer quality support to pupils of all abilities and all needs.

Additional support often takes the form of structured intervention, small group work and bespoke programmes of study including one to one tuition where appropriate.

The school has high expectations and this coupled with strong encouragement and consistent, parental support with homework, leads to outstanding attainment year after year. Thanks for your continued support.

### Year 4 PGL

The Year 4 group went to Boreatton Park in Shropshire last weekend and had a brilliant time canoeing on a river, completing an assault course, testing their nerve on a high-ropes course, driving quad bikes, etc. They really gave it a go and pushed themselves! Thanks to Mrs Kendal, Miss Hampson, Mrs King and Mrs Neale for looking after the children and giving up time with their family and friends, to provide this wonderful life-skill opportunity. The children are now busy writing reports about their adventures. These will be on-display in school soon and there will be photos on the website.

### Iceland Expedition

Mr Andrew Bedwell is now well on his way heading north to Iceland.

The train and carriages that this sponsored event is raising money towards, have proved a big hit with the children especially key stage 1. The infants love it for their role-play and it's just such a nice place to sit and have a chat. If you want to follow his progress, go to his Facebook page '[arb offshore sailing](#)'



### Year 6 SATS

The year 6 children completed their national SATS this week and hopefully they've all done their very best. It's always quite a stressful time for the children but now it's all over they can relax. They've a Viking Day at Tatton Park to look forward to on Monday and lots of exciting and creative activities over the next half-term. Well done to them all. We'll get the results in early July.

### Thankyou

A big thankyou to anyone who sent in a card or gift following the PGL holidays, to show their appreciation to the staff who supervised the children. Lots of staff were involved and it's nice for them to receive the acknowledgement. Thanks again.

