



# HOWLEY GRANGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

## News Update September 2010

01384 818395

[www.howleygrange.co.uk](http://www.howleygrange.co.uk)



Dear Parents

I hope that you had a wonderful summer and that you are as delighted as I am in the calm and sensible manner in which the children have returned to Howley Grange. You will remember that at the end of last summer, weather and events were against us and we were unable to hold a Sports Day yet again at the time when we normally would. We were hoping that as so often happens the weather would be glorious when we came back in September with the intention of holding a sports event right at the beginning of term. You will probably remember that during the first week it rained so much that the children rarely went outside at break time. I am now hoping to try to organise a sports 'round robin' of events for Years 3 - 6 on Friday 1st October at 1.45pm. This will be a rather different event where children will be far more heavily involved in lots of activities other than just races. If you are able to join us for that afternoon and walk around amongst the activities you would be very welcome.

I was informed last week of the final details of the 'Big Draw' project which is taking place in conjunction with St Peter's Church, and culminates in a service here at school for Years 1 & 2 at 9.15 on 15th October and at 2.00pm at St Peter's Church, Hiplands Road, on the same day for Yrs 3, 4, 5 & 6 with children walking to the church during the afternoon and then returning to school by 3.15pm. Parents would be very welcome to join us at both of these events and of course you would be more than welcome to collect your child from St Peter's at the end of the service at 2.30pm.

Martin James, Headteacher

### September 2010

We are holding two Open Days for parents and children interested in applying for a place in our Reception classes for next September:

- Thursday 14 October 1.30 - 3.00pm
- Thursday 21 October 9.30 - 11.00am

Application forms for places and information booklets for parents living in Dudley Local Authority are now available from the School Office. Applications must be made to your home Local Authority by **17 January 2011**.

### Macmillan Coffee Morning

On **Friday 24 September** from 9.00am we will be holding a coffee morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support to which all parents are invited. We will be serving tea, coffee and cakes supplied by the school kitchen, but if you are able to send any cakes or biscuits (especially homemade ones!) to school for this worthwhile event they would be gratefully received. We hope you will be able to join us.

### Free School Meals

To claim free school meals you need to receive Child Benefit and either:

- Income Support
- Job Seekers Allowance (income based)
- Pension Credit Guaranteed
- Child Tax Credit (not Working Tax Credit) and a limited annual gross income as assessed by Inland Revenue
- OR, you are an Asylum Seeker with Home Office papers stating your NASS reference number.

If you need further information or would like to claim please telephone:

01384 814988

or email:

[freeschoolmeals.benefits@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:freeschoolmeals.benefits@dudley.gov.uk)

or visit: Benefit Services Division,

The Council House, Dudley

### INSET Dates

As you will have seen from the recent list of dates sent home, all our INSET dates have been allocated for this academic year:

Tuesday 4 January

Thursday 5 May

Mon/Tues/Wed 25/26/27 July

The term dates are also posted on the website along with a list of dates of events arranged so far this term. All letters sent home will also be put on the website for your information. For security reasons, details of trips and visits out of school will only be available on the password-protected 'Calendar' area of the website. If you do not have this password, please contact the school office.

[www.howleygrange.co.uk](http://www.howleygrange.co.uk)

### Before and After School Clubs

<u>Day</u>	<u>Before School</u>	<u>After School</u>
Monday	Your Sport Football - Years 5 & 6	Art Club - Years 2 & 3 Orchestra - begins 4 October
Tuesday	Breakfast Club	WBA Football Club - Years 3 4 & 5
Wednesday	Your Sport Football - Years 1 & 2	Dance Club - Years 5 & 6
Thursday	Breakfast Club	Choir - Years 3 4 5 & 6 Cricket - Year 6
Friday	Your Sport Football - Years 3 & 4	Football - Years 5 & 6 Netball - Years 5 & 6

**As with any activity happening at Howley Grange, we do expect the highest standards of behaviour during these clubs. Failure to abide by this may result in attendance being terminated.**

#### Brownies

There are vacancies for girls aged 7 - 10 at 1st Lapal Brownies who meet in the school hall on Tuesday evenings from 6.30 - 8.00pm. Either turn up at their next meeting or for more information contact Sarah on 0121 421 2821.

#### Childminders

A few local child-minders have informed us that they have vacancies for before or after school care. Please contact the school office if you would like their details.

### Dudley Performing Arts VTime choir

Does your child love to sing?

Dudley Performing Arts are looking for new members to join VTime, a free, non-audition choir for all Dudley school children aged 7 – 11.

VTime is run by DPA Vocal tutor Sue Simpson and pianist Matthew Brookes. We aim to introduce children to a wide range of musical styles, encouraging good singing practices in an environment which is fun, friendly and stimulating, giving them the opportunity to participate in termly concerts.

Why not bring your child along to Saltwells Education Centre, Bowling Green Road, Netherton on a Wednesday evening between 6.00 and 7.15? Rehearsals this term begin on September 15<sup>th</sup>.

Fun and great singing guaranteed!

If you'd like further details, please ring Vocal Coordinator Jude Moreland at Dudley Performing Arts on 01384 813867 or email at [Judith.moreland@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:Judith.moreland@dudley.gov.uk)

#### Music Lessons

Dudley Performing Arts provide music tuition on a range of musical instruments during the school day, in school. If you would be interested in music tuition for your child, please contact the office for an application form, call DPA on 01384 813865 or see [www.dudley.gov.uk/dpa](http://www.dudley.gov.uk/dpa). Lessons will begin after half term provided the application is received at DPA by 11 October.

#### PTA

There is a PTA meeting tonight - (22 September) at 7.00pm. Please come, even if just to meet the committee and have a cup of tea or coffee. You will be made very welcome. Meet in the school foyer (outside the office).