

## What a Great Start!



Welcome to the first year of Silsden Primary School. How wonderful it was to see all the children so smart and ready to learn last Tuesday morning in their new uniforms— and what a start the children have made to their learning! The school has a wonderfully positive feel with a real excitement about the learning to come this term. A special welcome to our new children and families in Nursery and Reception and those through the school who have joined us from elsewhere. We hope your children are already enjoying their new school.

As we welcome those at the beginning of their Silsden Primary School journey, we also reflect on those who left us at the end of their Year 6 in July and their successes. We have grown some wonderful writers. Of the children who left in July, 88% achieved the national writing standard. This year we want to build on this success through boosting boys writing in particular – ensuring they master the basic skills of writing and are inspired and proud to write.

Reading success is rooted in children enjoying great books – so many of the older children are inspired to read through the Reading Challenge – do keep supporting your child to read these books over the year – perhaps with you! 84% of our Y6 leavers achieved the reading standard in July (71% of children achieved this across the country). More news on the Reading Challenge to come as we extend this to children across both sites.

In maths we are becoming a centre of excellence for the teaching and learning of maths, supporting schools in our area on their journey toward 'Mastery Maths'. 88% of our Y6 children achieved the standard in July – compared to 75% nationally.

More on all these developments for our new school as the year goes on...

## Dates For Your Diary This Half Term

### Hothfield Site:

W/C 2/10/17: Y6 Buckden Residential  
2/10/17: Y1,2,3 Celebrating Harvest at Silsden Methodist Church  
W/C 9/10/17: KS2 Parents Evenings  
10/10/17: KS2 School Photographs  
20/10/17: School Closes for half term holiday  
30/10/17: School closed for Training Day  
31/10/17: Children return to school

**Aire View Site:** Further Dates for the Diary to follow

## Communications

- **The Silsden Primary School News newsletter is sent out fortnightly on a Tuesday or Wednesday** – it is the key way we communicate with parents with important messages and dates so do please look out for it! It is emailed out to everyone we have on our email data-base – do email the school office ([office@silsden.bradford.sch.uk](mailto:office@silsden.bradford.sch.uk)) if you want to be added to the mailing list.
- We recommend that you download the OurSchools App and select Silsden Primary School – you will then receive notifications when we send out a communication...(More details to come)
- We have a new website! [www.silsdenprimary.co.uk](http://www.silsdenprimary.co.uk) . (There is a link from the home pages of the old Aire View and Hothfield websites that will take you straight there...)
- From the website you can link the school blogs – another way of keeping up to date with goings on in the school (and seeing some great pictures of your children ‘in action’!). Both children and parents are urged to visit the blogs regularly and leave comments.
- For tweeters out there, why not follow us on Twitter? @SilsdenPrimary

Please also remember that Mrs Bottomley and Mr Procter are always (almost!) available to speak to – either just by calling in or by making an appointment through the school offices. Also, Louise Heslop at the Aire View Site and Jan Burgoyne at the Hothfield Site are here to help, advise and support parents...

## Staff News

Congratulations to Mrs Medley from the Hothfield Site Office who had a baby boy over the summer. After 29 years service to the children of Silsden and Addingham, Mrs Pat Davis has chosen to retire. Mrs Karen Farrar has a new job and so won't be returning to the Hothfield Site Office. Thank you and best wishes to both Mrs Davis and Mr Farrar.

We welcome some new faces to the Silsden Primary School staff team. Miss Firth joins us as Reception class teacher, Miss Daguzan and Miss Whitaker as Y3 class teachers and Miss Miller in Y4.

Mrs Rachael Rothery is our new Administration Assistant in the Hothfield Site Office – so will be someone that many of you will speak to on the phone or when calling in.

Welcome all to the team!

Our children are proud to be members of the Silsden Primary School family and their uniforms are an expression of this. They looked fantastic on Tuesday. Do support this sense of pride by supporting the uniform policy – **particularly the black shoes or plain black trainers – no big logos**. Please also keep to small hair accessories so we don't have distractions to learning – no big bows please. And with over 500 sets of clothes which all look the same – make sure it is all name-labelled! Lost jumpers are always returned to their owners if they have the name in them...