



Rowlands Gill Primary School

July Newsletter

SATS Success!



A huge well done to all our pupils who have achieved significantly improved SATs results in Year 2 and Year 6.

This year the proportion of children working at the higher standard at Key Stage 1 has risen sharply and is now well above the national average in mathematics.

In Key Stage 2, the greatest gains have been made in writing and mathematics. School's results are now much closer to the proportion of pupils attaining both the expected standard and the higher standard nationally.

We attribute these improvements to changes made to the curriculum, high expectations that are consistently adhered to in every classroom and a lot of hard work from our children, staff and yourselves!

We are confident that strong foundations are now in place from which Mrs Oram and her team can further build upon in September.

**“And it’s goodbye from me
and it’s goodbye from her...”**

We would like to take this opportunity to express our thanks for the warm welcome we have received since joining Rowlands Gill Primary School last year and the tremendous support that has been offered. It is widely recognized that school has been through some

turbulent times and sometimes tough decisions have had to be made, albeit with the moral compass of what is best for our children, to move our school forward.

Speaking to a number of you and reading comments on report reply slips, we believe there is now a renewed confidence in our school. Parents are proud of the progress their children are making. They not only appreciate academic improvements but also the increased number of school visits, enhancing the curriculum and the increased participation in sporting festivals and competitions.

In September, we welcome Mr Bell to the team as Key Stage 2 Leader, an experienced teacher who will further strengthen our staffing contingent. You may also have noted Miss Winskill and Mrs Addison will be remaining with us, building on their excellent contribution to school this year.

Sadly, as is always the case at this time of year, a number of staff are moving on at the end of term. I would like to extend a thank you on behalf of us all to Miss Stocks, Mr Broadhurst and Mr Evans and wish them all the very best in their future careers.

Finally, we would like to wish you all a fantastic summer holiday and remind you school is closed for a staff training day on Monday 2nd September and open to children on Tuesday 3rd September.

Andy Jones

Rachel Hocking

Acting Headteacher Acting Deputy Headteacher



E-mail: rowlandsgillprimary@gateshead.gov.uk

Phone: 01207 549 359

A Message from The Chair of Governors

This year it has been a pleasure for Governors to see our school taking great strides forward building on the strong foundational work of the last 18 months. Mr Jones and Mrs Hocking have done an amazing job in the short time they have been with us. As well as the changes they have overseen, they have undertaken extensive work on revising our curriculum together with stabilizing the increasingly tight budget. Working with subject specialists we are confident that opportunities for learning are maximized in a creative and structured way to ensure continuity and progression in learning and we are already seeing the impact of this in the much improved Key Stage 2 SATs performance. Their acting roles have also given us the chance to make the right appointment of a new Headteacher and Deputy and I am looking forward to working with Mrs Oram and Mr Boddy next year. Both Mr Jones and Mrs Hocking are leaving us to take up new positions as Headteachers and we wish them well in these new jobs.

Although clear leadership is needed to move a school forward, it does not happen without the support and hard work of the staff implementing the plans. We have had new members of staff join and they have been welcomed and contributed hugely to building the team. I would like to thank all of the staff at school for all they have done.

This year has also been a busy year for the Friends of Rowlands Gill Primary School with very successful Christmas and Summer Fairs. The work of the Friends both in school and in linking with the wider community is greatly appreciated.

Finally, we are this term saying goodbye to our longest standing governor. After more than 15 years as a Governor our vice chair Elaine Rudman is standing down. I would like to thank Elaine for those many years of service and in particular the last few years as vice chair which has been a huge support to me.

I hope you all have a wonderful summer and I look forward to seeing you again next term.

RGPS SILVER SPORTING SUCCESS!

We are delighted to announce that we, ROWLANDS GILL PRIMARY SCHOOL have achieved the School Games SILVER Mark Award for the 2018/19 academic year.

The School Games Mark is a Government led award scheme launched in 2012, facilitated by the Youth Sport Trust to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community, and we are delighted to have been recognised for our success.

Our sporting achievements this year include:

- Gateshead Athletics Festival Finalists
- Sage Dance Festival participants (collaborating with Gateshead College)
- Year 2 Tri-Golf Festival participants
- Sportsability Festival participants
- KS1 Multi-sports festival participants
- Primary Boccia Competitors
- First time Fun Runners in Saltwell Park
- Blaydon Tennis club liaison, including Y3 tournament
- EYFS Festival at Gateshead Leisure Centre
- Watergate Cross Country participants
- A fantastic bunch of buddies helping everyone play better!

In addition, links with Newcastle Eagles Basketball team, Hoops for Health, Durham Cricket Club (Chance to Shine scheme), weekly Yoga club and all the fun after-school activities we have on offer.

Finally, we have looked smart and proud in the new sports uniforms provided this year. With so many young people competing in local inter-school competitions this year, we are extremely proud of our pupils for their dedication to all aspects of school sport, including those young volunteers, leaders and officials who made our competitions possible.

As part of our application, we were asked to fulfil criteria in the areas of participation, competition, workforce and clubs, and we are pleased that the hard work of everyone at our school has been rewarded this year.

A special thanks to: School management team, especially Mrs Elliott, the Business Manager; teaching staff, office staff and parents for supporting activities both in and outside of the school day.



News from Class 3/4L

During May and June, Year 3/4 were lucky enough to have several visitors who helped us in our Roman history topic and gave us a taste of different sports and fun activities.



Chance to Shine cricket, Blaydon Tennis Club and Judo All Stars gave us some excellent coaching and encouraged us to go along to their clubs to see more.

One of our valued helpers in school, Mrs Boyes, came in and shared her knowledge of the Ro-



mans in Britain with a Roman workshop where we were soldiers making a 'tortoise' formation, slaves fanning our masters at a feast and fed up Britons, putting graffiti on the Roman Wall!

INTU Fun Run

Finally, the whole school had an amazing morning at Saltwell Park in Gateshead, running with many other Gateshead schools in the Fun Run. It was a great day and we made sure we did our warm up first!



EYFS Trip to Gibside

Early years have had a wonderful trip to Gibside and have learned all about mini-beasts and growing. The weather wasn't great but it didn't dampen our spirits at all.



Early Years Parent craft morning

Early years had a craft morning for all the parents. They had lots of fun together making little mini-beasts and sea creatures only to be followed by our favourite baby shark song and dance. The children then cosied up to their grown-ups to sing with them too.



Diary dates for the new academic year.

2nd September 2019 Staff Training Day

3rd September 2019 Children return to school

21st -25th October 2019 Half term Holidays

28th October 2019 Staff Training Day

23rd December 2019– 3rd January 2020 Christmas Holidays

After School Clubs

Our after school clubs for next half term will OPEN on SIMS Pay today and will start back on Tuesday 3rd September.

Please double check all days of the clubs when booking and remember that all clubs are on a first come first served basis and they do get booked up fast!

Please see a list below of our current clubs:

FitPop KS1 - Monday

Futsal KS1 - Monday

Singing KS1 –KS2 Monday

Art Club- Tuesday

Fun French Club- Wednesday

Futsal KS2 - Wednesday

Gymnastics Club- Thursday

Multiskills Club- Thursday

Please ring the office with any questions or queries you may have!

School Belongings!

Please remember to label all children's belongings clearly with their name. This will eliminate a lot of confusion at lunchtime and will reduce the amount of lost property left in school.

Thank you in advance for your co-operation.

