



Ad Astra Infant School & Haymoor Junior School

Executive Headteacher: Mrs K Carter BA (Hons) PGCE NPQH
Head of Schools: Mrs K Spratt BA (Hons) PGCE



Headteacher's Newsletter September 2016

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to another school year - I hope you have all had a great summer with your children and enjoyed the glorious sunshine (for once!) We have been very busy over the summer undertaking significant building works within our schools which will be shared by our new Trust Estates Manager, Mr James Parnall.

It has been an extremely busy start to the new school term - but I have managed to make it into all four schools in the TEACH Trust and spend time with the pupils and staff. Everyone appears to have settled in enthusiastically including all the new children and the new members of staff. I have especially enjoyed meeting lots of very smartly dressed four year olds in the infant schools and some slightly larger 7 year olds starting at their new junior school. I am pleased to hear that so many of you attended our year group welcome evenings and your dedication and commitment to your child's education is very much appreciated. We will continue to welcome and involve you in your child's school life and I would encourage any of you, who may have a little spare time to come into your child's school to help out, to contact the school office. We would love to hear from you as there are always plenty of children who would benefit from some extra reading with an adult.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you for your parental feedback last term which is in the process of being analysed. The feedback, as per usual, has been overwhelmingly positive but there are a few key issues which I will be responding to in due course.

I am very much looking forward to working with our two new Heads of Schools, Mrs Rosaleen Beaver and Mrs Kay Spratt and am confident that their new role will have a very positive impact on your child's education.

Please do not hesitate to contact your child's school if you have any questions or concerns and I very much look forward to seeing you soon.

With best wishes

Kate Carter

Kate Carter
Executive Headteacher

The Educational Alliance of Canford Heath (TEACH Poole)



Included in this newsletter

Introduction

EYFS

Year 3

Staffing

*Parents'
Associations*

Safety Alert

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*School Site
Improvements*

*Term and Holiday
Dates*

Calendar



EYFS

Wow we have been just amazed with how well the EYFS children have settled into school already! They all look so grown up and smart in their uniforms and have skipped into school with big smiles on their faces. We have been busy getting used to learning and playing in the classroom and making new friends. Thank you to all of the parents for allowing their children to be so independent coming into school.



YEAR 3

This week we have welcomed our new Year 3 children to Haymoor. They have all settled in really well and are looking very smart in their new uniforms. This week we have already begun our new topic about France by tasting some French food and learning how to play Boules.



STAFFING NEWS

As we come to the end of the first full week of term, I would like to say a huge thank you to all pupils and parents; it has been a fantastic start to the academic year! All the children have settled in well, their behaviour has been brilliant and they arrive at school ready and eager to learn. I am truly privileged to be the Head of School for both Haymoor Junior and Ad Astra Infant schools.

This year, we welcome a number of new staff to the teaching team: Mr Brunton joins us as Year 3 leader; Miss Moody is a new Year 1 teacher and Mr Sidwell joins the Year 5 teaching team. Mr Butt is the Year 5 leader and Deputy Head at Haymoor; he joins us from Canford Heath Junior School and is well-placed to share his expertise across the Teach Multi-Academy Trust.

Mrs Chandler is one of our Year 3 teachers and she also joins us from Canford Heath Junior. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate her on her recent wedding. Congratulations also go to Miss Martin (Ad Astra PCW) who returns to us as Mrs Rowley and is now based in Haymoor in her role as Emotional Literacy Support Assistant.



Mrs K Spratt
Head of School
Haymoor Junior and Ad Astra

Miss White and Mrs Green have both returned to Haymoor after their maternity leave and we are delighted to welcome them back. There are also a number of new support staff who have joined our school community and you will no doubt get to hear about them when they work with your children.

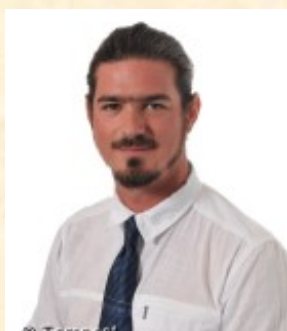
I am sure that you will join me in welcoming all our new staff to what promises to be a busy and exciting school year!
See you soon,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'K Spratt'.

Kay Spratt
Head of Schools



Mrs H Barker
Deputy Head: Inclusion
Haymoor Junior and Ad Astra



Mr D Butt
Deputy Head
Haymoor Junior



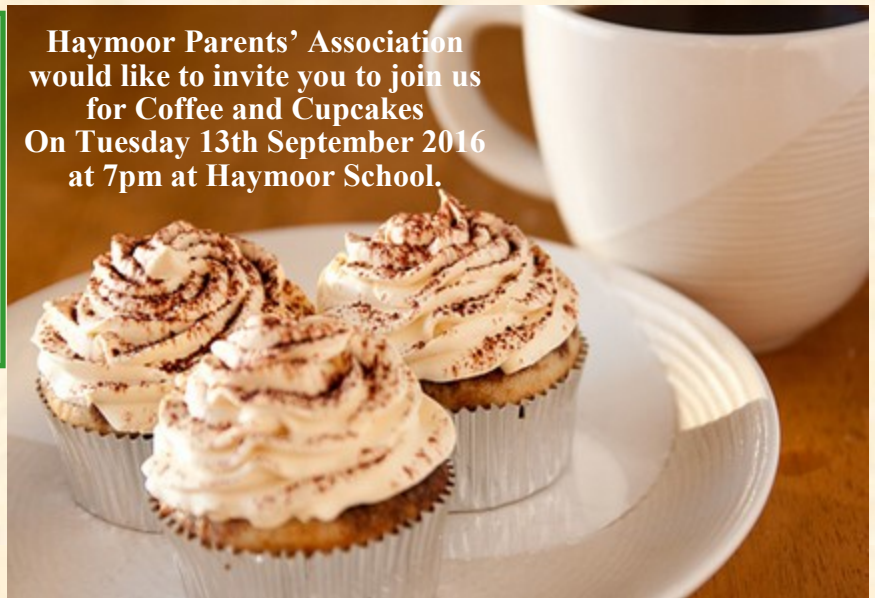
Mrs G Mawer
Deputy Head
Haymoor Junior



Mr J Tucker
Deputy Head
Ad Astra



Haymoor Parents' Association
would like to invite you to join us
for Coffee and Cupcakes
On Tuesday 13th September 2016
at 7pm at Haymoor School.



Car Boot Sale

ALL WELCOME

SATURDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER 12PM - 3PM

£5 PER PITCH | HOT FOOD, SWEETS & DRINKS AVAILABLE

HAYMOOR JUNIOR SCHOOL

TO BOOK YOUR SPOT, EMAIL - PARENTSASSOCIATION@HAYMOOR.POOLE.SCH.UK
SELLERS CAN ARRIVE FROM 11AM
RAISING MONEY FOR ADASTRA & HAYMOOR SCHOOL

We are very fortunate to have groups of parents who give up their time to support the schools through the Parents' Associations.

The children benefit in a whole host of ways as the PTAs have organised, or funded, many events:

- PTA discos
- Subsidised educational visits
- Summer/Christmas Fayres
- Books and resources
- Playground equipment

If you feel that you could spare some time, no matter how much or how little, to support our schools, please do get in touch.



Poole Libraries

New Code Club starting
Wednesday September 21st!




Have fun learning how to make your own computer games, animations and websites!



Poole Central Library
Wednesdays 4.30 - 5.30pm
During term time

Our club is aimed at 9-11 year olds.
Book your place at any Poole Library
or phone 01202 262449, or email
centrallibrary@poole.gov.uk

More information can be found at: www.codeclub.org.uk

www.poole.gov.uk/libraries

SAFETY ALERT

*The estates management team and school governors meet regularly to ensure that the school sites are safe. At Haymoor Junior School, some parents are parking inconsiderately and illegally on double yellow lines surrounding the school site. **This is putting our children and families in danger.***

Please, please consider walking to school or parking in one of the local car parking areas to keep congestion on the school site to a minimum.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Throughout the year we receive numerous requests for leave of absence during term time. Leave of absence **cannot** be taken during term time unless there are **significant 'exceptional circumstances'**. This has been the law since September 2013 and schools are **not permitted** by law to grant Leave of Absence. In some cases parents have taken their children on Leave of Absence during term time without even writing into the school to make a request and some parents have encouraged their children to distort the truth of where they have been when they have returned to school. Both these issues are safeguarding issues for the school. In other cases parents have requested that their employer writes a letter of support to the school justifying their request for Leave of Absence in term time. These cannot be considered by the school and do not impact on the school decision made. I know this is a difficult area but parents must know that TEACH will pursue the legal framework in relation to Leave of Absence and this could result in a Fixed Penalty Notice fine or a prosecution for non-school attendance. TEACH will also give consideration to any safeguarding issues that arise from absence and take action accordingly.

Please therefore note that children within TEACH trust cannot be taken out of school for Leave of Absence during term time unless permission is given by the school for exceptional circumstances. If you wish to make a request for Leave of Absence then your request must be placed in writing to the Head of School. A courteous written request must be provided well in advance of any leave of absence being requested and will not be granted in retrospect. A written response will be provided by the school. TEACH have a responsibility to ensure your children reach their potential, a duty of care to safeguard them and requirement to uphold the law. We wish to work together with parents to achieve this, however, we will not hesitate in taking appropriate action when necessary. If you wish to discuss Leave of Absence further, please do not hesitate to contact Lesley Specterman, Home Academy Liaison Officer, TEACH, on 01202 380015 or 07555 585139.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



SCHOOL SITES

Welcome back after your summer break. We hope you had a good time!

Firstly, I would like to welcome our new Caretakers to the team, Mr Toms (Haymoor) and Mr Smith (Ad Astra). You will see them out and about during the day so please say hello to them.

Our Site Team have been very busy over the summer holidays at all four sites, ensuring everything is ready for the start of term. At Ad Astra, we have decorated several corridors and undertaken repairs. One major piece of work undertaken on our behalf is the repair of the school roof. This has seen the old covering removed and a new water proof membrane added which in turn will protect the school for many years to come.

At Haymoor, we have had a busy time. We have created a new play area to the side of our main playground that includes a pencil forest. This is a great trail with a hard wearing surface, making it usable during both the summer and winter months. At the same time we installed new litter bins which are in the shape of a pencil and are brightly coloured. All in all, the playground is looking much more colourful and welcoming.

As well as a new play trail, we have started to work on renovating our Meet & Greet area with a musical chime installed. Great fun for everyone with lovely sounds to be heard during the day!



Mr Parnall
Estates Manager
TEACH Multi-Academy Trust



Holiday dates and training days for 2016/17

Half Term Holiday	-	24 - 28 October 2016
Christmas Holiday	-	19 December 2016 - 2 January 2017
Half Term Holiday	-	13 - 17 February 2017
Staff Training day	-	Fri, 24 February 2017
Easter Holiday	-	10 - 21 April 2017
Bank Holiday	-	Mon, 1 May 2017
Half Term Holiday	-	29 May - 2 June 2017
Staff Training Day	-	Mon, 19 June 2017
Staff Training Day	-	Fri, 21 July 2017
Start of Summer Holiday	-	Mon, 24 July 2017

A calendar of diary dates will be sent out next week, once all events have been confirmed.