

Dear Parents,

We have finally come to the end of a very successful and fun term and I have thoroughly enjoyed my first term at the school. We have enjoyed One World Week, playing sporting fixtures and the busy run up to Christmas and have been successful at achieving the Sainsbury's Gold Mark Sports award one of only 7 schools in Mid Sussex to do so. Please find below some reports of our successes.

We did it! We got Gold!

The Sainsbury's School Games Mark is a Government led awards scheme. It was launched in 2012 to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community. All registered schools in England are able to assess themselves across bronze, silver and gold levels of the Mark.

As a member of Mid Sussex Active, the organisation that supports us in a wide variety of ways, including provision of competitions, professional development and expanding the sporting opportunities for all, we were only 1 of 7 schools to gain the Gold Mark. Also Mid Sussex Active came 6th in the country in relation to the number of member schools being awarded the Sainsburys Mark (43 in total). An amazing achievement!

On Friday a celebration assembly was held at Twineham which was attended by other schools in the area who had also achieved the Sainsbury's Mark. The awards were handed out by Craig Figes, the GB Water Polo captain. He talked to the children about his experiences and how he found his sport, there was also a video of some of his highlights which the children really enjoyed followed by the opportunity to get his autograph.

This is an amazing achievement and demonstrates the variety of sporting opportunities offered to the children. Well done to all staff and children in achieving this.



Questionnaire - Results of the Parental questionnaire November 2014

Please find below the results of the recent questionnaire. Thank you to everyone who filled in a form.

Question	Strongly agree		agree		disagree		Strongly disagree		Don't know	
	no	%	no	%	no	%	no	%	no	%
My child is happy at this school	54	82	12	18						
My child feels safe at this school	60	91	6	9						
My child makes good progress at this school	41	62	25	38						
My child is well looked after at this school	49	74	17	26						
My child is taught well at this school	45	68	21	32						
My child receives appropriate homework for their age	38	57	19	27	4	7	2	4	3	5
This school makes sure its pupils are well behaved	48	73	18	27						
This school deals effectively with bullying	36	54	15	23					15	23
This school is well led and managed	48	73	17	25					1	2
This school responds well to any concerns I raise	45	67	15	22	4	7			2	4
I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress	32	52	31	48					3	5
Would you recommend this school to another parent?	Yes		No							
	66	100	0	0						

*due to rounding some percentages are different for the same number of people

66 responses = 73%

Some comments from the parents

Excellent, very happy

My child appears to be progressing really well so what Twineham School and the teachers are doing is fantastic

A well led and happy school. Caring and nurturing. Thank you -

A wonderful school as I thought it would be and more. Mrs Dawson is excellent, welcoming and leading a fantastic school and is good with children and parents.

We are very pleased with the results and I have already followed up some of the individual comments with parents. A small number of you were concerned with the homework your child was getting. We already had a staff meeting planned to look at homework and I will let you know the outcome of that next term.

Netball Tournament Report.

The tournament was held at St Pauls on Thurs 20th. November.

The team were; Captain: Bear. Players; Evie, Maud, Ella, Jasmine, Millie, Rainy, Ava, Harriet

We played 2 games - first against St. Peters Ardingly. They have a good team and are 2014 champions.

We started really strong and there were goals from Evie, Maud and Ella. Bear was brilliant at marking his opponent as was Jasmine. Twineham showed some great teamwork, communication and ball skills. A most deserved win. 6 - 2 to Twineham.

We then had to immediately play St Marks. Our experienced players, Bear, Evie, Ella, Millie, Jasmine and Maud really helped our new players Rainy, Ava and Harriet who were making their game debut. Everyone played brilliantly in this match, St Marks never really got hold of the ball and we won 10 - 0.

The coaches would like to thank all the team for great behaviour, sportsmanship and team play.

Well done.

Christmas Decorations Day

Many thanks to all the parents who came in to help on our decorations day. I hope you had as much fun as the children did! I'm sure you will agree the school is looking very Christmassy now.

Open afternoon

I hope you enjoyed looking at the work with your child and admired the Christmas displays. We will be holding these events every term so do look out for the dates.

Message from ASCEND Special Educational Needs Hub

Your school is involved in the set-up of a Special Educational Needs Hub, which is going to be providing support and advice for schools and parents regarding children with additional needs. You may be aware that a behaviour workshop was arranged before the summer holidays, which was very well attended by parents from schools in our local area.

ASCEND are currently organising some staff training events, linked closely to what school staff are telling us they need. In addition, the hub has set up a pilot 'Professionals Project'. Three professionals have been employed to specifically target the areas of most need within the 20 schools that form our locality. Cuts at Local Authority level have meant that accessing professionals has been more difficult in recent times, and so we hope that this project will begin to fill some of the gaps that schools are experiencing. Currently these professionals are a Speech and Language Therapist (working primarily with children with lower level needs in Year 1), a Primary Mental Health Worker (working primarily with Year 6 children, to assist smooth transition to secondary school) and a Play Therapist (working with higher level emotional needs in upper key stage 2). We hope to extend this project if it is successful. These specialists may be working with children within our school at different times during the year. This is all part of our aim to identify potential issues at an early stage, in an attempt to prevent issues from growing.

Blackthorns is the lead school for the ASCEND hub, and the project is being led by Karen Crockford. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about the hub or any of the projects we are currently working on.

Future dates

INSET September 2015

The Governors have recently agreed to there being two consecutive Inset days in September 2015. This decision was taken because we officially come back to school on Thursday 3rd September which would be an Inset day; the children would only be in school for the Friday. Therefore the children will return to school on **Monday 7th September** to allow the staff to undertake some intensive staff training the previous Thursday and Friday. I will inform you of the other three Inset Days as soon as they have been decided.

May I take this opportunity of wishing you and your family a happy Christmas and peaceful New Year and I look forward to seeing you all again on Tuesday January 6th 2015.

Regards
Mrs Jill Dawson
Headteacher