

# Parents Newsletter - issue 80

Autumn Term 1 2017

## New Pupils

We welcomed 8 new pupils to Sunshine House in September; Elise, Muhib and Louis in Pine Class, Saby and Zohrah in Elm, Gaby in Oak, Gurleen in Maple and Charlie in Willow.



## FOSH Family BBQ

We held our annual welcome back BBQ on 16 September. The weather was kind to us and it only rained when we were clearing up! Lots of new families joined us; it was a lovely occasion to welcome everyone. Thanks go to everyone who helped to organise this lovely event.

## Harvest Festival

Harvest Assembly this year was held on Friday 29 September. It was the first assembly at which I, Hilary McDermott (Head of School), have 'officiated' for quite some years and definitely a first at Sunshine House so it was nice to feel welcomed, supported and encouraged at what was a joyous occasion.



There were groaning harvest tables setup and an extremely large 'turnip' wedged between them! All became apparent later on in the assembly. We were joined by a small but enthusiastic group of parents and grandparents, including those of the Grangewood children who have recently started at SHS. They lent their voices to the singing, as did the governor from SHS and the teacher, children and parent helpers from a Year 6 class from Holy Trinity School, whom we also welcomed warmly. Numbers definitely help the quality of the singing!



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Unusually this year, classes combined to present to the whole school. The older classes, Willow, Cedar and Mulberry, gave us a reflective and thoughtful account of the story of Harvest and its significance to those less fortunate. This was followed up by an enthusiastic rendering of 'The Wiggly Scarecrow' by Pine and Elm, the younger classes. Thomaz was particularly enthusiastic about the song sung with great voices and hand actions by the class from Holy Trinity. It was a thought provoking song, 'My Lighthouse'. The school sent a video clip and the words to Thomaz afterwards so he could hear it again. Oak and Maple classes then showed us the point of the large structure between the tables as they performed 'The Enormous Turnip' with much shouting and effort to heave the vegetable out of the ground. We finished with a much loved song about Harvest which was written by a Grangewood teacher, prayers led by Holy Trinity and Thomaz and a jolly samba to conclude. All the children took part, which was lovely to see, and there was a real sense of community and celebration. Thanks to all those who attended and supported and to those who made contributions. The goods have been taken to a homeless charity.



## MacMillan Coffee Fundraising

This year again we supported the Macmillan coffee morning by selling lots of yummy cakes after our Harvest Assembly.



Among the cakes, we had a coffee cake made by Mulberry Class and an apple and almond cake made by Pine Class.



Thank you to everyone who supported this again and helped us to raise £138.24!



**Monday 23 – Friday 27 October**  
**School Closed for Half Term Break**



[rnib.org.uk/sunshinehouse](http://rnib.org.uk/sunshinehouse)

**Monday 30 October**  
Children return to school



**Friday 10 November**  
Staff Training Day – School Closed



**Friday 17 November**  
Children in Need Day  
More details to follow after half term



**Wednesday 6 December**  
St John's School Band  
Details to follow



**Friday 8 December 10am**  
Christmas Assembly  
All parents and carers welcome. Details to follow



**Wednesday 13 December**  
Christmas Special Event  
All parents and carers welcome. Details to follow



**Friday 15 December**  
Christmas Jumper  
A small donation of a £1 to go to the Save the Children Fund for wearing a Christmas Jumper



**Wednesday 20 December**  
Last Day of Term Pupils leave at 1.15pm

