



HALTON LODGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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NEWSLETTER 15

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Staff Changes

Mrs Geaney retired as one of our Midday Assistants at the end of the Autumn Term. As we were aware of Mrs Geaney's plans, we were able to recruit two additional Midday Assistants prior to the start of the Spring Term.

Mrs Williams and Miss Davies have joined the team of Midday Assistants – both starting work at our school last Wednesday.

We are also delighted to announce that Mrs Murray has been appointed on a permanent basis as our school cook.

Inter-House Sporting Competitions

The children may have already told you that we have an extra sports coach, who works at our school every Friday.



Mr Reid has been running our Capoeira Club on a Friday since the beginning of November. However, he has now been employed at our school on a Friday afternoon (to promote physical activity and enhance our sporting activities).

During lunchtime on a Friday he will be setting up a series of 'personal best challenges' on the playground. The first of these is to see how far the children in each class can throw a ball – focusing on developing the best technique to achieve accuracy and distance. We hope to reveal the 'record holders' in each class in the next two weeks – so the children may wish to practise this skill outside of school too.

On Friday afternoons, Mr Reid will be coordinating a series of inter-house sporting competitions – which will start with a series of dodgeball competitions followed by indoor athletics in a couple of weeks' time.

All of the children will be invited to compete and represent their house – and we will be able to reveal the name of the winning house every half term.

At the moment – following the Inter-House Cricket Competitions held last term – the current standings are:

Inter-House Cup

Mersey	8 points
Bridge	6 points
Castle	4 points
Priory	2 points

This is because Mersey and Bridge won their semi-final matches (against Priory and Castle respectively) and Mersey went on to beat Bridge by 33 runs to 15 runs in The Final. (Castle edged a very close contest, against Priory, in the 3rd/4th Play Off Match by 32 runs to 29).

However, with three competitions planned for this term along – and 24 points up for grabs – the leaderboard may change very swiftly.

The children in Year 5 and Year 6 will be competing in the dodgeball competition this afternoon. The children in Year 3 and Year 4 will get the chance to compete against one another next Friday, with the children in Year 1 and Year 2 the following week. The scores from all three sets of fixtures will be added together before we update the Inter-House Cup leaderboard.

We will ensure the children in reception Class also get to take part in some of the inter-house competitions this year too.

After School Clubs

We are working hard on developing our after-school club provision.



At the moment we are trying to get as many of our Year 5 and Year 6 pupils signed up for, and accessing, 15 hours of online tuition – that is being partially funded by the DfE through the National Tutoring Programme. This will take place on a Monday and/or Thursday (between 3pm and 4pm) each week.

This has allowed us to open up our Football Club to the children in Reception, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4.

It will be no surprise to learn that all 18 places on a Monday and a Tuesday were filled very quickly – so we would strongly recommend that you sign up to any enrichment opportunities that you feel would benefit your child very quickly. These will typically be announced via Studybugs – so please sign up if you have not already done so (by visiting studybugs.com and registering).

Places in KS2 Art Club (Tuesday) and Destiny Dance (Friday) are also full – but there are a few places available for Capoeira Club (Friday) for children in Year 4 to Year 6.

We are working hard on offering a Glee (Singing) Club and a Guitar Club for any children who wish to take part in either of these. It is not sure which age groups these will be open to – as this will depend on the skills and experience of the tutor – but you may wish to talk with your child about whether either of these would be of interest, if we can get the finer details finalised in the next few weeks.

Both clubs would be offered free of charge – as has been the case with all clubs offered this school year (due to the INEOS Forgotten Forty Grant that the school has received to alleviate financial pressures on the families of the children who attend our school).

Any child who wants to propose an after-school club should do this through their class's school council representatives.