



### **Hoyland Schools' Games Tournament**

Four of our Year 6 pupils took part in a Tabletop Games Tournament against pupils from a number of other local primary schools last week. George, Grace, Gracie and Isobel had a fantastic day developing their strategic thinking and represented the school marvellously. Mrs Goodison, who accompanied the children, had nothing but praise for their teamwork and involvement. Whilst they did not win (that honour went to hosts, Greenfield Primary) they thoroughly enjoyed the experience and inform me that they came second - well done!

### **Timings of the School Day**

As part of our continual review of school and how we can continue to develop, we have been reviewing our timetable and have found that in comparison to other schools within our trust, our Key Stage 2 pupils are not accessing as much learning time as in other schools. As a result, we are proposing to change the start time of the afternoon session for Key Stage 2 pupils from 1.15pm to 1pm from January. This time will be used to teach the children specific literacy skills in order to improve basic skills and develop the children's confidence and abilities in writing. If you have any thoughts or comments on this, please do not hesitate to contact me.

### **Dinner Money**

Please could I remind parents that, with the exception of children in receipt of free school meals, lunches for Key Stage 2 children must be paid for before the lunch is taken. Where a child's lunch account goes into arrears, parents will be contacted by text message. If further debt is incurred and a week's worth of meals have not been paid for, parents will be contacted by letter and asked to agree a repayment plan with the school office. The children will need to bring a packed lunch from home until the debt is repaid.

### **Uniform**

The vast majority of pupils have continued to come to school in their uniform and look extremely smart however there are some children who do not have correct uniform. Please could I ask parents to ensure that children have correct uniform, including PE kits, for our return to school in January. PE t-shirts in team colours can be purchased from Tesco's online uniform service or from Vortex via school. If you are unsure as to the colour of t-shirt your child requires, please ask at the school office. Please bear in mind that, with the exception of PE t-shirts, school uniform t-shirts and jumpers do not need to have the logo on and can be purchased at a reasonable cost from a variety of suppliers including local supermarkets. If you are experiencing financial hardship, please do contact Lynda Smith, Parent Support Adviser.

