



# FLORA NEWS



## Head's Blog

*“This one's from the hip” - Lloyd Cole and the Commotions.*

Tuesday was the day of publication of KS2 results. Well done to all the Y6 staff who have done everything possible to keep pupils calm throughout. More importantly, well done to all the staff in achieving great results and for predicting the percentages all the way back in September.

I do not know of one Primary Head that agrees with the SATs tests. Let me clarify that; there is nothing wrong with the tests or testing children but the part that is ridiculous is the way more than six years of schooling is reduced to four days of tests and then given such disproportionate weight. Instead, they should form just one part of a more balanced accountability system where teacher judgement and professionalism is trusted.

Furthermore, the public use of “National Standards” where by each school is judged against the ‘National Average’ is one of the most inadequate and inaccurate measures possible. How can you legitimately compare a school with the highest level of deprivation, the highest level of EAL pupils, a mobility rate higher than 30% in a year with white, middle class enclaves?

I am proud of Flora Gardens. I am proud of all my staff at Flora Gardens. I know the education we offer is outstanding. I am proud of our results this year and if anyone cares to look at the narrative of our pupils, the results stand up to any amount of scrutiny. But league tables and National Averages give figures which tell us next to nothing.

The Education Act 1902, also known as the Balfour Act, was brought in after the failure of the British forces in the Boer War. Why? Because the government wanted order and control so that when the country went to war again the soldiers would be disciplined. The consequences saw millions of pointless deaths in WW1, where on a blow of a whistle young men went over the top of the trenches. Education, schools and teachers have always been Government scapegoats for the ills in society and this continues today.

The Conservatives' Education strategy is a shambles and Labour are yet to produce anything that is understandable or defined. The answer is put money into education, into the social welfare system, into the health service and let the professionals do our jobs. Stop comparing apples with pears.

Until then, at Flora Gardens, we will deliver an outstanding education, despite 30% cuts in funding from 4 years ago. We will teach our values, we will teach maths, English, and a broad curriculum that our children love. They will leave us with a love of learning and be happy, rounded children who achieve their personal best.

Well done to all our children. Government, league tables, National Averages - you are inadequate.

Look forward to seeing you all at the Summer Fete tomorrow.

## Summer Fete – 14<sup>th</sup> July

**12:00 OPEN AND WELCOME**  
**12:45 BAKE OFF RESULTS**  
**13:00 YEAR 5 PERFORMANCE**  
**13:15 NURSERY PERFORMANCE**  
**13:30 YEAR 3 PERFORMANCE**  
**13:45 KARATE DISPLAY**  
**14:00 RECEPTION PERFORMANCE**  
**14:15 PUNCH & JUDY SHOW**  
**14:30 FLORA'S GOT TALENT FINALS**  
**15:00 KARATE DISPLAY**  
**15:15 YEAR 4 PERFORMANCE**  
**15:30 YEAR 2 PERFORMANCE**  
**15:45 YEAR 6 PERFORMANCE**  
**16:00 YEAR 1 PERFORMANCE**  
**16:15 PUNCH & JUDY SHOW**  
**16:30 RAFFLE DRAWN**  
**17:00 FINISH**

**KS2 Musical Concert – Tuesday**  
17<sup>th</sup> July at 2.00pm in the hall.

Well done to Year 6 for a spectacular performance of Alice the Musical on Wednesday. They received a well deserved standing ovation at the end!

**Year 6 Leaver's Assembly –**  
Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> July at 9.05am in the hall.

**FLORA GARDENS SUMMER FETE**  
SATURDAY 14<sup>th</sup> JULY 12-5pm

**KIDS GO FREE**  
\* Adults £1

**Splish Splash**  
**it's a Beach**  
**Bash**

**FISH & CHIPS - MUSIC**  
**PUNCH & JUDY**  
**LIVE PERFORMANCES**

**RAFFLE - TOMBOLA**  
**FACE PAINTING - CRAFTS**  
**PLUS MUCH MORE**

**PONY RIDES**

**OUTDOOR BAR**

**COME ALONG TO OUR BEACH THEMED FETE AND ENJOY**  
**A DAY FILLED WITH FUN !!!**



**How awesome are our personalised Y6 leaver's hoodies?! Thank you Miss Kelly!**

### End of Term Assembly

Pupils and staff wait all year for Mr Naismith's end of year assembly! Lots of awards: attendance, Head's value awards and we find out which House has received the most points for the year. Sometimes a very mysterious and funny video turns up and no one knows where it comes from!

**11.00am on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> July...not to be missed!**

Pupils finish school at **1.30pm on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> July** and we appreciate you collecting them promptly. There are no clubs or after school service on the last day of term.

Please remember to clear any outstanding money you owe for school meals before the end of term next Thursday, especially if your child is leaving us for secondary school. If you do leave the school without paying, the debt does not clear!  
Your co-operation is appreciated.

Year 6 have started their own businesses and will be selling their products at an enterprise fair on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> July at 2pm in the hall. Pupils in all year groups may bring money with them to school to purchase from the stalls.  
Parents are welcome too!

Please note that clubs run by Mr Finney & Boom Sports have now finished & a new programme will be issued at the start of September. Taekwondo will be running on 18<sup>th</sup> July to make up for missed sessions. Those clubs connected to the After School Service will run until 18<sup>th</sup> July and will resume upon our return in September.

Mr Naismith recently wrote to Year 5 parents (next Year's Y6) regarding representatives from local secondary schools visiting us to talk about what their school can offer. Year 4 parents (next year's Y5) are also welcome to attend. It will be at 9.30am on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> September in the hall.