

# Harting Primary School Newsletter



## Message from the Head

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It is hard to believe how fast this term has gone and that there are just a few more school days left of the year. We have already enjoyed preparing for the festivities and the children have been doing Christmas crafts in their classrooms over the past few days.

We still have several events to which we are looking forward. These include Christingle making, ready for our service on the last day of term; a musical concert by the Nyewood Quins; carol singing with the Salvation Army; the gift and wrap session; along with the nativity in the Roundhouse tomorrow. Please do add the information below to your diaries - it makes it much calmer in the school office when things have been noted before the day.

We thank everyone for their support over 2018. I hope that you all have a wonderful Christmas and wish you a very Happy 2019.

Best wishes,

*Fiona*

## 'Wow' books

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It is good to see the children starting to add things to their 'wow' books and sharing things that they are doing at home. Thank you for continuing to hear them read and reading to them - it makes such a difference. We welcome the children doing basic practice in these books as well - a maths skill that they are trying to perfect; improving their handwriting; or a times table that they need to learn.

Beacon and Torberry classes will have a little additional homework but we are most excited to see their 'wow' work.

Things we have seen in 'Wow' books include: chalk drawings; cartoon strips; photographs of musical instruments that they have made with instructions; written booklets and cards; the variety is endless. If your child is tending to do all the same sort of thing, it would be good to encourage them to move to another aspect of the curriculum, even if they just add notes to the thing they most like to do.

## Open classrooms

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It was lovely to welcome parents to classrooms last Thursday afternoon. It is great to be able to celebrate the children's progress and let them share their books with you. Thank you for your support.

## Christmas lunch

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Thank you to all the parent helpers for making Christmas lunch so happy yesterday. The assistance was much appreciated and it really adds to the children's enjoyment. It was lovely too to have a jolly visitor who handed out 'gold' coins.

Key Harting values: love and respect  
'Love others as yourself'  
Worship Theme: Advent

### Operation Christmas Child

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We are delighted to have had a busy afternoon packing boxes for children who are less fortunate. It was wonderful to have such great support so that younger pupils could have some help. The year 6 pupils did a great job with their year R buddies and the 'Shoebox Champions' had inspired lots of donations.

Our thanks goes to the year 6 champions and Marylou Thistleton-Smith who masterminded the event.

### Pupils run the school!

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We are delighted to inform you that we have some very capable teachers in the making! Year 6 ran some really interesting sessions for the younger children about Christmas traditions in another country.



Following their lessons, the headteachers (Melissa and Daisy) gave the 'staff' feedback on the quality of their teaching. They were overheard to use the Ofsted gradings of 'outstanding' and 'good' for various aspects including pace, behaviour management along with other things they had recorded on their observation proforma!

The afternoon was a real success and it gave the children an insight into how difficult it is to inspire good learning. One pupil related 'it was really stressful' because there are so many children to look

after - all in a day's work for the regular Harting teachers.

I would therefore like to thank the true staff for bringing huge amounts of energy and enthusiasm to their work each day.



### Hobby horse performance

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We enjoyed watching the children being put through their paces this week. The dressage routines are such a great way to keep fit, as well as being entertaining to watch. Thanks to Hayley Kay for providing such a fun club for the children.

### Luncheon club

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Today, the year 6 pupils sang to the guests of the Luncheon club and were accompanied by the Rother pupils in their costumes. It is great for the children to have an opportunity to dress up prior to the nativity play and lovely for some of the older residents to keep in touch with the school.

### Christmas tree

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We are very grateful for the kind donation of a Christmas tree from the Giles family. Also to all those who have provided greenery and loaned lights. Thank you

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### PTFA gift and wrap - 14.12.18

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Children are invited to bring £2.50 per gift to buy family members presents for Christmas (maximum of two gifts). The shopping experience is held within school on the afternoon of Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> December and children guided in their choices by parent volunteers.

We understand that some children will have already thought about presents for the family so there is no pressure for your child to be involved, especially as they will be making things in school that day too. It is, however, a lovely way of sourcing surprises for parents, which are wrapped on site, and sent home after school either that day or the following Monday.

### Nativity: help needed on Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> please

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We would welcome help on the day of the nativity after the performance. **We will need to put the marquee in the hall and dry it immediately afterwards - help appreciated.** It is important that it goes away dry so it remains in good condition. We are really grateful to Ian Brewer for the loan of the sound equipment, lighting and marquee - it is really generous of him to offer the use of his company's (PG Productions) equipment.

**Reminder: Children stay at school until after the nativity (which is at 3.45pm).** They will be offered a snack beforehand.

### Jolly jumper day - 18.12.18

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Reminder: the School Council have suggested that children wear jolly jumpers on Tuesday, 18.12.18 for a **donation of £1. This will go to their chosen charities.**

### Carol singing with Salvation Army - evening 18.12.18

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We aim to leave school shortly after 7pm for the carol singing around the village. Last year was a real joy and it is wonderful to have the Salvation Army accompany us. There will be refreshments afterwards at school. If your children are old enough, please consider joining us - it is such a lovely opportunity to do something for the community.

### Christingles - 19.12.18

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On the last day of term, the children will need some items for their Christingles ready for the afternoon service (2.30pm in the parish church).

**They will need to bring: an orange; dried fruit or sweets.**

The school will provide ribbon, cocktail sticks and candles.

Please remember to **pick your child up from the church, rather than school**, unless they are staying for after school club.

### Application for reception places 2019

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We welcome children from a wide area, including surrounding Hampshire and West Sussex villages, along with those from Petersfield. The office staff is happy to help but the easiest method is to apply on-line: [www.westsussex.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/admissions)

If you know of a family who might be interested in our school, do encourage them to come and visit - they just need to email or call the school office.

## Key dates for your diary

**Note:** Inset days; PTFA events; new dates/ information added to calendar

Sharing assemblies are for all families to attend, if they wish.

### Events for Autumn term

Autumn term 2018		
Week Beginning 10.12.18 (Creative Christmas)		
12.12.18	Pm	Christmas lunch (hats and Christmas jumpers may be worn)
14.12.18	Pm	PTFA gift and wrap – £2.50 per gift (see note above)
	3.45pm	KS1 nativity (Roundhouse). Children stay in school until performance (yR,1 and 6)
Week beginning 17.12.18		
18.12.18	All day	Jolly Jumper day: £1 for charity
	am	Concert for children in school
	7pm	Carol singing around the village with Salvation Army
19.12.18	2.30pm	Christingle Service ( <b>children to be picked up from the church</b> , unless staying for after school club)
		Last day of term

Dates for 2019	
<b>We respectfully ask that you log the dates of the school calendar in your diaries as legislation does not permit us to authorise leave unless there are exceptional circumstances. You are therefore asked to take family breaks in school holidays only. The school website has the Absence policy, should you need clarification.</b>	
3.1.19	First day back after Christmas
15.2.19	<b>INSET DAY</b>
18.2.19	Half-term holiday starts
25.2.19	First day back after half-term
5.4.19	Last day of Spring term
8.4.19	Easter holiday
23.4.19	First day back after Easter
6.5.19	Bank holiday
27.5.19	Half-term holiday starts
3.6.19	First day back after half-term
21.6.19	<b>INSET DAY</b>
23.7.19	Last day of school year
24.7.19	Summer holiday starts

### Message from PTFA Chair

As we come to the end of term and the various fun festive activities involving the PTFA, it seems timely to have an update on what we are fundraising for. The sound system that we use for assemblies, productions, Harting's Got Talent and even for playing Christmas music at the Christmas lunch is very old and pretty temperamental, usually being stubborn at crucial times! Therefore, we are fundraising to replace this as soon as possible. We really appreciate your support through the different fundraising activities we are doing, from cake sales to 'Gift and Wrap' this week.

I'd also like to say a big thank you to everyone in the PTFA team for all that they do for the different events and activities, and to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy 2019!

Kate Grocott

Also: The PTFA will run a second hand clothes sale in the Spring Term. If you could possibly spend some time over the Christmas break looking out any second hand children's or adults clothes and shoes we would be most grateful.

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