

Harting Primary School Newsletter



Message from the Head

Nearly there! The summer holidays are on the horizon and we are all really ready. It's hard to believe that the reception pupils have already been here a full year and will soon be Warren pupils. Haven't they grown up? Where did the time go?

Thank you for all the on-going support you give to us and the children. I wish you a really happy holiday and look forward to seeing all the Harting family back in September.

Best wishes, *Fiona*

Mad Hatter's Tea Party



Following on from the work on Alice in Wonderland, the children in Downlands class enjoyed a Mad Hatter's tea party. They very much looked the part. This was followed by an abridged version of the story, enacted in the last sharing assembly.

Hayley Frampton stated that she was so impressed by the costumes, which had been created, and thanks parents for their support. The children clearly had fun.



Spotlight on safeguarding

Last month I added links to provide information about current gaming trends and the risks to our children. This time, I am including a link which provides really useful information on how to keep your children safe during the holidays and how to protect them:

<https://www.getsafeonline.org/safekids/>

Having recently done some training about how to avoid sexual exploitation of children, it is clear that the world of the internet is a really difficult place for youngsters to navigate. Equally, as parents it is hard to supervise as children are so IT 'savvy'! Hopefully this will give you some guidance - a paper copy is being put into book bags as it is **so important**.

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

If you are still exploring **Fortnite**, this link may be useful as it illustrates that 100 people may be able to get in contact with your child through it:

https://nationalonlinesafety.com/fortnite-battle-royale-parents-guide/?mc_cid=9ccba4562a&mc_eid=f530f60cf3

Below is up-to-date guidance for snapchat for parents:

<https://2j39y52a62gm1afygb3g1xbu-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/Parents-Snapchat-Guide-National-Online-Safety-July-Update-2018.pdf>

School Production

The children had a fabulous time performing the play last week and, with increasing confidence, it became better and better. By Friday evening they were all having fun, evident in their performance.

I would like to thank Claudine Clarke for the hard work she put into making the play so successful - she is an absolute 'saint', especially as she battled with so many sound effects! Another 'Thank you' goes to Cathy Day, who works with most classes to make music lessons so enjoyable and supported year 5 and 6 in their learning of songs. We also appreciate all the time given by Tony Newton who volunteers so often and offers his expertise. Finally, we are grateful to Ian Brewer (Delci's and Freya's dad) for providing lighting. We are awaiting photographs taken of the production as we go to print so these will be posted on the school website instead shortly.

Lost library books - help!

Over the last couple of years we have invested substantial amounts of money in ensuring that our library is well stocked but are a little concerned to see that the shelves look really depleted. We love the fact that many children read avidly and books disappear but do need to see them return. Please, please can you tackle backs of cars and bedrooms over the next couple of days so that we start next term with plenty of choice? We would be glad to see handfuls of books re-appearing.

If you have good quality books that the school might have and are no longer of interested in, we would also be glad of such donations. If we already have copies of these we will ensure that they are sent on to charity shops so that others can enjoy them.

Piano lessons

Sandra Fowler-Bennett has some places for budding pianists from September. If you are interested in knowing more, please ask the office for her contact details. She normally works in school part of Tuesday and Wednesday.

Top soil

Rob Bray, who looks after the school premises so well, was wondering if anyone had access to free top soil (preferably stone free) to improve the ground around the roundhouse. With the dry weather and many footsteps, the soil has really eroded away.

Table tennis club

Thank you to Nick Rump and Lee Neale for inspiring the children to play table-tennis every Friday morning. It is an immensely popular club and it's great to have such positive role models for the children to be with.

Ice lollies for the children

Thank you to the White Hart for giving the school ice lollies for the children. It is lovely to be able to have such treats in the Summer term.

Sheep dog trials

Another 'Thank you' goes to Chloe Blyth who has raised £80 at the Didling event last weekend for the school. We plan to spend it on something that all the children will enjoy.

Shopping/ begging list!

At bump up afternoon there was a request for good play items, boxes, stationery, etc. Thank you to those of you who have already offered such things. Several of us spotted a massive duvet box come in this week and we were all envisaging it being made into a range of things!

If you know of any lockable two, three or four drawer filing cabinets that are being discarded by local businesses, we would welcome such donations.

Departure

It is with great sadness, that I am letting you know that Wanda Grosvenor is leaving us at the end of term. She has been offered a new position, at the 11th hour, in another school where she will enjoy longer holidays! Already, she is asking if she can return to hear readers in her spare time (which of course we will welcome)!

Wanda has been with us for nine years and has worked hard supporting us and the children in many ways. She will be really missed.

At this point, we are advertising for a new teaching assistant. Should you know anyone who might be interested they are welcome to contact me. Breakfast club will continue as Jacks Upfold has offered to run the early morning session and will support after school care too.

Wedding bells!

In September, Miss Frampton will return to school as Mrs Kay - she will be getting married during the school holidays. We wish her and her groom, Andy, a lovely wedding day and, of course, happiness in their married life.

Summer homework

Over most Summer holidays, we see that children's skills often regress as a result of the long break so little activities to keep their maths and literacy skills going are really recommended.

Rather than ask children to do any formal writing in the holiday though, we thought it would be good to encourage them to enter the **writing competition**, sponsored by Jackson Stops and Staff Estate Agents, which offers prizes. We will therefore be sending fliers in the children's book bags as a way of getting them to write during the long break.

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Of course, any writing for real-purposes eg diaries, shopping lists, messages are helpful too. For maths, we ask that the children do real-life maths eg problems related to food (sharing, division and fractions, games in the car related to number plates, addition for shopping, etc) are all good ways of keeping maths thinking going. With this in mind, we are asking for **photos of children doing maths in unusual places or ways.**

On Monday, the library service visited. We would like children to try this year's **reading challenge as daily reading** will really help to keep this skill going. For anyone who finds it difficult to go to the library we will match their efforts with stickers or inexpensive prizes.

PTFA

Thank you to the PTFA team who ran the refreshments for the school production. It really helped make the evenings feel even more special. I would also like to express my thanks to all those on the committee, along with those who have lent a hand at events. We appreciate the time and effort that goes into making things run smoothly and raising funds for the school.

Key dates for your diary

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

Summer Term 2018	
Week beginning 23.6.18	
23.7.18	Whole school walk and picnic - parents welcome (please let office know if you are coming)
24.7.18	Last day of school year + Leavers' service 11am (Parish church)
Dates for 2018/19	
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.	
25.7.18	Summer holiday starts
3.9.18	INSET DAY
4.9.18	First day back for children
11.9.18	Residential y5/6 until 14.9.18
18.10.18	INSET DAY
19.10.18	INSET DAY
22.10.18	Half-term holiday
29.10.18	First day back after half-term
19.12.18	Last day of Autumn term
20.12.18	Christmas holiday
3.1.19	First day back after Christmas
15.2.19	INSET DAY
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	INSET DAY - tbc
23.7.19	Last day of school year
24.7.19	Summer holiday starts

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