

Harting Primary School Newsletter



Message from the Head

Happy New Year to everyone! The first piece of good news for the year is the arrival of Jane Maybury's baby, who arrived within a few days of finishing the term (as always, terribly well organised of Jane!) She has had a little girl, Miriam, who weighed in at 6lb 1oz. We send our congratulations to both Jane and her husband.

We welcome Anne Nixon back to Torberry - she and Michaela Lockrose have planned exciting learning for the children. This is based on the backbone curriculum, linked to 'Invaders', already set up. We are really fortunate to have two great teachers to run the class, whilst Jane is on maternity leave.

Other classes have a variety of themes to feed learning: Rother pupils will be basing their thinking and play on traditional stories with the topic entitled 'Once upon a time...'. Warren class will be focusing on 'Frozen'. This topic inspired much thinking and excitement when introduced two years ago. Downlands children will be 'Out of Africa', developing their understanding of culture and climate of some of the continent's countries. Beacon will follow a science based topic: 'Earth and Space' which considers adaptation, inheritance as well as learning about space - an opportunity for some really deep thinking.

I hope that all the children have a great start to the year and wish every Harting family a wonderful 2018 with many successes and much happiness.

Best wishes,

Fiona

Fiona Mullett

Year 6 took over the school!

On the first afternoon of Creative Christmas week, last term, the year 6 pupils ran the school. The younger children were taught about Christmas traditions from other countries by their new 'teachers' and assistants. Meanwhile, the two 'Head teachers' did lesson observations, based on Ofsted criteria, and later fed back to their staff!

In addition to teaching staff, there were two caretakers who had thought that they might repair footballs and test that they were working



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'Love others as yourself'
Worship Theme: Perseverance

Issue 8 (week beginning 1.1.18)

by playing a game! Instead, they ended up supporting the younger pupils by working in the outside area in preparation for the nativity.

The afternoon culminated in a St Lucia procession (a Swedish winter custom) with children sharing their creations, which included festive gingerbread, made that afternoon. All in all, it was a lovely way for older children to nurture the younger ones - something that the children are extremely good at.

The benefits of this activity include pupils developing their research and PowerPoint skills, used in preparation for the lessons that they delivered. It has also given them an appreciation of how learners are helped and provides the real teachers with an insight into ways they prefer to learn. Importantly, it was fun!



Christmas 'Thank you'!

There are a huge number of people we wish to thank for their help and support with all the Christmas activities and events - the PTFA gift and wrap; the Christmas lunch; the Creative Christmas sessions; the Christingle service; the nativity play; the carol singing; Nyewood Quins concert; and Salvation Army carol singing. We are grateful to you all in so many ways.

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Carol singing with the Salvation Army

This event was really appreciated by those in Harting village and we acquired additional singers, who joined us, at different places. It was wonderful to be able to serve the community by bringing them some festive songs - we are so well looked after by many of them. Thank you to Logan Elston's grandmother who made the most delicious mince-pies and mulled apple juice for us to share afterwards and, of course, the band from the Salvation Army. We raised over £120 which they will use to help others in the local community.

Assembly theme

After we have considered the new year and fresh starts, the theme of perseverance will be addressed through our daily worship. Along with this, some children each week will be considering the big question: What is precious to you? This gives the children a time to reflect and share some deeper thinking. Such opportunities allow philosophical reflection, with the chance to evaluate and discuss Christian values.

Christmas lunch

Thanks to all the parents who helped make this a fabulous event and, of course, to all kitchen and lunch staff. We are also grateful to Father Christmas for popping by.

Harting School visit the Harting Luncheon Club

As usual, year 6 were accompanied by the reception pupils who distributed Christmas stars that they had made. These were given to luncheon club guests who appreciated the counting skills that the star making task had required. Meanwhile the older children sang carols to all present.

We are looking forward to being able to support the luncheon club in a small way each term, rather than just at Christmas. Our first visit of the year will be with the O2 choir who will share some of their repertoire at the January lunch.

Sally Goodman

Sadly, Sally Goodman will be leaving us at half-term, in her current capacity within the school, to allow her to have time to do more of her own things. Having worked within the school for more than 17 years, she will be truly missed. We are, however, delighted that she will remain closely linked to the school as a school governor and continue to provide cover for classes, when needed.

Reminder: Reception class for 2018

Applications opened on Monday, 2nd October and close on **Monday, 15th January 2018** for reception places. These are made via West Sussex admissions:

www.westsussex.gov.uk/admissions or via Hampshire county admissions, if living in Petersfield or local villages.

PTFA

The next meeting will be at The White Hart on Tuesday, 9th January (9am). Please do make it if you can. This will be an opportunity for the new Co-Chairs to plan the calendar for the year.

Key dates for your diary

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

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. Therefore you are asked to take family breaks in school holidays only. The school website has the Absence policy, should you need clarification.

No sharing assembly for Torberry class in Spring term as Forest Schooling for year 5 most Fridays.

| Spring Term 2018 | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Week Beginning 1.1.18 | |
| 4.1.17 | Back to school |
| 9.1.18 | 9am PTFA meeting - White Hart |
| 16.1.18 | Year 5/6 to Chichester Children's Concert |
| 19.1.18 | Open Mic - Roundhouse (eve) |
| 26.1.18 | Sharing assembly: Rother/Downlands |
| 1.2.18 | Young Voices |
| 2.2.18 | Forest School (year 5) start - Fridays (+ one additional Monday tbc) |
| 9.2.17 | Last day of half term |
| 12.2.17 | Half term holiday |
| 19.2.17 | Back to school |
| 23.2.17 | Sharing assembly: Warren/Beacon |
| 27.2.18 | Parents' eve (Pupil conferences year 6) |
| 28.2.18 | Parents' eve (Pupil conferences year 6) |
| 1.3.18 | World book day - theme tbc |
| 2.3.18 | African dance sharing assembly (tbc) |
| 14.3.18 | Debating competition (MRC) |
| 16.3.18 | Open Mic - Roundhouse (eve) |
| 23.3.18 | Spelling Bee (y3-6) |
| | Last y5 Forest School |
| | 6.00- 7.30pm School disco and karaoke (tbc) |
| 29.3.18 | 11am Easter service (Congregational church) - all welcome |
| | Last day of Spring term |
| 2.4.18 | Easter holiday |
| Summer Term 2018 | |
| Week Beginning 16.4.18 | |
| 16.4.18 | Back to school |
| 25.5.18 | Last day of half term |
| Half term: 28.5.18-1.6.18 | |
| Harting Festivities 28.5.18 | |
| Week beginning 4.6.18 | |
| 4.6.18 | INSET DAY |
| Week Beginning 11.6.18 | |
| 13.6.18 | pm Sports day |
| 20.6.18 | pm Reserve Sports day |
| 22.6.18 | INSET DAY |
| 24.7.18 | Last day of school year + Leavers' service (Parish church) |
| 25.7.18 | Summer holiday starts |

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