

Harting Primary School Newsletter



Message from the Head

It is always a delight to see old pupils! This week we had five of our old students supporting us. They chose to give up their inset day to help in school. We are really pleased that they wished to come back and share their time in this way. What's more, they were really helpful and the classes loved having the extra 'adults'.

We are really pleased to hear that things are going well for old students too. I recently had an email from a parent telling me that her son has been extremely well prepared by the school:

'I just wanted to share with you how lovely it was to hear from so many different teachers what a good grounding my child has obviously been given at primary school - and, more significantly, NOT just in maths and English. What better endorsement for you all- fabulous, thank you so much once again for being utterly brilliant!'

It is good to know that we are continuing to provide children with a strong foundation for learning but know that we don't always get things exactly right. Do let your class teacher know, in the first instance, if you should have any concerns about your child and we will endeavour to support them the best we can.

Thank you for entrusting your great children to our care.

Best wishes,

Fiona

'Wow' books

It is good to see the children starting to add things to their 'wow' books and sharing things that they are doing at home. Remember to continue to hear them read and enjoy reading to them - it makes such a difference to their language skills, as well as an opportunity to enjoy being together. 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.

Ideas for these 'unhomework' books include: writing a letter to the School Council about how to improve something at school; planning a party, costing the food and listing the games; designing a decoration for the Christmas tree or front door; or creating an image of a stained glass window using greaseproof paper. The options are endless.

Open classrooms

Parents are welcome to join their children, towards the end of the school day, to share work on 6th December (2.30-3.15pm). This is an opportunity to praise their successes and see progress.

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

Jolly jumper day

The School Council are keen to raise some money for their nominated charities. With that in mind, they have suggested that children wear jolly jumpers on Tuesday, 18.12.18 for a donation of £1.

Also, children are welcome to wear festive jumpers or hats for the Christmas lunch on the previous Wednesday, 12th December. No donation please on this day.

Parking

Recently, some of our visitors have parked on the corner of nearby roads, which has concerned residents and affected safety. Thank you to all families for being considerate- it is appreciated by our neighbours.

Christmas

We would welcome help on the day of the nativity to set up the seating area outside. If you are free on that Friday, we would appreciate offers of assistance. There may be other things we need beforehand - we will keep you posted.

Reminder: Beacon pupils will be supporting their buddies by singing in this year's nativity. We plan to keep the children in school until the production, itself, as it makes it much easier for all if they have a drink and snack in school before the 'show'.

Playtime

If children find that they are hungry at playtime, they are permitted to bring in a piece of fruit to eat. They will, however, be expected not to run around whilst eating it. We would prefer to limit snacks to fruit so the rules are the same for everyone.

Reminder: we are keen to let children have time outside but this can prove difficult if they do not have a coat with them. Please ensure that your child has remembered to bring one every day.

Church concert

The Friends of Harting Church invite you to a carol concert on Saturday, 15th December at 6pm in the parish church. Tickets are £10 for adults which includes refreshments. (No charge for children). The funds raised will be used to maintain the fabric of the church building.

Spotlight on safeguarding

We cannot emphasise enough that parents have an 'eye' on the children's internet usage. Remember that there are many ways that they can access the internet, other than just via phones and computers so you may wish to check, especially if your children play games. The controversial game, Fortnite, allows children to communicate with strangers, like other seemingly child-friendly games. Do have conversations with your children about how they would know if another player was a child, when online (they wouldn't, unless they know them personally). Try to give your child clear rules and ensure that they always know that, should they do something wrong; feel unsafe; or have agreed to do something they regret that they can still ask for your help.

There will be a workshop for parents on e-safety at Fernhurst school - see attached flier or poster in the pupil entrance.

Operation Christmas Child

We are looking forward to packing shoeboxes tomorrow and thank everyone for sending in gifts. Do join us for the assembly, if you are free.

Planters

Thank you to Dylan Walker, Rufius's dad, for providing wood and helping create two new planters with our caretaker, Rob Bray. We really appreciate the time it took and their generosity.

We are in the process of trying to improve the outside area near to Rother, hence the removal of the planters. I applied for, and was successful, in gaining a grant so watch this space!

Application for reception places 2019

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

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.

Governor questionnaire

Thank you for completing the questionnaire, from the governors, to help improve the school. Should you wish to have a copy or return one, please contact the school office.

Message from PTFA Chair

As Black Friday and Cyber Monday have now been upon us, in anticipation of Christmas shopping, I thought a reminder about our easyfundraising account may be timely! You may already know about the account that was set up for the PTFA a few years ago but in case you're not familiar with it, it's a really easy way to raise money for us. You just use the easyfundraising site to shop online with more than 3,300 well known online stores like Amazon, Argos, John Lewis, ASOS, Booking.com, eBay, Boden, and M&S and when you make a purchase, the retailer sends us a free donation, at no extra cost to you.

We want to raise as much as possible for the school - and are fundraising for a new sound system to be used in assemblies, the school production, Harting's Got Talent, etc - so please visit our easyfundraising page at <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/hartingptfa/> and click 'support us'.

Thank you - and good luck with your Christmas shopping!

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 26.11.18 Last week for most clubs		
30.11.18	2.30pm	Operation Christmas Child + assembly
Week Beginning 3.12.18		
6.12.18	2.30-3.15pm	Open classrooms
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
	3.45pm	KS1 nativity
Week beginning 17.12.18		
18.12.18	All day	Jolly Jumper day: £1 for charity
	Pm	Concert for children in school
	7pm	Carol singing around the village with Salvation Army
19.12.18	2.30pm	Christingle Service (children to be picked up from the church)
		Last day of term

Dates for 2019

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.

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
23.7.19	Last day of school year
24.7.19	Summer holiday starts

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