

# Harting Primary School Newsletter



## Message from the Head

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As a teaching staff, we read as a 'journal club' each week to keep up to date on the latest research and articles, related to teaching and learning. The last paper was about the importance of play which powerfully argued that imaginative play enables language development and allows children to process their learning. Interestingly, they used fantasy stories in their project to stimulate it.

With national testing in our sights, I heavily recommend that your children (no matter which year group) are allowed time for such opportunities at home. I believe that by investing in play we are serving the children's future mental health too. So, if you want to know how to help the children in their SATs, one of the things to do is to let them play!

Best wishes,

*Fiona*

## Topics

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The children are already immersed in their topics for the term:

Rother - 'How does your garden grow?' with plenty of outdoor activity planned.

Warren - 'Green Fingers' in which Peter Rabbit is featuring strongly!

Downlands - 'Who do you think you are?' related to families with a strong personal and social theme.

Torberry - 'Mind and Body Detectives'. It is worth asking the children about mashing foods to see how their digestive system works - something they did this week!

Beacon - 'Dragons Den' and 'Mountains and Coasts'. We look forward to finding out more about the year 6's latest enterprise projects.

Two weeks ago the curriculum topics were reviewed by the School Council - there was just one geography topic which seems to need re-branding! We will work to make it more inspiring.

## Shortlisted project with National Trust

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We are delighted to learn that last year's enterprise project with the National Trust (making bird boxes for nesting on the Uppark site) has been shortlisted for the finals of Horticulture Week awards (the industry journal). We look forward to seeing how they go in June.

## Rother Valley Hub Roadshow

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Attached to this newsletter is an invitation to attend a 'roadshow' where there will be experts from health, libraries, education, etc who can provide guidance and 'signpost' you to help that you might need with family life and the bringing up of children. Those parents, who have been in the past, have found it very useful.

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

### PANTS - keeping safe message

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This resource has recently been used by Rother class but is useful for parents to discuss with all children about what is 'private', as part of keeping themselves safe. Although it is a very short, funny animation with a song, it holds a serious message and was created by the NSPCC: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/underwear-rule>

Whilst on the subject of pants, it is always helpful to be given outgrown pairs as, from time to time, children need spares. It would be great if we could have extras as they do have a habit of 'evaporating'!

### Waitrose green tokens

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We are delighted to hear from Waitrose that we will be presented with a cheque for £236, based on the tokens collected. We are also grateful to anyone who posted one on our behalf.

### Additional clubs

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We are keen to run our music club again but we have been asked if a parent volunteer would be able to attend to support the leader. It is likely to be offered on a Friday after school and cost about £2 per session, depending on numbers - do let us know if your child would like to join in and if you could also attend.

An approach has been made to us, by an outside provider, to run a cookery club. This would cost £6 per session. If this is something that would interest your child, please let the office know so we can consider whether it is offered.

Please let the school office know by Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> May if your child might like to attend either of these clubs, should they be viable.

### PTFA

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The PTFA, as a registered charity, also have to be GDPR compliant. Although less complex than for the school itself, the committee would be most grateful if, when you receive an email asking you to 'opt in', you would respond as quickly as possible. This will allow them to continue to send out messages by email/ WhatsApp.

### After School Care

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Reminder: there is now an after school provision so children are looked after until 6pm on a Monday. It continues to be available on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings too. Breakfast club runs every day from 7.45-8.30am. If you are interested in any of these sessions, please contact Viv Wilson in the school office to book your child a place.

### Wanted

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Does anyone have any railway sleepers or netting that they would be willing to donate to school. The vegetable garden outside Rother and Warren class are in need of repair. Please speak to Viv Wilson in the school office.

Many Thanks

## 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.

Summer Term 2018	
4.5.18	Sharing assembly: Torberry/Rother
7.5.18	Bank holiday
11.5.18	Torberry trip - archaeological dig
14.5.18	SATs week: y6
18.5.18	7.30pm Open Mic in Roundhouse
25.5.18	Last day of half term
25.5.18	Harting's Got Talent Heats
Half term: 28.5.18-1.6.18	
Harting Festivities 28.5.18	
Week beginning 4.6.18	
4.6.18	<b>INSET DAY</b>
Week Beginning 11.6.18	
13.6.18	pm Sports day
20.6.18	pm Reserve Sports day
22.6.18	<b>INSET DAY</b>
25.6.18	Chichester cathedral Leavers' service
4.7.18	<b>MRC transition day</b>
6.7.28	Sharing assembly: Beacon, Downlands, Warren
9.7.18	Y3 swimming starts
10.7.18	<b>TPS - Parent/Child information evening</b>
12.7.18	School production
13.7.18	School production
13.7.18	<b>TPS transition day</b>
16.7.18	Bikeability starts y6
23.7.18	Whole school walk and picnic (tbc)
24.7.18	Last day of school year + Leavers' service (Parish church)
25.7.18	Summer holiday starts
3.9.18	<b>INSET DAY</b>
4.9.18	First day back for children
18.10.18	<b>INSET DAY</b>
19.10.18	<b>INSET DAY</b>
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

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