

Harting Primary School Newsletter



Message from the Head

This term our school clubs have a distinctly healthy flair with stay and play, parachute games, dance, hockey, running club, table tennis, cooking, etc. I am really grateful to the staff for sharing their own interests and leading them in their own time - it is wonderful to be able to offer these without a cost, especially as many schools are having to charge. Equally, I am pleased that Aspire continue to lead their sports clubs, after school, and Nick Rump and Lee Neale start Fridays with table tennis. It is great that all children, irrespective of family income, can join with their friends and widen their experiences. Should you have a talent or interest, to share with the children, we would be glad to hear from you.

We are grateful too to many of you for the way in which you support us and the pupils in different ways. Governors work hard, in the background, to steer the school and provide strategic leadership. Recently, I enjoyed feedback from one of the governors, who had met with a subject leader, and interviewed children - it is wonderful to have additional pairs of eyes checking on school life.

Another group, who give much of their time, is the PTFA. They both provide us with additional funds and enhance social events. The latest gift was the panto (see below) and many children are looking forward to the school disco on Friday.

Thank you all for the support.

Best wishes,

Fiona

Pantomime



The school thoroughly enjoyed the annual pantomime performed in the school hall on Tuesday afternoon. Cinderella was delivered with a very modern twist with contemporary dances and songs, requiring audience participation.

Thank you to the PTFA for funding

this again - it was a real treat for the children.



PEANUT FREE

Thank you for the massively supportive response from you all. We are really grateful that you are taking the need to avoid peanuts coming into school so seriously. Should you have any queries, at any point, you are welcome to check with us and we will come back to you with an answer, even if we don't know.

Key Harting values: love and respect
'Love others as yourself'
Worship Theme: Lord's prayer

Fairtrade - wrappers needed!

Urgently needed: wrappers from foods which are fairly traded! We are creating an art display for a shop in Petersfield and Buriton church in February. Please send in whole wrappers as well as Fairtrade stickers.

Spotlight on safeguarding

In the past, we know that some children have gained access to Grand Theft Auto at home. I naively had no knowledge of the game but now know that it is an action-adventure video game where players control criminals to complete unlawful missions. As the game progressed a narrative was added which makes the player believe that they have become the character who is breaking the law - encouraging gamers to complete criminal acts. It includes profane language, sex and violence. It is accessible through PlayStation, Xbox, desktops, PSP, Nintendo DS and mobiles.

National on-line safety has produced a safety guide for parents:

https://nationalonlinesafety.com/resources/platform-guides/grand-theft-auto-online-safety-guide-for-parents/?mc_cid=01e2fbc7e5&mc_eid=f530f60cf3

Possibly a **greater risk** to primary age children is on-line chat, which is offered by many games, including Fortnite (which we know many of the children in our school play) and Fifa. Parentzone offers information on this so do look at this link:

https://parentzone.org.uk/article/game-chat-what-you-need-know?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=ALL@%2023.01%20-%20IN-GAME%20CHAT

Children's concert

Torberry and Beacon classes again enjoyed the orchestral concert held at Chichester Festival Theatre last week. They returned beaming, having listened to pieces by Strauss, Rameau, Albinoni, Tchaikovsky, Anderson, Offenbach, Strauss and Willcocks (the conductor). Two of our pupils starred as a percussionist and a conductor during the performance.

We are very grateful to Jonathan Willcocks who came in to school beforehand to teach the children one of his songs, which was used in the concert.

Outside area



Last Thursday, there was great excitement in school whilst the new 'gazebo' was being constructed! The funds for this came from the 'sugar tax' pot, following my successful bid. The area is to be completely developed during the half-term holiday to enable KS1 children to play outside more often on an 'all weather surface'. The building itself, can be adapted to offer all sorts of play opportunities. We are grateful to Rob Bray, along with Viv Wilson, for their dedication to ensuring that things run to schedule. You will also remember that Dylan Walker gave us sleepers and created new planters, ready for this project, with Rob earlier in the year which was the first step in the project.

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New member of staff

We are delighted to welcome Amy Burrows to our staff. As part of her interview, some of the Downlands children enjoyed being taught a playground game by her - we look forward to her working with the rest of the school each day at lunchtimes, starting tomorrow.

Chartwells

We have been asked to let you know that after the half-term break, the school lunch will be really simple as we await the delivery. The children will be offered jacket potatoes with various fillings.

Passport forms

Although we understand that, for some families, the school is the only place where there are professionals, who have known their children for more than a year, we are receiving an increasing number of passport form requests. This adds to an already heavy workload and, as it is not related to life of the school, we are asking for your help.

If you do know someone else who might complete the form for you, we would be most grateful if you could ask them first. Should, however, you not have a contact with relevant qualifications we ask that parents, with children at the school, contribute £2.50 per passport form and ex-pupils' families donate £5 to school funds.

'Wow' books

Thank you for encouraging your children to add photos, notes and pictures to their 'Wow' books. Please do also practice simple maths activities at home, along with continuing to read each day- ideas on the school website. Conversations with your children will impact on their learning more than most people realise so spending time talking is really beneficial too.

Guitar

Are there any year 2 children who would like to form a guitar group? Please let the office know as Jamie West, our teacher, would enjoy forming a band for players of this age range.

PTFA

Remember to collect unwanted clothes and textiles for the PTFA sale/ bagged textiles. See date below

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.

Holiday 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.	
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

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Key events for Spring term

Spring Term 2019		
1.2.19	pm	Y6 cross-country at MRC
	pm	Y5 Forest School starts
	Eve	School disco
5.2.19	pm	RV School Council (12.30-2.30)
14.2.19	All day	Mufti-day: 50p+ to wear own clothes
	3.05pm	PTFA cake sale
15.2.19	INSET DAY	
Week beginning 18.2.19: half-term		
25.2.19	Back to school	
1.3.19	2.30pm	Sharing assembly Beacon/Warren/Rother
5.3.19	pm	Parents' eve
6.3.19	pm	Parents' eve
7.3.19	All day	World book day
15.3.19	pm	Y6 MRC netball
	Eve	Open mic
26.3.19	pm	RV debate
28.3.19	Eve	RV Arts - dance
5.4.19	11am	Easter service (Congregational church)
		Last day of Spring term
Summer Term 2019		
12.6.19	pm	Sports day (tbc)
19.6.19	pm	Reserve Sports day (tbc)
2.7.19	am	Leavers' service at Cathedral
11.7.19	6pm	School production
12.7.19	6pm	School production
23.7.19	Last day of school year	
24.7.19	Summer holiday starts	

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