

Harting Primary School Newsletter



Message from the Head

Many of the children are already becoming immersed in their term's topics and it's wonderful to see some of the younger pupils playing in role play areas related to them. Downlands children are enjoying accessing a 'farm shop' which involves 'money' changing hands and weighing vegetables - such a great way to develop and secure maths knowledge. Play is a fantastic way to learn and enables children to process their thinking.

Beacon pupils are heading towards their SATs, which start in just over a week. This is an exciting time when they can enjoy the intellectual challenges of the tests, preceded by the fun of taking-over the staff room for a rowdy breakfast!

Although we do some preparation for national assessments, this is to avoid stress on the day. For us, it is most important that the children are ready to tackle questions rather than 'hot-house' them. Of course, we want them to do well and feel successful but 'children need to be children'! By investing in their well-being now, we hope to protect their future health.

At times, parents ask how they can help their children in the immediate run up to SATs. For me, the answer would be to get them to 'play hard'; enjoy family times; and have plenty of rest. With that in mind, I hope that all our year 6 pupils (and, of course, everyone else) have an especially lovely, relaxed weekend.

Best wishes,

Fiona

Maths games

On the subject of play, I recently received information about really good games to help with maths and strategic thinking. This website has recommendations of games that are really good to develop such skills:

<https://blog.mindresearch.org/blog/big-list-mathematical-board-games>

Peanut free food

Thank you to everyone for adhering to our request to avoid sending in foods with peanuts in them. We really appreciate your support with this and it enables one of our children to attend school safely. I know that the family are also really grateful for your thoughtfulness.

Harting's Got Talent

At the end of this half-term, we look forward to the heats of Harting's Got Talent. Each year, someone stuns or surprises us with their amazing talent. We have had several comedians who have entertained us; magicians with clever tricks; dance troops; a uni-cyclist who told a story; poetry recitals; synchronised movers on pogo sticks; and talented musicians to recall just a few. The creativity of Harting families is astonishing. We therefore ask that you encourage your children to have a go and enjoy preparing their acts to perform in front of a very kind school audience and lovely judges.

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

Toys and slime in school

The School Council met this week and asks that children do not bring toys into school. Their reasoning was they feel that swaps and loans cause upset. This, as it happens, supports the school's policy so it was good to hear their thinking. Only toys related to topic work (or when there is a particular emotional need) should be brought in. If the latter is the case, the school staff should be aware. Sadly, we cannot take responsibility for the loss of such items.

The other thing that the children asked not to come into school was slime, putty or blue-tack! I suspect that blue-tack actually comes off displays but none of it is really desirable as a toy or to be chewed!

Playground after school

Please note that on a Tuesday (and occasionally another day of the week) we will need to clear the playground and field of parents and pupils quickly. This enables us to run the go-kart club so children can have as much time as possible to practice driving. As it does about 15 miles per hour, I am very aware that a collision with someone could really hurt!

Plastic free day - 9th May

Remember that we are trying to encourage the use of less disposable plastic in lunchboxes with a particular focus on 9th May. The children's packed lunches are often wrapped in lots of cling film, etc, as were mine until recently. There are times when it's difficult to avoid simply using re-usable plastic but at least we can try!

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.	
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 events for Summer term

Summer Term 2019		
Week beginning 29.4.19		
3.5.19	pm	Y1 - Forest school start
Week Beginning 6.5.19		
6.5.19	Bank holiday	
7.5.19		Fire brigade visit Rother and Warren
9.5.19		Plastic-free lunchboxes
10.5.19	pm	Y1 - Forest school
	2.30pm	Sharing assembly: Torberry/Rother

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Week Beginning 13.5.19 KS2 SATs		
17.5.19	3.	Y1 - Forest school
	3pm	PTFA cake sale
	Eve	Open Mic
Week beginning 20.5.19		
24.5.19	Pm	Y1 - Forest school
	pm	Harting's Got Talent Heats
Half term: 27.5.19		
Harting Festivities 27.5.19		
Week beginning 3.6.19		
7.6.18	pm	Y1 - Forest school
	pm	Stedham football tournament - y6
	6pm	Harting's Got Talent Finals
Week Beginning 10.6.19		
12.6.19	1.15pm	Sports day - at Memorial Playing Field (Petersfield Road)
13.6.19	All day	Torberry trip
	6.30pm	New reception year parents' meeting
14.6.19	Pm	MRC cricket (y6)
	Pm	Y1 - Forest school
Week beginning: 17.6.19		
18.6.19	All day	Downlands trip (tbc)
19.6.19	1.15pm	Reserve Sports day
20.6.19	2.30pm	New yR storytime
21.6.19	INSET DAY -	
Week Beginning 24.6.19		
25.6.19	2.30pm	New yR storytime
28.6.19	All day	Rounders tournament
	All day	Y1 - Forest school
Week beginning 1.7.19		
1.7.19	Lunch	New yR visit for lunch
2.7.19	1.15pm	Leavers' service at Cathedral
3.7.19	All day	MRC transition day
4.7.19	AM	Class and Leavers photos
5.7.19	pm	Y1 - Forest school
		Sharing assembly: Downlands, Beacon
Week beginning 8.7.19		
9.7.19	Am	Y3 swimming
		Last Aspire for KS1
10.7.19	Am	Y3 swimming
	Am	RV Heads
	Pm	Dress rehearsal school production
11.7.19	Am	Y3 swimming
	6pm	School production
12.7.19	Am	Y3 swimming
	Pm	'Bump up' afternoon
	6pm	School production
Week Beginning 15.7.19 (y6 activity week)		
15.7.19	Am	Y3 Swimming
	Am	Bikeability y6
16.7.19		NO Swimming
	Am	Bikeability y6
	Pm	Y6 take over afternoon (teaching e-safety)

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17.7.19	Am	Y3 Swimming
	Am	Bikeability y6
	Pm	Y6 Sports afternoon
18.7.19	Am	Y3 Swimming
	Am	Bikeability y6
	1pm	Luncheon club: Warren class
	pm	Y6 Forest School (tbc)
	Pm	Year 6 sleepover
19.7.19	Am	Y3 Swimming
	Pm	Y6 Forest School (finish 4pm- tbc)
	Eve	Open mic
Week Beginning 22.7.19		
22.7.19	10am	Whole school walk and picnic
23.7.19	11am	Leavers' service
	Last day of school year	
24.7.19	Summer holiday starts	

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