

Friday 24th April 2020

Dear Families,

It's the end of another week at Harnham Infant School. It feels unbelievable that it was 5 weeks ago that we shut the doors to the majority of children. Of course, there are the children of the keyworkers who are still coming in to school on some days, they are having an amazing time, being so sensible and enjoying learning with different children and making new friends. Every day is different and the staff working in school are going above and beyond to make sure the children have fun and stay engaged.

At home, the children and families have been fantastic at continuing to stay connected to us through the website, emails, telephone calls and of course, on Seesaw too. The teaching staff involved there are also working hard to make sure that we are offering plenty of choice of activities to do at home that are engaging, practical and fun without being overbearing. We recognise it is a delicate balance and would welcome any feedback from families. A big thank you to all of the staff for their continued dedication to their roles.

This newsletter contains a lot of (hopefully) helpful information as we look to continue our journey through lockdown. As always, if you have any comments, questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

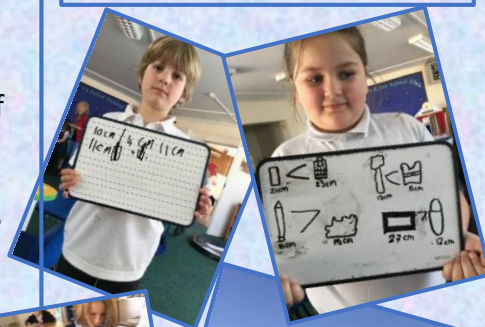
We are still thinking of you all and wishing you a fantastic weekend,
The Harnham Infant School Team



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Golden Mile

The children who remain in school as part of the provision for the nation's keyworkers have been busy running the Golden Mile. This week, they have run an impressive 25.61 miles! Well done children!



Telephone Calls

As you know, one of the ways we want to stay in touch with our families is by a telephone call. We would just like to reiterate that these phone calls are not to chase you over work or learning for your child, **they are simply to ensure that everyone in your household is safe and well** and to see if there is anything we can help with.

Please do not feel any pressure from the school or feel you need to start explaining what you have been doing in terms of learning. Your safety and well-being is our top priority. 😊



Alice and Sofia have been working on our wall to make it a rainbow xx



I did it and raised £20.00!



If you need help with anything or need some support, please email:
requestforsupport@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk



Frequent Questions we are being asked:

Here are some of the questions we are hearing a lot of presently and our answers (as it stands at the moment)

When will school be open again?

We simply do not know (and guessing is not helpful either) We are not gaining any further information than what is being reported in the media. As soon as we know anything, we promise we will let you know. We are missing everyone and looking forward to school being open again, that much is sure!

Will my child fall behind?

Please do not worry about your child 'falling behind'. Everyone is in the same boat and this time is a challenge for us all. The role of teaching has always been to find out what children know and to support them to learn more, which is what will happen when school is open again. In the meantime, please enjoy spending time with your children when you can, support them to develop and retain their resilience and learn about love and kindness along the way, we will all emerge ready for the next step.

What is going to happen about transition?

It is that time of year when we begin to think about the children "moving on". As we are not sure when schools are going to open, we are unable to plan our usual transition calendar at this time. However, we are discussing ways that we can still ensure an effective transition and can assure you that this will be handled sensitively too, to the children and to the situation.

Do I need to print everything that you upload?

Absolutely not! When uploading 'worksheet' activities, the teachers also upload as a template so that you can write on the top of it on your computer or device. Of course, you are welcome to print out if you wanted to or record answers in your exercise books, or even record voice clips of your children telling us their ideas and answers.

What about the BBC Bitesize, White Rose Maths and Oak Academy learning videos?

We know that many companies are publishing learning resources for children at home. We welcome these and fully endorse them. Please feel free to dip into them as little or as much as you like. This is not an expectation by any means! Harnham Infant School has always prided itself on adding a personal touch which is why we are recording our own videos and uploading to seesaw. The important thing in all of this is doing what you think is right for your child, even if this is your own thing at home. We would just love it if you can share it with us, that way we can say hello and pass on any useful hints and tips to other families too! ☺

If you have a question, about anything at all, big or small, please send an email to:

requestforsupport@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk

"Teaching kids to count is fine, but teaching them what counts is best."

- Bob Talbert



“

Trust the wait
Embrace the uncertainty
Enjoy the beauty of becoming
When nothing is certain,
anything is possible.

Mandy Hale

"LIFE isn't about waiting for the STORM TO PASS..."



≡IT'S ABOUT≡
learning to dance
IN THE RAIN

Round Up – Issue 4

Attached with this newsletter, you will find the next edition of 'Round Up', the weekly newsletter for children from Wiltshire Council.

Details are found within the newsletter how you can contribute towards it for next week's theme, which is all about food. Perhaps you might have a recipe to share that you have been trying out at home? Even so, I am sure you will enjoy the activities, jokes and puzzles that you can do at home.

An opportunity:

Here is a link if you fancy trying out some free yoga sessions at home. The children can learn simple yoga postures, a sequence and a relaxation technique, and the whole family will be having fun at the same time. To access this, please visit or click on: <https://bit.ly/2XS0EVV>

Seesaw

We are so pleased with the number of families choosing to interact with teaching staff on Seesaw. Whether it is to have a go at the activities set, to send us a message or to upload photographs of some of the other exciting things you have been doing at home, we really are very grateful! We are so pleased of the positive feedback we have received about the videos that the teachers have been posting to match the maths and reading activities, so do look out for more of these next week too.

Video calls / chats

We have had a number of parents asking whether there is any way we can host a video opportunity for the children to see their friends and interact. As much as we would love to, sadly this would go against all of the union and county advice we have been given. We apologise for this but hope that groups of parents might be able to coordinate these opportunities within your households.



The greater
your storm
the
brighter
your
rainbow



Wiltshire Libraries

The staff from Wiltshire Libraries are working hard to keep in contact with families. Please support our local libraries by logging on to their Youtube channel where you can access even more stories and activities for the children:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwNQy_yxjik915x9rdiWj1g

Blogs

Remember to check the class blogs on the school website. The teachers are writing a weekly post and uploading photographs so that the children can see what their friends have been doing at home too. Thank you!

Support with Mental Health

If you have mental health concerns about a child or young person, here are some useful contact details for Wiltshire:

What time is it?	The number to phone:
9am – 5pm on a weekday	01865 903777
5pm – 9am on a weekday or on weekends	01865 901000
Other useful sources of support in your area:	https://www.onyourmind.org.uk/

Start of the Week Storytime for Schools!

(be it your sitting room, kitchen table, classroom, school hall...!)

10:00am
Monday 27 April

**Please join Tracy for a few stories
and hear about our latest reading
offers and challenges!**

Via our **Chippenham Library**
or
Trowbridge Library
Facebook Pages

Love Reading,
Love Libraries

Wiltshire Council

New Entrants for September 2020 – Spaces available

We still have spaces for children due to start school in September if you know of anyone who might be looking for an alternative school to the one they have been allocated. Thank you for your support.

Don't forget to catch up with all the Bedtime Stories on the School Blog! ☺



The Gruffalos stayed in the Gruffalo cave.
The Gruffalo's Child did her best to behave.

Notices for Keyworker Children IN SCHOOL

Menu for next week:

Monday – Sausages or Vegetarian Sausages and Mash

Tuesday – Roast Beef or Quorn Burgers, Roast Potatoes and Vegetables

Wednesday – Pizza or Bubble Salmon and Potato Wedges

Thursday – BBQ Chicken Pasta or Tomato Pasta

Friday - Fish Fingers or Vegetable Goujons and Chips

Please remember to send your child in with a water bottle and a mid-morning snack too. (No nuts please)

Reading Books

We still have a number of books in school to giveaway. With this in mind, and with social distancing measures in place, weather permitting, we are going to put the books on the green on Parsonage Green for you to browse and help yourself to while out for your allocated exercise each day. We will send a text when the books are going out so you'll know when to come, they will be there for a long period of time so please don't all rush at once and make sure that you remain more than 2 metres apart at all times. Thank you.

Birthdays this week:

We love to celebrate birthdays at Harnham Infant School! Mrs Shaw celebrates all the children with birthdays this week in her assembly on the school blog! Check it out, especially if you turned 5, 6 or 7 this week!



Staff Quiz

As a staff we are all missing being together at school so this week, we held an online quiz. Thank you to Mrs Batchelor for organising this and congratulations to the following members of staff:

1st – Mrs Sowerby

2nd – Miss Swaine and Mrs Allexant

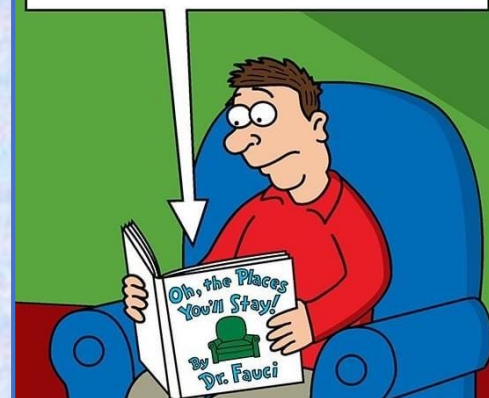
3rd – Mrs Thorndike

Special congratulations to Mrs Salmon who miscounted her score and declared herself the winner afterwards!

"Stay in your house," said the wise old man.



You'll stay on the couch! You'll stay in your room!
You'll stay in a chair for a meeting on Zoom!
You'll stay in the bathroom—a brief getaway!
There are so many places at home you will stay!



Something for the weekend:

You have probably heard about the Peregrine Falcons currently nesting at Salisbury Cathedral. Why not have a look this weekend on the live webcam at these amazing birds. Here are some useful links:

<https://www.salisburycathedral.org.uk/visit-what-see/peregrine-falcons-0>

<https://birdcams.live/webcam/bird-nest/peregrine-falcon/falco-peregrinus/peregrine-falcons-28>

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