

Friday 13th November 2020

Dear Families,

Another Autumnal week is coming to a close. The nights are drawing in and the weather is changeable at best, but nothing seems to darken or dampen the spirit in the learning that is happening in our school. The children have, once again, proven how they are rising to meet expectations, responding to challenges and motivated to learn. This week, Miss Dorrington has been able to visit the learning happening in classrooms and observe (from a good social distance) and has been made to feel very proud of the children and what they are achieving. We have also had our first meeting of this school year with our School Improvement Advisor from Wiltshire Council who said that he is encouraged to hear that our school has responded to the pandemic and welcomed children back fully into school life in a dignified and responsible way.

Don't forget that class teachers update the class Seesaw or Tapestry account with an informative post at the end of each week to tell you about the children's learning and give you suggestions of how you can get involved at home. We hope you enjoy these and find them helpful.

Wishing you a lovely weekend,

The Harnham Infant School Team



Communication

Please may we encourage you to download to your devices the School Gateway App. We are trying to centralise our communication through this one main method and will be how we send messages and reminders to parents. Thank you for your support with this.

The Poppy Appeal:

Thank you very much for supporting this year's Poppy Appeal by sending in your donations. We hope you enjoyed spotting on the children's poppies on your journeys to and from school.



Coronavirus Costs – can you help?

When we had to lockdown and close the school in March 2020, the government pledged to reimburse schools for any 'extra' costs they incurred as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. This was the case up to and including July 2020. However, no such pledge has been given with regards to this academic year. As you can imagine, we are using additional cleaning products, paper towels and have had to purchase additional equipment, such as PPE in order to safely remain open since 1st September. Teaching and Headteacher unions are encouraging us to ask parents to write to their local MP to ask for schools to be reimbursed for the additional costs they are incurring. School budgets are already to the wire and we would really appreciate parental support with this. You can find out how you can get in touch with the MP for Salisbury here:

<https://members.parliament.uk/member/4051/contact>

Promotional Video

Do any parents have skills they would be willing to share with us? We would like to create a promotional video to publicise our lovely school. If any parents have creative skills in videoing and editing and would be willing to support this project, please get in touch with Miss Dorrington.

Head@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk



Newsletter 9

Christmas Shoe Box Appeal:

Our school community has sent a brilliant 25 boxes to the Shoebox Appeal this year. Thank you for your donations, I am sure they will make some little people have very big smiles!

If you would still like to donate a box, please contact the charity yourselves through their website:

<https://www.fscinet.org/w-hat-we-do/christmas-box-appeal/>

Children in Need

Thank you for supporting Children in Need today. We have raised a fantastic £241.68 towards this worthwhile cause.

Dojo Treats:

Robin Class have reached 1,000 dojo points and have chosen to have a DVD and popcorn for their reward. This will happen next Friday, 20th November. If you have any questions, please get in touch with the class teacher.

Reading Records:

Please can children's reading records be sent into school every day in their book bags? We are working hard to read with children on a regular basis and would like to record this in their reading records for you to see too. Thank you!

Golden Mile Sponsorship

Miss Spellar has set the children a fundraising challenge to try and increase funding to buy more iPads for the children to use in school:

EYFS are running across the width of the England (300 miles)

Year 1 are running from Land's End to John O'Groates (603 miles)

Year 2 are running from Land's End to John O'Groates and back! (1206 miles)

Each time the children take part in the Golden Mile at school, their distance is calculated towards reaching their goals. Here is a summary of our progress so far.:

EYFS = 61 miles

Y1 = 65 miles

Y2 = 108 miles

Don't forget you can sponsor this children with this challenge by clicking on this link:

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/harnham-infants-a-run-for-ipads>

Thank you for your support! ☺

Reminders

- Dogs on site – Dogs are not permitted on school site. Please do not walk them through the school gates, not even in your arms. Thank you.
- Driving up the road – please remember you are not permitted to drive up and down Saxon Road at drop off and pick up or any other time. This is permit only or for disabled access. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

Lunchboxes on the Playground:

The lunchbox trolleys will be put on the playground at the beginning and end of each day. Please encourage your child to collect their own lunch box from the trolley. However, if parents do need to get the lunchboxes, please do not cross the red line which is painted on the playground in order to support social distancing measures in place. Thank you.

Christmas Food Parcels

The foodbank have been in touch with us to ask if we have any families who would benefit from receiving a Christmas Food Parcel this year. This support is going beyond their normal service as they seek to help more families than ever during these challenging times. The large food boxes contain essential food items like tins, pasta, cereal, UHT milk and some Christmas treats like Christmas pudding, chocolate selection boxes, crackers. (Everything is subject to availability, the content slightly varies from box to box.)

The Christmas Food Hampers will be delivered on 21st December and someone must be at home to receive them.

If you know your family would benefit from an additional food parcel this year, please get in touch with Mrs Pike by emailing lpike@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk or telephoning the school.

We promise to treat every single referral with total confidentiality. Thank you.

CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK: 8 REASONS WHY READING IS GOOD FOR CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH



Reading cultivates empathy and can even improve their social skills.



Books allow them to escape into other realities and worlds.



Reading for pleasure can lower their stress and promote relaxation.



Books invite them to think and problem solve, thus improving creativity.



Reading can improve their memory and reduce the risk of falling behind.



Reading can help development at school and reduce exam anxiety.



Reading before bed can help them establish a regular bedtime routine.



The stories of others can help them put their own life into perspective.



Menu for Next Week:

We are pleased to be offering the following choices of hot dinners for next week:

Monday – Chicken Goujons or Free-range omelette with crinkle cut wedges and beans

Tuesday – Beef Lasagne or Oriental Fried Rice and seasonal vegetables

Wednesday – Tuna and Sweetcorn Pasta Bake or Pizza with diced potatoes

Thursday – Roast Gammon or Vegetarian Sausages, Yorkshire Pudding, potatoes and vegetables

Friday – Fish Fingers or Somerset cheese and tomato Quesadilla and chips



Something for the Weekend:

The Wiltshire Family and Community Learning organisation are putting on some free events for families over the weekend. You can find out more information here:

<https://www.facebook.com/Wiltfamilylearning/photos/a.747771565270398/3501920846522109/?type=3>

