

Friday 26th June 2020

Dear Families,

We have made it to the end of another week at school and at home-school and if you made it through without melting then we think you've done very well indeed! It has been a scorcher! The children have been incredible though, as always, at being sensible in the heat and following all the sun safety advice, which has been talked about in class and during online assembly time too.

Everyone has wandered further 'Into the Woods' to visit Little Red Riding Hood's grandma this week in a wonderful Talk for Writing project, which has been brilliant too, culminating in the children at home completing some marketing of their new books and I believe the teachers have already tried to order their own signed copies!

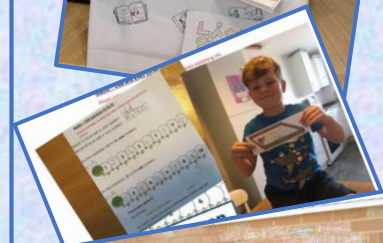
We were treated to a singing and dancing delight in school where each bubble performed a song or a dance online to each other. It was such a fantastic event!

The way everyone (whether at school or at home) has embraced the changes in communication and finding new ways to connect has been really very special. These deep rooted connections are what makes us a family that we are all very proud to be part of.

Wishing you a lovely weekend,
The Harnham Infant School Team



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End of term arrangements:

The Department for Education have now confirmed that they have no expectation for schools to remain open during the summer holidays. Therefore, the end of term arrangements are as follows:

Friday 17th July, lunchtime: School finishes for EYFS and Year 1 non-keyworker children.

Monday 20th and Tuesday 22nd July: School is open for Keyworker children only.

Wednesday 23rd July: School Closed for Teacher Training Day (due to previous ones being cancelled earlier this month)

We have made these decisions because we are also anticipating arrival of the guidance from the DfE very shortly about the changes that will need to happen in order to be ready for September so intend to spend the time organising what needs to happen to be ready for the new term. We will also be able to ask teachers to telephone their new classes and complete their handover meetings too. Thank you for your understanding.

Summer Holiday Childcare:

The DfE and Wiltshire Council are putting together a list of providers of childcare through the summer holidays for families who may need to access this. We will send this to you as soon as it becomes available.

If you need help with anything or need some support, please email:

requestforsupport@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk



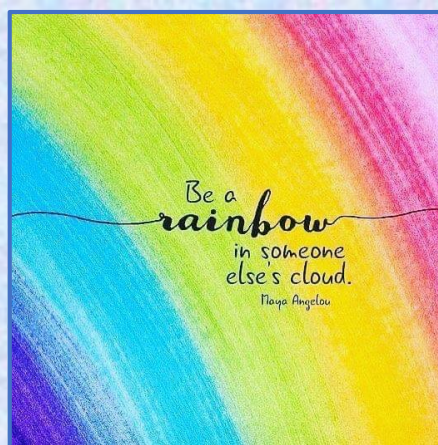
Youtube clips / Games

We would like to give a blanket reminder to all parents to please check very carefully that the videos your children are watching on youtube, as well as the games they are playing online at home, are appropriate for their age.

We have had a number of children who have recently disclosed information about something they have watched which we would not deem appropriate for infant children. There are potential further dangers in that, when talking with their friends, multiple children can become impacted and upset by it. Please check age restrictions and contents of videos really carefully. Thank you.

there's NO "right"
way to get through
these weird times.
Do what works
FOR YOU ♥

@lexliannemadart



Return to School Places

We are now becoming inundated with requests for children to return to school. All of the 'bubbles' that we have opened are now **full** so, at this present time, we are sorry to say that we are unable to offer any further school spaces. As restrictions allow and further staff return to school, we may be able to increase the number of children and Mrs Pike has started a waiting list. Therefore, if you are still interested in returning to school, please send an email to Mrs Pike at requestforsupport@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk

Safeguarding Update:

The Department for Education have published some updated guidance for parents about how to ensure your children are kept safe from abuse and harm. Please find their updated information at this link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-keeping-children-safe-from-abuse-and-harm/advice-to-parents-and-carers-on-keeping-children-safe-from-abuse-and-harm>

Notices for children still learning at home:

Thank you to all those children who have taken part in our Talk for Writing competition. We are so happy with the response and it has been lovely to see so many children enjoying storytelling at home. Just a reminder that the closing date for this is Monday 29th June at 9am so please post your child's work on Seesaw before then so judging can commence! Every child who enters will receive a special certificate direct to their Seesaw account and we have prizes for our winning children in each year group! Results of our competition will come to you via Seesaw on Tuesday morning. Good luck!

Next week the children at home will be taking part in an exciting project with Save the Children Fund. Harnham Infants have been chosen to name 76 of the 100 bears which will be hidden around the City Centre as part of their annual fundraising event! Please look out for a video from Mrs Allexant on Monday to tell you more about this and how your child can name the bear they have been allocated plus some ideas of other bear related learning activities to engage with at home. As we don't have enough bears for the numbers of children in the whole school we have decided to give the children at home this opportunity. However, if your child is at school they too will be taking part in their own special bear related activities in the week beginning Monday 6th July.

We do hope that the children at home will engage well with this project and get involved so that our entire city can benefit from all the teddy bear fun! Thank you!

Transition Update

This week has been another busy week in terms of transition arrangements for our children. We held the information evening for our new families coming in September online via 'Zoom' last night. The turnout for this event was really pleasing indeed and it was so great to find ways that we can support the new reception children coming in to school that are different to our usual programme. We are looking forward to getting to know the children and families more over the next few weeks. Children have been able to access some picture clues from their new teacher, either via Seesaw or in school, in this getting to know you exercise. We have encouraged children to guess things about their new teacher and to send back their own picture clues if they have wanted to. Today, a video from your child's new teacher has been uploaded to Seesaw if you are in year R or Year 1. For our year 2 children, the teachers have met with the junior school year 3 teachers online this week to complete a thorough handover of information about the classes as a whole and the children as individuals. These meetings have been really successful and we are very excited for our Dragonflies, Owls and Badgers to take these exciting steps in their journey. Mrs Pike has held another weekly meeting with Miss Fletcher and Mrs Quartley to continue to discuss the year 2 transition journey and we know that the year 2 children will be receiving a letter from their year 3 teacher/s very shortly. If you have any worries about any aspect of transition, please do not hesitate to get in touch via the support email below.

Birthdays this week:

Mrs Shaw celebrates the birthdays of anyone who turned 5, 6 or 7 this week on the school blog! We love celebrating birthdays!

Bedtime Stories

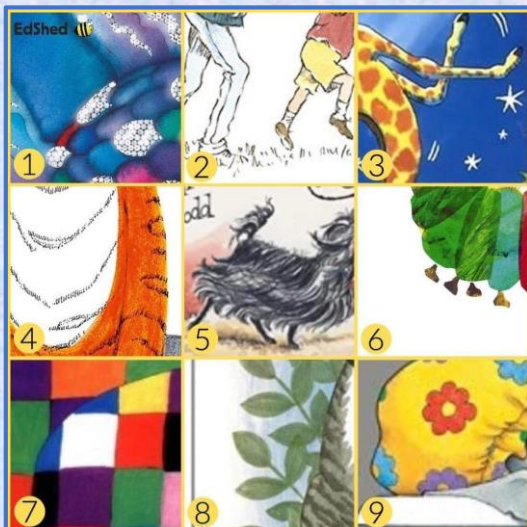
Bedtime Stories are continuing on the school blog. Enjoy!

Menu for children in school next week:

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday: Choice of Ham, Cheese or Tuna rolls.
Wednesday: Pizza and Potato Wedges
Friday: Fish and Chips

Children's Story Quiz:

Here is a children's picture book quiz for you. Can you get all 9 correct? Maybe you could read them too? 😊



Important Forest School notices:

As you know, Forest School safety is very important to us. Children need to wear **long sleeves** and **long trousers** on their Forest School day please. This is particularly important during this season as there are increased numbers of ticks in the forest, so we will encourage the children to cover up as much as possible.

Public Health England are sending us updated guidance and lesson plans about prevention of tick bites and we will also teach the children about this and remind them how to keep safe in Forest School. Thank you.

Year 2 Children:

We are working hard with Public Health England and Wiltshire Council to try and find a COVID safe way that we will be able to invite year 2 children back into school for at least some time before the summer break. As yet, we are unable to promise anything but we wanted to reassure year 2 parents that we are working hard to try and give your children the opportunity of some final memories of infant school and a chance to say goodbye. Thank you for your understanding and patience.

Something for the Weekend:

Here are 50 Virtual Field Trips if you wanted to go on an adventure this weekend without journeying too far from home! <https://pin.it/SsGk9v1>