



'Enjoy, Explore and Learn'

Friday 6th September 2019

Dear parents, family and friends,

Welcome to the first newsletter of the academic year. I am afraid this newsletter is HUGE but it contains lots of important information.

Welcome

Welcome back everyone! I hope that you all had a wonderful summer and managed to relax in the lovely weather that we had. The children and staff have all come back to school buzzing and there is a lovely atmosphere around the school. The start of the school year is always a moment of great anticipation and excitement and we welcome you all to the Harnham Infant School family.

A special welcome to our new children and their families, who have joined us in year R, 1 and 2. Thank you for choosing Harnham Infant School, I hope that you will enjoy a happy time with us.

We also welcome Mrs Karen Ainley to the teaching team. Mrs Ainley has moved to us from the Isle of Wight. She will be teaching the Squirrel class and is the year group leader for Year 1. A warm welcome to Mrs Ainley; we hope that she will have a long and happy stay with us at Harnham.

I wish to thank all of the teachers for their hard work during the summer. All but one teacher moved classroom, two classrooms had to be moved to the hall until we were allowed in the new classrooms on Thursday 29th August. Everybody gave up a lot of their summer holiday to ensure that children returned to an organised and safe learning environment.

We would also like to thank Beard construction who have worked hard to ensure that our new classrooms were ready for the beginning of the academic year. I am sure you will agree that they look great.

I have a hugely talented staff team here at Harnham who all put in a vast amount of effort in educating your children with professionalism and integrity. We cannot always get everything right, and there will always be challenges when dealing with over 210 children on a daily basis and the logistics in doing so. However, we wish to ensure that your child has a positive experience of their time with us and we always do our utmost to ensure that this is the case. Therefore, if you have any concerns or queries please do direct them to me personally. I am extremely approachable and always willing to listen - many thanks.

Finally, all of the staff would like to say a big 'thank you' for your generous gifts at the end of last term. This was very kind of you and very much appreciated.

School times

8.30am – gates open
8.45am – doors open
8.55am – gates close
9.00am - registration

Office opening hours

8.45am – 3.30pm

At the end of the school day

The children will be brought to the playground at 3.05pm by their class teacher. Once their teacher has seen you they will let your child go. Please do not call your child from the line. This is to ensure we can keep everyone safe.

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If you arrive late to school

If you arrive after the gates have closed, please bring your child to the front office where Mrs Bowyer will ask you to sign your child in. For the safety of your child **please do not lift your child over the gate once they are shut**. Any child that arrives to the classroom after the register has closed at 9.00am will receive a late mark for that session.

Birthdays

As you know birthdays are really important to children! When it is a child's birthday we like to celebrate: in class, your child will move their name onto their new age, they will sit on the birthday bench and receive a sticker and they may come to school in their own clothes. If your child's birthday is at the weekend or during the school holidays, the children can wear their own clothes on a day of their choosing (usually the nearest school day to their birthday). We politely request that you do not send in sweets or cakes to share with the class – thank you.

Forest School

We are delighted that Mrs Abi Robinson will be working with us for three days a week to give the children in Year 1 and 2, weekly forest school sessions. These sessions will be:

Day of the week	AM	PM
Monday	Squirrels	Badgers
Wednesday	Woodpecker	Owls
Friday	Bees	Dragonfly

Message from Mrs Robinson:

Dear parents

My name is Mrs Robinson and during the last few years I have had the privilege of working with all your children during many happy afternoons in forest school.

I am now lucky enough to again be running an outdoor learning session with all the KS1 classes, meaning every child will spend either a morning or an afternoon in forest school every week.

In forest school, your child will participate in activities that follow the national curriculum but will also focus on the development of reliance, perseverance and independence.

We will be out in forest school throughout the whole year and as we live in the UK, we will experience all sorts of weather. I have put together a list of suitable clothing for the different weather we may encounter; you will notice that all the clothing suggested have long sleeves and full legged trousers.

Please do not spend lots of money on any of your children's forest school clothes as they will get muddy and possibly damaged. We do not want the children worrying that they may ruin their clothes and this preventing them from being fully involved.



Waterproof suit or trousers and jacket



Long sleeve t shirt, plus jumper for the winter



Snow boots; warmer and more supportive than wellington.



Tracksuit bottom, leggings or combats for the summer

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The class of 2020!

Will your child be four years old before the 1st September 2019 or do you know a child who will be? If so it is time to apply for a school place. Please apply online at www.wiltshire.gov.uk. The deadline for applications is 15th January 2020.

Year 3 children – September 2020

All current Year 2 children will need to apply for a Year 3 place at Harnham Junior school (or any other Year 3). Please apply online at www.wiltshire.gov.uk. The deadline for applications is 15th January 2020.

PAT dogs

We are delighted to welcome Rosie and her owner Michelle back to school. You will receive a letter with more information about this.

HSA

We would like to thank the hard work of the HSA. Due to their hard work and dedication, we have been able to purchase and install two new interactive whiteboards in the Woodpecker and Owls class. Thank you so much!

Walk for Sharon Redding

As you may know, Mrs Sharon, our former admin officer died in Salisbury Hospice in July following a short illness.

Salisbury hospice are organising a sponsored walk on the 22nd September and a few of us are going to walk in her memory.

If you would like to join us on the walk or sponsor us, please contact Emma Cook in the school office.

<https://www.salisburyhospicecharity.org.uk/>

Authorised people

You will be receiving a letter asking you to name people who are authorised to collect your child from school. We will not release your child to any other adult, if they are not on the form. If for any reason your child is going home with somebody who is not on the list, please inform your child's teacher and provide us with a password (this includes going home with other children for a playdate).

A few reminders

- For the safety of your children, please do not allow them to play on the climbing wall or adventure playground before or after school.
- Please do not allow the children to ride bikes and or scooters in the playgrounds.
- Please do not drive up Saxon Road at any time during the day – you need a permit to drive up at any time (this includes before and after school)
- If your child is absent due to illness, please send in a letter or email on their return explaining their absence.
- There is a post box in the school entrance for office post to save you queuing at busy times.
- There are also two post boxes (one in each playground) where you can put comments or queries for school Governors.

Contact details

Please find below a list of the contact details. Please note that class emails are checked at 9.30am daily. If you need to pass a message onto your child's teacher after this time, then please telephone the school.

Main school number: 01722 327338

If your child is ill/unable to attend school: option on school answering machine to leave a message.

Any other contact: admin@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk

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Miss Dorrington

head@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk

Mrs Pike

lpike@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk

Electronic reply (to reply to letters electronically)

electronicreply@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk

Class emails:

owls@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk

dragonflies@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk

badgers@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk

ladybirds@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk

robins@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk

woodpeckers@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk

honeybees@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk

squirrels@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk

Please use this email to communicate with the teachers. Teacher name@harnham...is for internal use only.

Five Rivers

If you are near the area, please do pop into Five Rivers Leisure Centre. Harnham Infant and Junior school have a display of all of the children's work. Thank you to Mrs Pike and Miss Fletcher from the Junior School for their hard work with this. Please look at the school blog for some photographs of the display.

Communication

At the end of last term, Miss Swaine sent out a letter regarding communication at our school. The majority of parents were very happy with the communication at the school whilst others felt there was too much communication and in too many different forms. Therefore, going forward there will be three main forms of communication as follows:

Blogs – These are now working on mobile devices. Teachers will be putting updates, photos of the week along with ideas of supporting your child at home. There is going to be a lot of information on the blogs so please check them regularly.

Newsletter – A weekly newsletter that will be sent out on a Friday. Parents felt that the newsletter was becoming too long. Therefore, we will publish information once but will not repeat it for the forthcoming weeks.

Text/Emails – These will come directly to your phone and give updates and/or reminders.

We will try where possible to use the whiteboards at the end of the day to remind you of upcoming events.

School lunches

On the menu that you will have received, there are options of a packed lunch or jacket potato. Please ignore these options. At the Infant school the children have the option of meat or vegetarian. Many thanks.

Parent Helpers

We are always grateful of any help that parents, grandparents, family friends are able to offer us. Mrs Pike will be sending out a letter shortly, explaining the process, should you be able to help us in school.

Recorders

Year 2 will begin their recorders with Mr Walker next Thursday. If you have not had the opportunity to pay for your child's recorder, please could you do this so that all children start on Thursday with their own recorder.

Reading records

After the success of the reading records last year, we have purchased more for the children this year. We have spoken to the children about looking after them and not writing on the cover or sticking any stickers onto

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them. I would really appreciate you supporting us and your child in keeping them as good as they look now. Inside the book you will find lots of helpful information. Every time you listen to your child read (whether a school book or a home book) please record this next to the corresponding day. It is our expectation that you, as parents, listen to your child read at least 3 times a week. Reading is the key to success and has such a huge impact on other areas of children's learning. We would appreciate your support with this.

Clubs

The club letter has been sent out for the Year 1 and 2 children. Please can these be returned by 9.00am on Wednesday morning. All clubs will begin during the week of the 16th September 2019.

Can you help?

In all of the building work and moving classrooms, we still have a school library that requires a little bit of sorting and setting up. Mrs Pike is very keen to set up a working party to put the library back together. If you think you might be able to help please email lpike@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk Thank you in advance for your support.

We also have had the ground laid for a shed for our Forest School, which is arriving next week. If anyone is interested in helping to build the shed, please get in touch. Thank you.

Dogs on the playground

Please can I request that no dogs are walked or carried onto the school playground. Dogs can be tied up in the grassed area just inside the main gates to the site.

Prescribed medicines

If your child has prescribed medicines that need to be kept in school, please can these be sent in to school. Please see Mrs Bowyer to complete the paperwork to accompany the medicine.

Pupil premium grant

Do you receive any of the following benefits?

- Income Support
- Job Seeker's Allowance (income-based)
- Employment and Support Allowance (income-related)
- support under part six of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit - providing you are NOT entitled to Working Tax Credit and your family's annual income (as assessed by HMRC) is not more than £16,190 (as at 6 April 2012)
- Working Tax Credit 'run-on' - the payment you may receive for a further four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit

If so, the government will give Harnham Infant school a Pupil Premium of £1,320 for primary-aged pupils. This will help you with the cost of uniform, trips and clubs. If you think you may qualify then please see Mrs Bowyer for a form.

PSA

Our Parent Support Advisor is Chris Lister. Chris works every Tuesday and Wednesday and can be contacted on 07595217569

Sickness and diarrhoea

Although I understand that the 48-hour rule can be very disruptive, please can I ask that you keep any children off school for 48 hours (this is 48 hours after their last sickness episode). Sickness and diarrhoea can spread quickly through the children and adults too, which then causes classes not to have their class teacher for 2/3 days. Many thanks for your help with this.

Dates

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You will shortly be receiving an annual calendar. Hopefully this will give you a good overview of the year. However, there is always a possibility that due to unforeseen circumstances we may need to change dates. We hope this will not be necessary, but if this does happen, we will let you know, giving as much notice as possible. Dates will be added as we go through the terms and updated calendars sent out accordingly.

TD days

Wednesday 23rd October 2019

Friday 20th December 2019

Thursday 25th June 2019

Friday 26th June 2019

Dates for next week:

12.9.2019	3.30pm	Year 1 Parent Information – crèche available
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EYFS dates

19.09.2019	3.30pm	EYFS Parents Information – parents invited – crèche available
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Year 1 dates

12.09.2019	3.30pm	Year 1 Parent information – parents invited – crèche available
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Year 2 dates

17.9.2018	3.30pm	Year 2 Parent information – parents invited – crèche available
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Whole school dates

To follow shortly

NB: Blue indicates new date being published

Thank you for a great start to the term,

With best wishes,

Natasha Dorrington, Headteacher