



'Enjoy, Explore and Learn'

Friday 13th September 2019

Dear parents, family and friends,

I hope that you have a lovely weekend and manage to spend some quality time together as family.

We have had a fabulous week. It has been lovely to see the Year R children in school all week. The children have settled into the Harnham school family really well. They are already learning the routines of school and the Harnham Infant School way.

Year 1 have made the transition from EYFS look very easy! They have been recording their knowledge of numbers and their value, practicing their handwriting and starting their topic of 'Alice in Wonderland'.

Year 2 have shown great independence and are enjoying being the oldest in the school. They are learning the routines of Year 2 and enjoyed a Mad Hatters Tea Party this week! It was lovely to see Mr Walker back in school teaching the children recorders, which they really enjoyed. I am looking forward to hearing the improvement throughout the year!

You can read more about the children's learning on the class blogs, which are found on the school website.

Celebration assembly

Next week we will be starting our celebration assemblies. Please can I politely request that you do not take photos of the children during celebration assembly. We have a number of children who cannot be photographed. To ensure that we keep all children safe – I would appreciate your support with this. There is an opportunity after the assembly has finished for you take a photograph of your child with their certificate – many thanks.

Dojo points

Ladybird	118
Robin	184
Woodpecker	254
Bee	389
Squirrel	269
Badger	562
Owl	104
Dragonfly	61

This table is not intended to show 1st, 2nd, 3rd place or a winning class total. Instead, it shows the number of Dojo points that the class has received this week.

Attendance figures this week

The attendance figures for this week are:

Whole School	97.66%
Ladybird	95.19%
Robin	99.20%
Woodpecker	99.58%
Bee	94.40%

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Squirrels	98.10%
Badgers	98.62%
Owls	100.00%
Dragonfly	96.21%

Well done to the Owl class, who have had 100% attendance this week. Attendance Ted will be spending the week with you next week.

The week ahead

Occasionally, teachers will be out of school, for example, if they are out on courses or other professional development activities. We thought it may be helpful to parents if they have an advance notice of whether there might be a different teacher in a classroom on a particular day. (Obviously this does not take into account teachers being off sick)

Tuesday – Squirrel class – Mrs Heagren will be covering all day.

Annual calendar

Along with this newsletter, you will be receiving the annual parent calendar, which I hope will be a helpful overview of the year ahead. We hope that we will not need to change any dates, but unfortunately sometimes this is inevitable. There may also be further dates to add as opportunities for children become available. We will keep you informed and send out any updated versions as and when it is needed.

Reading books

We are delighted to have been able to use the summer fair proceeds to buy some new books for the children to read. We have decided to change the way in which the books are given to the children. The teachers will change the children's reading books twice a week. Once you have listened to your child read, please can you sign your child's reading record, so that we know that your child is ready for a new book. Many thanks for your support with this. It is a school expectation that children read at least 3 times per week at home and, in doing so, will earn 2 dojo points at the end of the week.

PE

One of the focusses for the school this academic year is to encourage the children to become more active. We have a number of ways we plan to do this for example by introducing the Golden Mile, which will encourage the children to run a mile every day and the introduction of lunch time sports clubs. As part of this, we wish to encourage the children to have good habits when participating in sports. These include changing in their PE kit, tying back long hair and removing or taping earrings. Please can we ask you to support us with this by ensuring your child's PE kit is in school every day – many thanks.

PAT dog

I am delighted to tell you that Michelle and Rosie the dog will be returning to school on Monday. Along with this newsletter you will find a letter with more information about the PAT scheme. Children are never made to go and read to Rosie the dog if they decide they do not want to that day though we are sure they will enjoy this lovely opportunity. Should you not wish for your child to participate in this initiative, then please inform your child's teacher by Monday 16th September 2019. The first class to take part will be Squirrels for the first few weeks.

Authorised adult forms

Your child should have brought home an authorised adult form in their book bag this week. Please can we ask you to complete this and return to school as soon as possible.

Recorders – Year 2

We apologise for the confusion around recorders. To be clear, the children may bring their recorder home in between recorder lessons. Recorder lessons are every Thursday and therefore recorders need to be in school every Thursday ready for their next lesson with Mr Walker. For health reasons we do not have spare recorders in school.

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Parent information sessions

We hope that if you could attend the parent information sessions for year 1 that you found it useful. The slides from the evening will/have be emailed out and you can also find them on the school website. The EYFS team are looking forward to welcoming parents on 19th September and the Year 2 on 17th September. A crèche will be available for school aged children.

EYFS Baseline Pilot

Over the next coming weeks the EYFS children will be undertaking their EYFS baseline. As from September 2020 the government have introduced a requirement that all EYFS children sit a baseline assessment. Harnham Infants have been chosen as a pilot school this year to trial the materials and assessment. Should you have any concerns regarding this please see Mrs Pike, who would be happy to answer any of your questions.

Clubs

Along with this letter you will receive the clubs allocation. We are delighted to be able to offer such a range of clubs and hope that the children find them an enjoyable experience. If for any reason your child is unable to attend a club, please let Mrs Bowyer know so that she can inform the instructor.

Parking

Please can I ask you to be very considerate about where you park your car. I have received several complaints of parents not parking considerately – blocking driveways, on curbs and even mounting curbs to reach grass areas - this is an accident waiting to happen! Entrance by car into Saxon Road, Hollows Close and Folkestone Road is for permit holder only **at all times of the day**, this also includes parking on the road. I appreciate that this pushes the problem onto Parsonage Green and Old Blandford Road, so please park sensibly on these roads. Remember that you can park and stride from St George's Hall (Lower street) and the cricket field. The permit system includes after school hours, therefore parents cannot drive up the roads to collect children from afterschool clubs or to drop off at Breakfast Club.

Playtimes and Lunchtimes

Many of you may be on school site during the school day, especially if, for example you pick up a younger sibling from Puddleducks. Please may we request that if you are, please do not approach children in the playground or call them from the path or gates? Although intentions are very good, for example, to say hello or just to wave at them, but we are finding that some children are getting upset or distracted. Thank you for your support with this.

The class of 2020!

Will your child be four years old before the 1st September 2020 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.

PSA

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

TD days

Wednesday 23rd October 2019
Friday 20th December 2019
Thursday 25th June 2019
Friday 26th June 2019

Letter sent out this week:

Upcoming dates

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EYFS dates

19.09.2019	3.30pm	EYFS Parents Information - parents invited
21.10.2019	2.15pm	Stay and do Harvest – parents invited

Year 1 dates

17.10.2019	All day	Come to school dressed as a character from Alice in Wonderland or as a party guest
18.10.2019	2.00pm	Stay and explore senses – parents invited

Year 2 dates

17.09.2019	3.30pm	Welcome to Year 2 – parents invited
17.10.2019	All day	Come to school dressed as a character from Alice in Wonderland or as a party guest
22.10.2019	9.00am	Stay and do Harvest – parents invited

Whole school dates

26 & 27.09.2019		First aid workshops for children and families – more information to follow.
02&03.10.2019		Parents evenings – letter to follow
07.10.2019		P4C day
10.10.2019		World mental health day
14.10.2019	2.30pm	Coffee and chat with SLT
15.10.2019		Individual photographs being taken
23.10.2019		TD day – school closed to children

NB: Blue indicates new date being published

Thank you for a great start to the term, have a lovely weekend.

With best wishes,

Natasha Dorrington, Headteacher