

Friday 22nd May 2020

Dear Families,

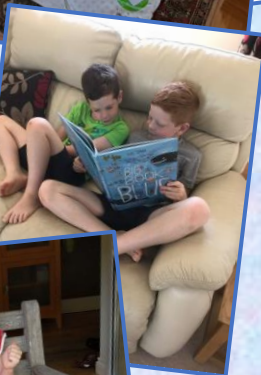
Can you believe it has now been 9 weeks since we closed the school gates at the beginning of lockdown? In one way it seems to have flown by and in other ways it's been like being trapped in a time warp and feels like it is still March! Whether you have loved every minute so far or are now at the point where you have had enough and craving a sense of normality, it is an immense privilege to continue through this journey together as a family.

This week has been Mental Health Awareness Week and this is something that Harnham Infant School is very passionate about. It is our strongest desire that our children, their families and our staff team are able to look out for, care for, nurture and be kind to one another. This week we have set the children (and staff) daily kindness challenges which they have been brilliant at. We do hope that you are all able to have a break over the half term holiday, taking some time to continue the theme from this week; being kind to others and being kind to yourselves too. Enjoy the lovely weather and the precious family time. We are still thinking of you all,
The Harnham Infant School Team



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We all
NEED REST
to be
AT OUR BEST



Reopening of School – 1st June 2020

The Harnham School Team have been working extremely hard this week to organise everything ready for the phased reopening of schools after half term.

Whilst we are looking forward to seeing more of the children on site again, it is important that we handle it carefully and get it right. To say it is a logistical headache is an understatement! With ever changing guidelines, risk assessments and preparations that need to be put in place, we are working hard to be very thorough and produce a plan that will work well for everyone involved. This includes coordinating with Puddleducks and Harnham Junior School about their arrangements, since we share so many of the same families as well as the site as a whole.

With that in mind, we are aiming to get a pack of information out to families next week, as soon as we can. Stay tuned to your inboxes as this will contain very important information for your child/ren and all of the arrangements we have in place for them. Thank you! ☺

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



Art Gallery

Mrs Sowerby has created an art gallery for each year group on the school blog. These include some photographs of the amazing, creative art work that children have been doing at home. Please do take a look if you haven't already done so because they really do celebrate the creativity of the children. Enjoy! 😊

Seesaw

A huge thank you to the parents who have continued to support their children to use Seesaw as a learning platform to show us what you have been doing at home, as well as completing some of the learning activities set by the teachers. We really appreciate your sustained efforts and enthusiasm and have been truly inspired by all the creativity and resilience that has been shown.

We are taking a break from Seesaw over half term, but do feel free to continue to upload your lockdown adventures if you would like to. Seesaw will be back after the break for the children who are remaining at home to continue their learning journey with us! 😊

Messages from your Friends

All of the pictures and messages that the children have made to say hello to their friends are being compiled into a video montage. These will be available to watch on the school blog. Do take a look.

Transition Update

This week, Mrs Pike has been really busy telephoning all of the pre-schools and nurseries for all of the children who are joining us in September. This has been a brilliant way to learn about some of the children who we are busy preparing to welcome. We have also had many conversations as a staff team about arrangements for September but are still making some decisions about classes and rooms before we can share them with you.

We are attending online webinars which are giving us ideas about how to manage a careful transition to the next year groups during these very challenging times.

Miss Dorrington has been in communication with our friends at Harnham Junior School to discuss the transition to year 3 for our year 2 children. We will continue to update you throughout the summer term.

Topic First Week Back

The week beginning 1st June is going to be Sports Week, whether you are in school or at home. We will be holding virtual sporting contests and starting a weekly project based around the theme of being active. This is to launch our school value for term 6. Miss Hibberd is designing a programme of events for the week which we will share with you and the children on 1st June. We are sure there will be something for everyone to get involved in.



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/ https://www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/news/new-mental-health-helpline-for-children-and-young-people-in-banes-swinton-and-wiltshire/

You can't catch COVID-19 from standing two meters apart and...



Because socially distant doesn't mean
Emotionally distant
we are in this together ♥

@twisteddoodles

A Safeguarding Message from Wiltshire Police Public Protection Department

The current restrictions on our daily lives will no doubt be more difficult for some more than others and we understand that people of all ages may be struggling to cope.

While the need to stay at home is crucial, we know that on occasion people do go missing. If your child, or a child you know has gone missing, and you have genuine concerns about their welfare, do not delay in reporting concerns to police. You will not be fined/prosecuted under Covid-19 powers for carrying out any reasonable enquiries to find them yourselves. Our officers will do all that they can to understand individual circumstances and provide support where needed.

Always call 999 in an emergency.

If you need help and want to speak to someone, Missing People charity is available 24/7 – call 116 000, text 116 000 or chat online via www.runawayhelpline.org.uk

Isn't it strange how something that seemed impossible and scary a few weeks ago now feels strangely normal? Even if we are scared, we're still finding it within us to face the world. Whether that's in big or small ways, it still takes courage. And isn't it reassuring that even though life as we know it has been turned completely upside down, we're still able to find even the tiniest of silver linings? Next time the world decides to throw a challenge your way, I hope you remember how resilient, brave and capable you are. I hope you look back and see all the strengths you never give yourself enough credit for. ♥
love, mellow doodles

Fundraising Opportunity

It is not too late to sponsor Mr Bull, who kindly walked the equivalent journey from Penzance to Salisbury (202 miles) in an effort to raise money for our school and Puddleducks. Here is the link by which you can donate: <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/russellbullswa>
[lk?fbclid=IwAR2Bv8R_MtJN_55iE40yRobAz7AwHhik-ZAyt5F6euEF-pW2_pNNRldXlIM](https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/russellbullswa)

Our heartfelt and sincere thanks to you, Mr Bull for your support of our school. We really are very grateful!



A child's life is like
a piece of paper
on which every person
leaves a mark.

* CHILDREN
NEED THE FREEDOM AND
TIME TO PLAY. PLAY IS NOT
A LUXURY.
PLAY IS A NECESSITY.



Blogs

Don't forget to check your class blog over the weekend for updates and photographs of what the children have been doing. There are bedtime stories continuing on the school blog too!



Round Up – Issue 8

Attached with this newsletter, you will find the next edition of 'Round Up'. This week is based on the theme 'What makes us happy?'. Next week is the final edition before schools begin to reopen. The theme is 'How are we saying thank you to our keyworkers?' If you have something you would like to send in, please follow the instructions contained on the newsletter.

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

We are also taking a break from reading bedtime stories on the school blog for the half term. Why not look back to a favourite story that has been shared so far and enjoy it again? If not, you'll find more stories available on Youtube or through Wiltshire Council Libraries or School Readers websites.

Something for the Half Term:

Here is a link to a website which has lots of ideas of fun things you can do at home during the half-term break. Activities are categorised by the age of the children, so there should be something for everyone. We hope you have a lovely time together. <https://blog.kidadl.com/articles/top-things-to-do-may-half-term-during-lockdown-by-age-group>



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