

NEWSLETTER Thursday 16th January 2020

Headteacher's Update

Dear Parents/Carers

A very Happy New Year to you all! We hope you have enjoyed the Christmas break. The new term has started very well, with all the children working hard and enjoying their new topics.

Time Capsule

Just over twenty years ago, in December 1999, to celebrate the new millennium, a time capsule was buried in our school grounds. Children who were at the school at the time wrote letters and put them into the capsule. They were given a certificate, which they were asked to return as proof that they had a letter in the capsule. On Tuesday 4th February at 6pm, we are inviting former pupils of the school the opportunity to come into school and collect their letters.

In assembly, we have been thinking about how we find out about the past, and in the coming weeks, our current children will be working on items to bury in our new capsule, which will be buried at a later date and opened in another 20 years!

Travel Smart

As part of our school Travel Plan, we are promoting walking to school, cycling and scooting, as alternatives to travelling by car. We are always keen to share ideas and promote ways of improving children's health and fitness, as well as reducing congestion caused by traffic on and around the school site. We appreciate that some of our families live too far away to walk to school; however, you could try 'park and stride', where you park within walking distance of school and walk the rest of the way. Some groups of parents/carers have set up their own Whatsapp groups to advise other parents of lift sharing and adults to walk children to school.

We want to encourage children to cycle or scoot to school; however, please can we remind you to remind your children to take extra care when entering the playground and on the pavements and roads near the school entrance as it can become quite busy at the start and end of the day.

Online Safety

Some of our children have had new tablets, gaming consoles etc for Christmas. This is a good time to check your parental controls and security settings and to talk with your children about online safety. Our school website has a section on Online Safety with lots of useful links to other websites: <http://www.harpurhill.derbyshire.sch.uk/key-information/online-safety>

The following sites also provide useful information for parents/carers:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/>



Later this term, on Tuesday 11th February, Mr White, our Online Safety and Computing expert will lead an Infant and Junior Assembly on Online Safety as part of Safer Internet Day. Children will also be learning about how to keep themselves safe online in lessons and activities.

Winter Weather

This winter has been relatively mild so far, but it is likely that we may see some snow in the coming term. We will do our best to remain open in order to minimise disruption to parents/carers. In extreme circumstances; however, school may have to close or open later than usual. We aim to give parents/carers as much notice as possible and you will be contacted by text and mobile app in the event of school closure or late opening. Announcements will also be made on High Peak radio and on the school Facebook page and website. Please see the information on adverse weather for more information: <https://www.harpurhill.derbyshire.sch.uk/parent-information/snow-pjo-keep>

Uniform

Thank you for sending your children to school looking smart in school uniform. May we take this opportunity to remind you that school uniform includes black school shoes (smart black boots may be worn but no trainers, thank you). In the event of bad weather, children wear snow boots, wellies and waterproofs etc, please ensure they have school shoes to change into and that all items are clearly labelled with your child's name. Thank you

Author Visit

On Wednesday 5th February, junior children will be having a visit from award-winning author, Ruth Eastham. Ruth writes exciting stories, many with history themes linked to our school topics. She will be leading a KS2 assembly and then teaching writing workshops with Year 5 and 6. If you would like to pre-order one of her books, please return the slip on the letter sent last week by email before Friday 17th January.

Year 5 Swimming

Tuesday 21 st January	Miss Wetton's class
Tuesday 28 th January	Mr White's class
Tuesday 4 th February	
Tuesday 11 th February	

Dates for your diary (subject to change)

Thursday 23 rd January	Archery Festival	Fairfield Centre 1.00-3.15 pm parents informed
Friday 24 th January	Year 5 brass concert	For Year 5 parents at 9.10 am
Tuesday 28 th January	Year 1 phonic sessions	Parents invited 9 am or 5.30 pm
Wednesday 29 th January	Year 5 & 6 basketball	Buxton Community School 9.15-11.15 am parents informed
Tuesday 4 th February	Time capsule to be opened	Former pupils who were issued a certificate in 1999 are welcome to collect their letters
Wednesday 5 th February	Reception and Year 6	NHS height and weight to be recorded
Wednesday 5 th February	Visit from author Ruth Eastham	KS2 assembly and workshops
Thursday 6 th February	Year 4 topic 'What makes the Earth angry' presentation	Parents workshop at 2.45 pm
Tuesday 11 th February	Year 6 Viking Day	Parent workshop at 1.30 pm
Wednesday 12 th February	Team Harpur (PTFA) Valentine's disco	3.45 - 4.45 pm Infant & KS1 5.00 - 6.00 pm KS2
Wednesday 12 th February	Reception NHS vision check	
Wednesday 12 th February	Jolly Giraffes class	Parent workshop at 9 am
Thursday 13 th February	Year 2 event	Parents invited at 2.30pm
Thursday 13 th February	End of term	School closes at 3.30 pm
Friday 14 th February	Staff INSET day	
Monday 24 th February	Start of new term	
Thursday 5 th March	World Book Day	Children may come to school dressed as a character from a book (optional)
Thursday 5 th March	Parents' Evening with Book Fair	Online appointment booking to be advised when active