

Harpur Hill Primary School



Trent Avenue, Buxton, Derbyshire SK17 9LP

Telephone: 01298 23261

info@harpurhill.derbyshire.sch.uk

NEWSLETTER

Thursday 20th December 2018

Headteacher's Update

Dear Parents/Carers

Well, what a busy term we have had in school! The children have worked hard in their lessons as usual this term, and we have had so many fantastic events and celebrations in recent weeks. The children (and staff!) are all ready for a well-earned Christmas break.

Communication

We now have a lot more parents/carers signed up for our web app and we have been using this for both information and news items. If you haven't had a look at our school website: or Facebook page recently, please take a look and see what we've been up to.

Click on the links:



School website: www.harpurhill.derbyshire.sch.uk

You can find out how to download the web app on the home page of the school website, or see below.

Christmas Performances

We have had several Christmas performances over the last few weeks. Our Infant children entertained us with a fantastic performance of 'Hey Ewe', and Nursery put on their own version of the Nativity.



The choir and some of our musicians (who play instruments), performed in a special Christmas concert at St. John the Baptist Church last week.

Thank you to parents and families for supporting these events. Our school choir recorded a song for High Peak Radio. The song will be played every other day during December. You can vote for us by emailing schools@highpeakradio.co.uk or phoning 01298 813377.

Community Events

The choir enjoyed singing World War 1 and 2 songs at the Parks Inn as part of the end of the First World War Centenary Commemorations. The children's work was displayed at the Parks, including the poppies made with the residents, Blitz artwork and writing inspired by the lives of children during the war. We were honoured to join the community in this event.

Last week, we invited members of the community into school for a Christmas treat. Members of the Women's Institute, Harpur Hill Residents and neighbours of the school enjoyed a mince pie and were entertained by the Infants (who sang their Nativity songs), the choir and other instrumentalists.

Terrific Tigers and Perfect Parrots have had a very busy time getting into the spirit of Christmas! They have enjoyed going into the woods for their 'Welly Wednesday' adventures, and last week, they hung Christmas decorations on the trees as gifts for neighbours and the community. We have had several emails and phone calls of thanks, telling us how we have brightened peoples' days ahead of Christmas. This week, both classes visited Haddon Hall Care Home to sing carols and entertain the residents.



Sports Success

We are so proud of the many children who have taken part in the different sporting events this term. The Cross Country team are now the 'High Peak Champions'.



The Boccia team won 'Spirit of the Games' and the swimmers won all of their races at the Christmas swimming gala.

Well done to all the children who have represented their school this term, and thank you to parents/carers for helping and supporting.

Visits and Visitors – Learning for Life

As part of their Space topic, Year 5 visited Jodrell Bank this term, and Year 3/4 visited the Manchester Museum of Science and Industry as part of their Manchester topic. Learning for Life topics for next term are as follows:

Year	Learning Journey Topic	Books of interest
Nursery	Frozen – weather/winter	'The Snowman and the Snow dog', 'Frozen', 'The Snowman' and 'Penguin'
Reception Terrific Tigers and Perfect Parrots	Traditional Tales with links to the Great Fire of London for the year 1 children	'Jack and the Beanstalk', 'The Three Little Pigs', 'Cinderella', 'Handa's Surprise', 'This is London', 'The Queen's Hat', 'The Runaway Wok' and 'Mr Wolf's Pancakes'
Year 1	The Great Fire of London: How did the GFOL start?	'Traditional Tales', and 'The Three Little Pigs'
Year 2	What is it like to live on a small island? (The Isle of Coll).	Katie Morag stories by Mairi Hedderwick such as 'Katie Morag Delivers the Mail'; 'Katie Morag and the Tiresome Ted' and 'Katie Morag and the Riddles'. Katie Morag lives on the fictional island of Struay which is based on the actual Isle of Coll. We will also look at Neil Gaiman's book on 'Instructions' and 'Dogger' by Shirley Hughes
Year 3 and 4	Why were Norman Castles certainly not bouncy	'Outlaw' by Michael Morpurgo and 'How to Train Your Dragon' by Cressida Cowell
Year 5	How did the Shang Dynasty Fall?	'The Firework Maker's Daughter' by Philip Pullman. Various information leaflets about 'The Shang Dynasty'
Year 6	Were the Vikings always victorious and vicious?	'Viking Myths and Legends' 'Defenders: Killing Ground' by Tom Palmer

Charity Support

As Christmas has been approaching, children have learned about the true meaning of Christmas and the importance of giving, showing kindness and helping others. Over the last term, we have supported several charities, some of which were chosen by the children, as they wanted to help children less fortunate than themselves. In November, we had a pyjama day in aid of Children in Need, followed by a film night with Team Harpur. We supported the

British Legion in their poppy appeal in November, and last week we had a Christmas jumper day in aid of Save the Children. At the Infant Nativity, we collected for Blythe House. Thank you for giving so generously to these worthy causes.

Team Harpur – thank you!

A huge thank you to our Parent, Teachers and Friends Association (PTFA) Team Harpur and all those who have helped at the different events and activities this term. The Film Night and Christmas Fair were a great success, raising valuable funds for our school. We are also grateful for the Christmas treats provided by Team Harpur on the party days.

New Parent Governor

We welcome Gary Wentworth, to our Governing Body, who joins us as a Parent Governor.

School Places – Reception starters

Do you, your friends or family, have a child due to start in Reception in September 2019? If so, the window for applying for school places closes on 15th January 2019. You can apply for a place by clicking the link, which takes you to Derbyshire School Admissions: [Derbyshire school admissions](#)

Visits from prospective parents/carers are warmly welcomed. Please call 01298 23261 to make an appointment. Please encourage new families to visit our wonderful school.

Finally

On behalf of everyone at Harpur Hill Primary School, I would like to thank you for your continued support of the school and your child's learning. We wish all our families a wonderful Christmas and happy new year. Enjoy the break and we look forward to seeing you in January.

Mrs Giliker (Headteacher)

Start and end of day handover

We have reviewed our procedures for the start and end of the day, and would like to remind parents/carers and those who collect children, of the following:

- Please do not drive down to the main entrance to drop off children if they are late. Please park in the car park and walk your child into school.

- At the end of the day, Infant children will only be handed over to a known adult, so if a different person is collecting your child, please let the office know in plenty of time so a message can be sent to the teacher.

- At the end of the day, Infant children are usually seated or lined up and the teacher checks who is collecting - please do not call your child to you; wait until they have been handed over by their teacher.

- We are unable to allow older brothers or sisters to have the responsibility of walking younger siblings home.

Thank you for your patience and co-operation with the above.

Dates for your diary (may be subject to change)

Date	Event	Details
Friday 21 st December	End of term	School closes at 3:30pm
Monday 7 th January	Start of a new term	
Monday 7 th January	There will not be a Chris Hill dance class	First session will be on 14 th
Wednesday 23 rd January	Nursery Open Evening	Information to follow
Thursday 14 th February	Team Harpur's Valentines disco	Details to follow
Friday 15 th February	End of term	
Monday 25 th February	Staff INSET day	Children not in school
Tuesday 26 th February	Start of a new term	
Tuesday 12 th March	Reception children vision checks	NHS
Wednesday 13 th March	Class photographs to be taken by Tempest Photography	

Administration

Dear Parents/Carers, **if you need to send money to school kindly place it in an envelope** with your child's name, amount enclosed and reason for payment (e.g. dinner money, class trip/workshop etc.) upon it.

Contact Information If you change your details (telephone, email, address etc.) please let school know as soon as possible. Also If your family circumstances change kindly advise our office staff so we can update your child/ren's records.

Dinner Money Kindly note all dinner money should be paid to school on the Monday for the week ahead. If we do not receive a payment on the Monday that covers the rest of the week, we will contact you to remind you of your outstanding payment. If we do not receive payment by the end of the week we will request that your child brings a packed lunch until the amount outstanding is received, this is in accordance with our school policy. If we do not receive the full amount outstanding, we have to refer the debt to D.C.C. for their legal section to take action on our part. Thank you.

The total cost for the whole term from Monday 7 January to Friday 15 February will be £63.00.

Mobile App

We would like to encourage all parents/carers to use the school's Mobile App. We have a total of 347 children who attend our nursery/school. As at 20.12.2018 we have 190 mobile app

users (this includes members of staff/governors). In order to keep you up to date with our school activities/news we would really like you to take advantage of our free school app.

Please see the following information about our mobile app which you can download and use on your mobile phone or tablet.

We communicate with parents/carers using the following options in the app:

- * School diary * News * Newsletters (also includes year group letters) * Notices
- * Links to other sites (e.g. the school website and Facebook page) * Contact details for school
- * Settings - you will be able to set push notifications for newsletters, news and notices.

To download: -

<p><u>Android users</u> Go to Google Play, search for School Jotter or scan the QR code.</p>  	<p><u>iOS users</u> Go to App Store and search for School Jotter or scan the QR code.</p>  
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Once the App has been installed, type in Harpur Hill (or our postcode SK17 9LP) to find our school (there is a large list in the Jotter App). You will then be asked whether or not you want the App to use push notifications. We suggest that these are set to on if you want to be kept updated as soon as new communication is sent. You can of course, always set these up later from within your phone settings. Please download and use the new app; it will provide regular and useful communication from school.

Teachers to Parents/Eduspot App

We would like to suggest to any parent/carer who has downloaded this app to delete it. Unfortunately, if we send a text/email from school and it does not deliver immediately the app does not store the message so some parent/carers are not receiving all of their messages.

Online payments for trips, residentials and school dinners

The online system has been very successful for the majority of our parents, unfortunately some parents have encountered problems logging on. Parents are asked to supply one email per family, for this system to work, so if your email or telephone number has changed, the system will not work.

Kindly note the following instructions: -

Go to www.eduspot.co.uk

Click on the blue SIGN IN button

You will see 5 options, click on the last option which reads: School money parent login

You will then be prompted to enter

- Your mobile number
- Email
- Password – if you have forgot your password do not worry, we will text every parent their password after we have emailed or sent a paper copy of this newsletter home.
- Child's first name

Press GO, you should now be able to pay for your child's dinner or school trips and activities online.