

NEWSLETTER

26th January 2018

Headteacher's Update

Dear Parents/Carers,

The new term is in full swing, with children excited to learn about their new topics.

New House Names

Our School Council, House Captains and Head Girl, Boy and Deputies have consulted with the other children and come up with new names for the Houses. Previously, the houses were named after athletes and Olympians; however, some of these have now retired so we felt it was time for a change. The children have rebranded the houses – they have studied local history, looked at coats of arms, emblems, mottos and come up with the following:



As you can see, the houses are represented by an animal on a coloured shield with a house motto. Each house has a link to local history and children will learn more about this as they move through the school. Thank you to Mr McNamara for helping with the graphics. The eagle is a symbol used by the Romans who came to Buxton. The football ground is where the Romans had their fort. On the Market Place, there is Eagle Parade as well as the old coaching inn, The Eagle. Eagle House motto is 'Determination'.

The dragon is seen on the Derbyshire coat of arms and represents when the Vikings came to Derbyshire. The dragon's head was the figure head on their long boats. Their influence still remains in names like Dane Grove which is the road opposite the school. Dragon house motto is 'Perseverance'.

The lion is a reference to royalty who have visited Buxton and the Peak District, one of the most famous royal visitors being Mary Queen of Scots who stayed in the Old Hall Hotel. Lion house motto is 'Courage'.

The deer is a symbol used on the crest of Buxton and is also the Derbyshire and Cavendish coats of arms. Buxton gets its name from Buck (a male deer) and stones. There are many deer images in Buxton including on the Crescent. Deer house motto is 'Honour'.

The children have worked hard on the new designs and we are very proud with what they have produced.

Learning for Life and weekly themes

Learning for Life themes for the Spring will be linked to the mottos of the new Houses. Themes are Courage, Honour, Perseverance, Determination, Responsibility and Compassion.

Thank you for supporting all we do in school.
V. Giliker - Headteacher

Diary Dates

Please note sometimes it is necessary to change the dates

Thursday 1st February	Inter House Sports Event
Friday 2nd February	Brass Concert for Year 5 and a few year 6 pupils, parents advised
Tuesday 6 th February	Basketball at B.C.S. 1:00 – 3:30pm
Wednesday 7th February	Year 3's 'Greek Day' parents have been advised
Wednesday 14th February	Y5/6 'Science Day', Team Harpur's Valentine Disco Infants 3:45 – 4:30pm Juniors 5:00-6:00pm If you can help please let Team Harpur know, thank you.
Thursday 15th February	Year 2 parents' afternoon 'A Scottish Treat' at 1:30pm
Friday 16th February	School closes at 3:30pm
Monday 26th February	INSET day
Tuesday 27th February	Children return to school
Wednesday 28th February	Year 2 parents – Key Stage 1 SATs information meeting at 3:00pm and 5:30pm
Thursday 1st March	World Book Day - children can come to school dressed as a character from a book (optional)
Saturday 3rd March	Choir members to attend the 'Kinder Choir Concert' at the Palace Hotel, details to follow
Wednesday 7 th March	Book Fair arrives (volunteers required, please let us know if you can help after school for half an hour) NHS Vision screening for Reception children NHS Height and Weight screening for Year 6 children
Thursday 8th March	Parents' Evening and Book Fair
Monday 12th March	Year 3 community/parents/event - details to follow
Thursday 15th March	Learning for Life awards - parents will be advised
Friday 23rd March	Sport Relief Day - details to follow School closes at 3:30pm
Monday 9th April	Children return to school
Tuesday 1st May	Class photographs to be taken
21st - 23rd May	Year 6's residential visit to Lea Green - activities centre
Friday May 25th	School closes at 3:30pm
Monday 4th June	INSET day
Tuesday 5th June	Children return to school

Child Safety

Please make sure that your child/ren know if they cannot find who is supposed to meet them at 3:30pm they must return to school and report to the office so we can contact parents by telephone. Thank you.

Online Safety

A great big thank you to all the parents who took the time to complete our e-Safety survey before Christmas. The main findings (from 92 families) were as follows:

- 89% of children have access to the internet at home
- 67% of children spend at least an hour a day on the internet
- 78% of children have access to a phone with internet
- 82% parents discuss and set internet use rules
- 25% of parents do not discuss internet safety with their children
- 98% say their children use social networking
- 62% of parents don't use any sort of filtering or monitoring software

E-Safety and Digital Literacy is a very important safeguarding issue and has recently been highlighted nationally and has been in the news over the Christmas holiday. A survey by children's charity, Barnardo's found only half of parents who bought their children an internet connected gadget for Christmas will check who their children are speaking to online. According to the research, more than half of the devices bought – predominantly smartphones and tablets – were for children aged 10 and under.

At Harpur Hill we will be continuing to teach e-Safety in both the ICT and PSHE curriculum. During this half term, we will be emphasising the stay SMART online approach. Permanent Posters will be displayed prominently in each classroom with a view to giving the children a continual reminder of their online responsibilities.

If your child has had a new device for Christmas and you haven't done so already, please discuss online safety with them and check parental controls are set up. The following weblinks may be useful:

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

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

Safer Internet Day 2018 will be celebrated globally on Tuesday 6th February with the slogan "Create, Connect and Share Respect: A better internet starts with you". For more information visit the website <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/2018>.

Class Dojo

The Junior classes have started a new reward system in school called Class Dojo. This is a way of rewarding good work and great behaviour. Teachers are able to give points to all children online, for work done in class. These can be accessed by parents, alongside photos of work, achievements in school or simply to receive a message from the teacher. Parents can also send messages to teachers.

Each child has their own Dojo, which they can change if they want to. They collect points, which will work towards individual and class treats.

We would like to encourage all parents to sign up, so that you can share your child's daily achievements. If you haven't yet received a letter to invite you to join, please contact your child's teacher.

'Mascot' girls travel to London (Report by Yvie, Bella and Rose)

On Monday 22nd January, our netball team won a competition and the prize was to be mascots for international netball on T.V. Bella was a mascot for Catlin Bassett the captain of Australia, Yvie was a mascot for Geva Mentor, Rose was a mascot for Serena Guthrie.



It took 4 hours to get to the Olympic Park. When we finally got there we were given V.I.P passes. We went to our meeting room and got changed. We were shown our lockers, which were right next to the England changing rooms. We had two practises, the fireworks made us jump a bit the first time they were set off. A man proved that they weren't hot by putting his hand on one while it was going off!

When it was finally time to go out we were really feeling nervous. We were waiting for the players to come out. Eventually the teams came and collected us. They took our hands and we walked out onto the pitch. It felt super exciting and scary at the same time. They told us where to stand and then we sang the national anthem. We sat down after this, we were right at the front. After a long day we went home. It was a great day!

Inter House Sports Event

On Thursday 1st February, we will be holding a fun run and a cross country competition as a way of launching our school house's renaming and giving the children chance to get big points on the board. Reception classes will be taking part in a fun run in the morning, with Years 1 and 2 will run their part of the inter-house cross country before lunch. Years 3 through to 6 will compete in their inter-house cross country events throughout the afternoon.

The children are welcome to wear sportswear to school for the day, with an item or two representing their house colours. Appropriate footwear is also required for the fun run itself (good trainers, which are suitable for getting muddy if the weather turns), a change of socks may be necessary too.

Administration

In accordance with our school policy, all dinner money should be paid on the Monday for the week ahead. You may pay any amount or even for the whole term. If we do not receive a payment on a 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 the next day we will request that your child brings a packed lunch from home until the amount outstanding is received.

School meals are ordered every day at 10:00am; therefore, on the day if your child has a medical appointment please let the office staff know before this time if your child/ren will require a school dinner or not, cancellations can then be made if necessary.

If your child needs to bring money into school, please make sure that it is in an envelope/plastic bag with your child's name, class, reason for payment and amount clearly written upon it.

Thank you.