

# HARPUR HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY

Trent Avenue, Buxton, Derbyshire SK17 9LP Tel: 01298 23261



## NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2024

### HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE

Dear Parents/Carers,

The new term is in full swing and it certainly feels like spring is just around the corner! Hopefully, we will soon be seeing warmer weather. We've only had a few weeks in school since the last newsletter, but we have plenty of good news and information to share with you.

#### **Illuminate Buxton**

I know many families saw the 'Illuminate Buxton' light displays in Harpur, Fairfield and Spring Gardens in the holiday, which included the digital artwork of our Year 5 children. It was a wonderful community project to be involved with.

#### **Wild Weeks 'Pop in'**

Transition Buxton have asked us to let you know that families in Buxton are invited to pop in to the Pump Room next Tuesday for a celebration and sharing session about Buxton Wild Weeks and the Climate and Environment Conference for Students.



**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March**

anytime between 4 to 6.30pm

Pop in to the Pump Room

We will be sharing information about

**Buxton Wild Weeks** and

**Buxton's Climate & Environment  
Conference for Students**

Please feel free to go along and find out more! We are looking forward to our next Wild Week, which will be in the summer term.



#### **Parents' Evening**

You will have received notification about Parents' Evening bookings on Teachers2Parents. Most classes and year groups are on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March, with some classes offering appointments on other nights. Teachers will be updating you about your child's progress and discussing next steps and how you can support their learning. We look forward to seeing you!

#### **Start and End of Day**

We have reviewed our arrangements for the start of the day and would like to make a few changes so that children can come into school quickly to start their learning. From next Monday, we would like Year 4, 5 and 6 children to enter the building via the door next to after school club off the infant playground. (We will direct children so they know where to go). If you drop off in the car park, children may continue to enter school via the Year 4 door instead. Reception, Year 3 and Year 1 Jolly Giraffes will continue to use the usual entrances. Please talk to me or your child's teacher if you have any questions.

#### **Finally...**

Thank you for your continued support of our school.

Best wishes,

Mrs Giliker (Headteacher)



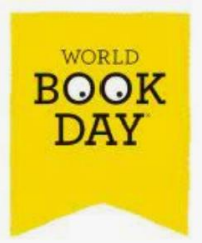
## Year 2 – Northern Ballet

Year 2 had a visit from a professional ballet dancer, from the Northern Ballet company. They took part in a workshop based on the story, 'The Tortoise and the Hare' and had great fun exploring different types of movement to represent the different characters.  
Great work, Year 2!



## World Book Day

We love to read and we love books! Yesterday was World Book Day. We had a great day, celebrating reading, sharing our favourite books, discussing new authors and reading to each other. Here are a few photographs of us dressing up as book characters.



## Amazing Art

Year 4 Ash class studied the work and style of the artist, L S Lowry. They have created these wonderful scenes using his work as inspiration. You may notice a famous local building in them!





## Tinkering Station

Our reception children have been enjoying their new Tinkering Station this term. We have been exploring different resources, developing our fine motor skills by matching keys and padlocks, using tape measures to measure length and width and recording our findings. Thank you to everyone that has donated resources. We will be introducing new resources and tools over the year as our knowledge and skills progress.



## Sporting Success

Well done to our Year 5/6 pupils who took part in a High Peak Gymnastics competition this week in Glossop. They worked hard as a team and have shown great dedication these last few weeks, putting in lots of practice. We came 6th place out of 9 schools. Our Year 5/6 netball teams competed at Buxton Community School this week. One of the teams came third, and the other came second, reaching the High Peak Finals. Well done to all our sporting stars! Thank you to the families for supporting them too.

## Published Author

We're very proud of one of our students who is a published author. Penny in Year 5 has written and published a book, 'Tina's Wish' and it is on sale in the High Peak Book Store. She is planning on donating the money raised to a local animal charity. She loves writing and rabbits. She has wanted to be an author since she could write; she's currently working on the second book!



## ATTENDANCE

Research shows that the higher a child's attendance, the better they do in school; and this in turn improves their life chances. We continue to follow the national guidance for school attendance and procedures from Derbyshire County Council about the issue of penalty notices for unauthorised absences. We monitor all children's attendance regularly and will be in touch if your child's attendance is becoming a concern. The table below shows how we categorise attendance:

100%	99.9 – 95.1%	95 – 90.1%	Below 90%
Excellent	Good	Attendance is a concern	Serious concern

If a child misses 19 days, this will mean their attendance is 90% and classed as persistent absence by the Department for Education. It is also important that children are here every day on time. If children are just 5 minutes late each day, this means that they will be missing 25 minutes each week. If a child is late 10 minutes a day, this is equivalent to missing 6 days of school in a year. Missing the start of the day every day is damaging to children's learning as they miss out on the start of the lesson.

Holidays during term time will not be authorised. Leave of absence may be requested and only authorised for exceptional circumstances. We will be rewarding the children with 100% attendance for this term when we return after the holiday. We will also be rewarding children whose attendance has improved significantly since the last review.

## ADMINISTRATION AND OTHER REMINDERS

### Hand Washing

We are reminding the children about the importance of hand hygiene and how to wash their hands correctly and for long enough. Please follow this up at home to prevent the spread of bacteria and viruses.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - 2024

Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	'Jungle Jo' to visit our Reception classes
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 6 to visit the Holocaust Centre
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	Active Photographic to take class photos
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 6 to visit the Author's Assemble event at the Crescent.
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents' Evening
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Year 5 to visit Jodrell Bank
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Year 4 Brass concert at the Octagon plus Year 5/6 brass players and Mr Simnett's clarinet players, – parents to be advised
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Musical Gems, parents invited: 2.00-2.30pm-Terrific Tigers 2.45-3.15pm-Perfect Parrots
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	School closes at 3.30pm
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April	New term