



Headteacher: Mrs V Giliker

Harpur Hill Primary & Nursery School

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NEWSLETTER

Friday 6th September 2019

Headteacher's Update



Dear Parents/Carers,

A very warm welcome to Harpur Hill Primary School and Nursery to our new children and existing families. I hope you have had an enjoyable summer holiday. We have had a super start to the new school year and our new starters in Nursery, Reception and other year groups have settled very well.

Communication

We will be continuing to send newsletters out at the start and end of each term. These will be emailed to you and posted on the website. We also have a free school app which can be downloaded to a smartphone. You can receive messages and updates and synch your phone calendar with the dates on the school website. Please see details below. We will continue to use our text messaging service to get short messages out to you as well as our popular Facebook page to celebrate events and share information. Please let the school office know if you have changed your email address or mobile phone number over the summer and we will update our records.

Curriculum Events

Each term, families will be invited into school for a Curriculum event. This provides parents/carers with the opportunity to visit the school and celebrate children's learning – these may include watching a performance, taking part in activities and looking at children's work. As these events are held during the school day, we understand that working parents may not be able to attend; however, we are happy for you to send along grandparents/other family members to share in the learning.

Family Support Worker – Early Help

We welcome Julie Woods to our staff team, in her role as Family Support Worker. She will be with us every Wednesday, supporting families and children. Julie is carrying out the same role in Burbage Primary and Buxton Juniors, working one day in each school. She has also worked with the Buxton Multi Agency Team and has supported many Harpur Hill and Buxton families.

Refurbishments

The school looked smart and tidy when the children returned. Over the summer holiday, the infant and lower junior toilets have been refurbished.

Safeguarding

Please may we remind you that the use of mobile phones and photography is prohibited in the school building; this is in line with our safeguarding policy. Thank you.

Finally

Here's to a fantastic new term ahead. We look forward to working in partnership with you over the coming year.

Best wishes

V Giliker (Headteacher)

Early Years News

Nursery Places

The school nursery caters for children aged 3-4 and rising threes (children can start during the term in which they will have their third birthday). Sessions are from 9am until 12 noon, and 12.30pm until 3.30pm. Children can use their 15 hours 'universal' with us, as well as the full 30 hours for those eligible. 'Playdays' are able to provide Breakfast and After School provision for nursery children from 7.30am until 9am, and 3.30 until 6pm. If you would like to know more about our nursery or book a place for later in the year,



please get in touch with the school office or email info@harpurhill.derbyshire.sch.uk We are now taking names for after Christmas, as well as Easter and September 2020 starters. We will be holding a Nursery Open Day on Tuesday 22nd October from 2pm to 6pm. Prospective new parents/carers are invited to come along, see the Nursery and meet the staff. If new families are unable to make this date, we welcome visits from prospective parents/carers at any time and this can be organised through the school office. Please feel free to tell others about our nursery.



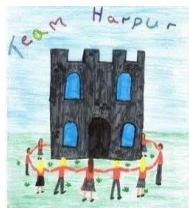
Nursery Macmillan Coffee Morning

On Friday 27th September at 9am we will be taking part in the World's Biggest Coffee Morning in the Nursery building. The event will be an opportunity for Nursery parents/carers to get together for coffee, cake and a chat. Donations can be made towards Macmillan Cancer Support charity. Nursery parents and carers are invited to bring friends along and this will also provide an informal opportunity for prospective parents/carers to come and see our Nursery too.

Reception intake September 2020

We have already received several enquiries about new starters for September 2020 and have arranged an Open Day on Wednesday 16th October between 1.30 and 3pm and 4pm to 6pm for parents/carers of children who will start in Reception in September 2020. Please feel free to share with any prospective new parents.

Team Harpur News



We hope you all had a lovely summer break. During the holidays we held our AGM, new roles were assigned, ideas discussed and events are being planned. Bev Golden has resigned as Treasurer after 4 years of being involved with the PTFA. We want to thank her for all her support.

The assigned members are:

Chair – Rebecca Young

Co Vice-chairs – Kimberley O'Brien and Louise Young

Treasurer – Catherine Moore

Assistant Treasurer – Julie Mellor

Co-Secretaries – Vicky Cantrell and Hayley Yates

Today (6th) we welcomed some of the “new starter” parents at our coffee morning. Thank you to those who attended and we look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events.

We will be hosting our café at Parents Evening on Thursday 10th October.

Thursday 25th October – Halloween Disco, Early years/KS1 3.35-4.45pm, KS2 5-6pm

The children are at the heart of what we do. Last year, the money we raised was spent on extra workshops during school, transport for school trips (reducing the cost to parents), books for the library, kitchen utensils for Food Technology lessons, parties during school and much more.

We need your support to enable our events to take place and raise funds for the school. Please feel free to approach any member of Team Harpur or visit our notice board in Reception for more information. We know there are a lot of myths regarding PTA's but we do not expect you to attend every meeting or help at every event, just give what time you can. We are a friendly bunch and welcome any support that is offered.

We are very much looking forward to this year and hope to see you and your children at our events.

Thank you.

Administration

Attendance

During the last academic year, our school attendance was 96.69%. The national figure for primary schools is 96%.

The Headteachers of COBRAS (Collaboration of Buxton and Rural Area Primary Schools) have agreed a joint approach to term-time absence for holidays during term time.

As you are aware, at Harpur Hill we stress the importance of good attendance and we have to follow the Local Authority procedures and guidance from Derbyshire County Council about the issue of penalty notices for unauthorised leave for the purpose of a family holiday.

If you request a holiday during term-time, schools have no choice but to mark it as unauthorised absence, unless there are exceptional circumstances, and you may be issued with a penalty notice. Schools do not benefit at all from any monies received from penalty notices as these are issued by the local authority.

We also believe that transparency is vital for home-school relationships so would encourage all parents to make a formal request if you are intending to take a term-time holiday or leave of absence.

If you are in any doubt about whether you would receive authorised leave of absence, please do not hesitate to phone or pop in to discuss your personal circumstances. Each request will be considered on a case by case basis. Thank you for your continued support.

Ukulele Club

Miss Howe, music teacher and owner of Little Music Monsters will be starting a club for any KS2 children who are interested in learning how to play this instrument. The first lesson will be for 5 weeks commencing on Friday 20th September from 3.30pm – 4.00pm. The cost for the 5 lessons will be £22.50. A Soprano ukulele and carry case can be purchased from Mrs Howe for £20, or your child can bring their own. If your child is interested, please ask our office staff for a letter.

Mobile App

At present we have 244 people using the app, below is information about our mobile app which you can download and use on your mobile phone or tablet. The app will be another way of keeping you informed about the life of the school and we hope that you will find it useful. We will be communicating with you using the following options in the app:





- * School diary (Calendar)
- * News
- * Newsletters (also includes year group letters)
- * Notices

The other menu options include:

- * Links to other sites (e.g. the school website and Facebook page)
- * Contact details for school
- * Settings

In Settings, you will be able to set push notifications for newsletters, news and notices. We suggest that you limit these to your child's year group (select all those that apply if you have more than one child in school). If you want to, you can also synch your phone calendar with the school diary/calendar (this is optional and you will still be able to view the diary/calendar within the app if you choose not to synch it).

The download details can be found below:

<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.

Dates for your diary (subject to change)

Monday 9 th September	Jolly Giraffes	Come to school dressed as your favourite Superhero
Wednesday 11 th & Thursday 12 th September	Year 5/6 Bikeability lessons	Parent/carers advised
Friday 13 th September	Year 6's 'Journey of Destiny' performance	Parent/carers advised
Monday 23 rd September & Tuesday 24 th September	Year 5 to visit White Hall Education Centre	Parent/carers advised
Friday 27 th September	Nursery Macmillan coffee morning	9am - in the Nursery building. For Nursery parents/carers/ friends/prospective parents/carers
Tuesday 1 st , Wednesday 2 nd , Monday 7 th & Tuesday 8 th October	Year 5/6 Bikeability lessons	Information to follow
Thursday 10 th October	Parents Evening	Parents/carers will be advised when they can log online to book a suitable time.
Tuesday 15 th October	Year 6 to visit National Holocaust Centre	Information to follow
Wednesday 16 th October	Reception intake September 2020 Open Day for prospective new parents/carers of Reception children in September 2020	All welcome between 1.30 and 3pm and 4pm to 6pm.
Tuesday 22 nd October	Nursery Open Day	Prospective new parents and carers are invited to come along, see the Nursery and meet the staff from 2pm to 6pm
Wednesday 23 rd October	Year 6 'WW2 Day'	Parents are invited to an exhibition @ 2.30pm
Thursday 24 th October	Halloween Disco	Infants 3.45pm Juniors 5.00pm information to follow
Friday 25 th October	End of Term	School closes at 3:30pm
Monday 4 th November	Staff INSET day	
Tuesday 5 th November	Start of a new term	