

HARPUR HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY

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



NEWSLETTER

HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE

Dear Parents/Carers,

I can't believe that we are at the end of another term! Thank you to those of you who came along to our Infant Jubilee activities and Nursery Teddy Bears' picnic this week - we hope you enjoyed them. It has been a super busy term once again with highlights including Rowan class visiting the Crescent, Ash class singing at the Haddon Hall Care Home, and Year 1 / 2 had a visit from Animal Magic.



Statutory Assessments

A huge well done to all our Year 2 and Year 6 children who took part in Statutory Assessments this term. The children worked hard to prepare and took everything in their stride during the week.

After the holidays, our Year 1 children will complete the National Phonics Screening Check. Please work on your sounds over the holidays, work through the phonic pack and play the games on the websites we shared in the packs recently. Have lots of fun with phonics, children! Thank you.

Year 4 have their Times Tables check after the holiday. Please encourage children to keep practising their tables and using TTRockstars over the holiday.

Sun Corridor

We have been fortunate to get the go ahead for some major refurbishments to our school in the coming months. During the holiday, work will start to replace the 'Sun Corridor' (the conservatory and main entrance into the Infants). We have met with contractors to ensure work is carried out safely and with the minimum disruption to the school. There are a few things that I need to make everyone aware of ahead of the work starting:

- There will be no access to school via the Sun Corridor.
- Next term, Miss Gough's Year 2 Class will need to enter and exit school via Miss Samadram's old classroom door (off the infant playground).
- There are no changes to other classes' entrances/exits.
- Part of the infant grass area and playground will be used for cabins and vans – these will be fenced off from the children. Please do not allow children to climb on any fences or scaffolding at the start or end of the day.
- Temporary vehicle access will be created through the fence near the main entrance (next to the park). The contractors are aware of the start and end of the day times, and will keep vehicle movement to a minimum.
- Please ensure children are supervised when walking to and from school and take extra care on the school run.
- I will be going through safety arrangements and a fire drill with the children after the holiday.

Finally...



A big thank you to everyone who kindly sent cakes and treats to school.

Thank you for your continued support for our wonderful school. I hope you and your families enjoy the Jubilee Celebrations and extra Bank Holiday. Let's hope we have some sunny weather!

Wishing all our families a fantastic break.

Mrs Giliker (Headteacher)

LEARNING JOURNEYS

Year	Topic	Books of interest
Nursery Brilliant Bears	Under the Sea	The Rainbow Fish, Tiddler, Commotion in the Ocean, Smiley Shark, Bright Stanley, The Storm Whale, A hole in the Bottom of the Sea, Clem and Crab.
Reception	Holidays	What the Ladybird Heard at the Seaside, Snail and the Whale, Sharing a Shell, Somebody's Swallowed Stanley
Year 1	Where would you prefer to live: England or Africa?	The children will listen to a range of stories from Africa including Anansi the spider and Handa's Surprise.
Year 2	Inspirational people Where would you prefer to live: England or Africa?	We will be reading about inspirational people during the first two weeks of the new term. Third week - anything with reference to Africa or African animals.
Year 3	What is the Ancient Greeks Legacy for Today?	The Orchard Book of Greek Myths by Geraldine McCaughrean, Greek Myths by Marcia Williams, Arthur and the Golden Rope by Joe Todd Stanton.
Year 3/4	Who were the Early lawmakers?	The Lost Words by Robert Macfarlane, Nonsense Poems by Edward Lear, Green Shoots Rising by Andy Tooze, I am a Seed that Grew the Tree written - The National Trust.
Year 5	What did we learn from the Great Plague?	The children of winter by Berlie Doherty.
Year 6	What makes 'a Midsummer night's dream' a comedy?	A Midsummer Night's Dream by Andrew Matthews and Tony Ross.

Nursery



This half term, the Brilliant Bears have enjoyed learning about Bears. They have listened to lots of stories and particularly enjoyed the story 'Whatever Next.' The Children took turns to fly to space in a box rocket wearing their colander space helmet!

They also went on a bear hunt and explored different textures. They walked through the swishy, swashy grass, before stomping through the thick, oozy mud and finally tiptoed all the way to the bear cave!

The Bear Cubs have been enjoying our new outdoor area, as well as experiencing many messy play opportunities. They have used all of their senses while exploring jelly!



Reception



The children have had lots of fun exploring the woods and conservation area this half term. We have especially enjoyed creating nature art sculptures and collages inspired by the artist Richard Shilling.

Year 1

The children settled into the Year 1 class really well after Easter and they've had a super half term. They have really enjoyed the topic: Can you keep a dragon as a pet? They enjoyed designing and making their own traps for a dragon and they loved the visit from Animal Magic! Well done, children.



Year 2



This half term, the children have been trying to find out the answer to our topic question 'Can you keep a dragon as a pet?' They have found out about the habitat of various animals, how they find their food in their natural habitat and how we can care for animals as pets, as well as those in the wild. We then had a very enjoyable and informative visit from Animal Magic, who brought with them a bearded dragon - this helped us to answer our topic question and also find out where they originally came from! A brilliant half term, well done!

Year 3

This half term Rowan Class have really enjoyed finding out about extreme weather, including volcanoes, tsunamis, tornadoes and earthquakes. They have done some super homework projects including volcano models that actually erupted! The children have also found out about rocks/soils in science and have asked some excellent questions to enhance their knowledge. They loved making and eating 'dirt puddings' to represent the layers of the Earth.



Rowan Class had a fantastic day out at the Crescent and Pump Room Visitor Experience. They found out about the history of Buxton, Buxton Water, the water as a 'cure' for ailments, and the restoration of The Crescent. They took a VR balloon ride from Castleton to Buxton. Over at the Pump Room they took part in some science investigations. They tasted two samples of water, one from St Anne's Well and the other tap water. They had to work out which was which. They also investigated temperature, PH, and water hardness of the well water.

Year 3/4



Ash and Willow classes have had a term enriched with music. After continued practising in brass lessons, Year 4 proudly performed to an audience at the Pavilion Gardens. Year 3 have been having singing lessons with a professional musical director and performed the Platinum Jubilee songs for the residents and families of Haddon Hall residential home. In English, the children have thoroughly enjoyed our focus text, The

Iron Man, by Ted Hughes. We watched the film version and were able to compare the similarities and differences between both. As we move towards the final term of the year, the children are showing increased independence and improved skills and knowledge from all our subjects.

Year 5



Year 5 have been working on their sketching and shading techniques in art this half term. They have spent time carefully observing objects and prints in order to include detail and shadow. In French, they learned how to give their opinions about different foods. They then played a game to practise. The children presented our Climate Change research projects to Year 3 and had a visit from some ducklings.

Year 6



This term, the Y6 have been working towards the SATs. They have all worked extremely hard and took the tests in their stride. Well done to all the children. They have learned about the Mayans in topic and Animals including Humans in Science. In art, they have been weaving in the style of the Mayans and the children have produced some excellent pieces of work. They also enjoyed taking part in cricket coaching from Derbyshire Cricket Club.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 27 th May	End of term
Monday 6 th June	Staff INSET DAY
Tuesday 7 th June	Start of Summer term 2
Monday 13 th June	Ash class at the Opera House – Jubilee singing
Wednesday 15 th June	Jolly Giraffes to visit the Buxton library where stories will be read of Kings and Queens by Rachel Murray and Tim Ralphs
Tuesday 21 st June	Year 5 Activity Day at B.C.S. 10.00am – 2.20pm
Wednesday 22 nd June – Friday 24 th	Year 6 to visit the Lea Green Centre
Tuesday 28 th June	KS2 sports day am, parents to be invited pm
Thursday 30 th June	Nursery sports day – 10.00am – 11.00am
Thursday 30 th June	KS1 sports day am, parents to be invited pm
Monday 4 th July – Wednesday 6 th	Year 6 transition days to B.C.S
Wednesday 6 th July	Year 3/4 to visit Mossy Lea (Ash and Willow classes)
Thursday 7 th July – Friday 8 th	Year 6 transition days to St Thomas More
Friday 8 th July	Summer Fair from 4.00pm – 6pm
Monday 11 th July – Friday 15 th	Transition week for the whole school, children visit their new classrooms and class teachers
Tuesday 12 th July	Y5 trip to Eyam
Wednesday 20 th July	Year 6 Harpurs' from 6pm
Friday 22 nd July	End of term
Thursday 1 st September	Start of Autumn term 1

ADMINISTRATION

Junior child safety

Kindly tell your children that when they finish school at 3.30pm if their parent has not arrived at school to take them home, that they must return to school. Upon their arrival to the office, we will phone home and keep your child safe until they are collected.

Contact details

Kindly inform school of any contact changes – address/telephone/email.

Absentees and medical appointment procedures

If your child is unwell or unable to attend school for whatever reason, please inform us as soon as possible, before 9am. You can contact us to report an absence by: - phoning the school office 01298 23261 (you can leave an answer machine if you phone before the office is open) - emailing sreception@harpurhill.derbyshire.sch.uk - texting school on 07786 207779 or by replying to a school text.

Free school meals

Eight out of 10 pupils have their free meal - do you? You can apply now.

Register now and let DCC check if you are entitled, it could save you over £470 a year per child. You simply need to apply, if you do not qualify at present, to ensure families do not miss out DCC regularly check if parents 'have become' eligible. This is why it is important for parents to apply now.

Click on the link below to register with DCC:

<https://apps.derbyshire.gov.uk/applications/formBuilder/free-school-meals/7471C40D-CA68-4B81-AA2D-32DCDA60CCC0>

Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM)

All children in reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a free meal regardless of personal circumstances. This is subject to change with government policy.

SPORT

I hope you have all enjoyed the short half term. The weather is finally starting to improve and it has been lovely to be outside more for P.E.

Nursery have explored tennis and working on their co-ordination and are really starting to develop their gross motor skills.

Our Reception classes have been exploring catching, throwing and striking, focusing on keeping their eyes on the ball in catching and throwing with power before starting to explore tennis, badminton and cricket striking.

Year 1 & 2 have learned how to catch different equipment in different situations, throwing for height, distance and accuracy. They have also explored using a tennis and badminton racquet to hit a ball and shuttlecock to each other and luckily had a cricket coach come in to teach them all about cricket.

Our Year 3s have explored invasion games with a big focus on field hockey and scoring goals.

The Year 4 children have started to understand when to pass and dribble in basketball and explored the differences between netball and basketball.

Year 5 worked hard learning about hockey, rugby and football and played some competitive small-sided games of the sports!

Lastly, our Year 6 children worked at skills in basketball and Netball and had some great mini tournaments showing why we performed so well at the county level this year.

After school club football has been successful again with even more players. Our KS1 group have been playing in the Muga whilst our KS2 group worked on their shooting by playing lots of games of lightning and matches!

Breakfast Club has again been hugely popular this half term. We have played sports such as scooter ball/basketball/tennis/badminton and dodgeball. Look out for a new sign-up sheet at the start of next half term.

Our only inter school competition this half term was cycle cross in which we took 6 Year 5/6 children to New Mills to compete in an off road-cycling race. All our children loved it and competed admirably!

If you would like to see what clubs Chris Hills' Community Sports have during the holiday please click on the following link: <https://forms.gle/K83wQGGREE1U3tjA8>

Have a lovely week off.

Danny