

HARPUR HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY

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



NEWSLETTER

HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE

Friday 22nd July 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

It has been a busy end to the term, with transition, educational visits, sports, Year 6 show and the Harpurs. The children have enjoyed their transition activities and are well prepared for September. Despite the weather, the children took part in their Sports Days. We have been impressed by the confidence, determination, teamwork and resilience of our children throughout the last few weeks. On behalf of everyone at Harpur, I would like to thank all our families for your support this year.

Well done

A huge well done to all the children for their sensible behaviour and attitude during the extremely hot weather this week. A visitor, who visits lots of other schools, commented on the exceptional behaviour of the children of Harpur Hill.

Year 6

We say farewell to our wonderful Year 6 this week. They entertained us with their performance of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory last week and we celebrated their achievements in the Harpurs evening on Wednesday. We wish them all the very best for secondary school and beyond!

Farewell

We are also saying goodbye to Trish Gould, who first started working here as a Midday Supervisor 34 years ago. The playground won't be the same without her! We are also saying farewell to Liz McLennan (who works in our Nursery) and Alice Alcock (TA in KS1), who are moving to new positions nearer to their homes. We wish all our staff leavers the very best for the future and thank you for your hard work and commitment to the children of Harpur.

Welcome

We have welcomed several new children to our school in recent weeks and we have more new starters due to join us in September, along with the new Reception children. A very warm welcome to you all!

Sports

We have had an amazing year for Sports, achieving our Gold award from the School Games Mark once again. Coach Danny has developed our PE curriculum and sport across the school, resulting in children being more active enjoying their PE lessons. We have had a fantastic year of competitive sports too - we are the High Peak champions of Basketball, Girls' Football, Quad-Kids and Cross Country; and Buxton Champions in all the above and more. A huge thank you and well done to all the children who have represented our school this year, and also to Danny!

Music

Well done to all of our young musicians. This year we have had lots of children playing instruments – all of Year 4 learned brass, some Year 5 continued brass, other children are having individual or group lessons on woodwind, cello, violin and guitar, or joined ukulele club.



We have a range of musical opportunities available for children from September:

- Children from Year 2 upwards may learn to play a string instrument – we currently offer violin and cello lessons, and double bass by arrangement. These lessons can be held individually or in pairs/small groups
- Children from Year 3 upwards are invited to learn the clarinet in a lunchtime clarinet club. Ben Simnett, our woodwind teacher will be sending out more information in September
- Darren Lloyd teaches brass – open to Year 5 & 6
- Dave Morten teaches guitar to children from Year 2 upwards
- Year 5 children may access subsidised lessons (either continuing their brass instrument or learning a new one) as they have been part of the Wider Opportunities programme in Y4

You can see more information on the Derbyshire Music Hub website, including financial subsidies for eligible families:

<https://www.derbyshiremusichub.org.uk/get-involved/learning-an-instrument/learning-to-play-an-instrument.aspx>

If you are interested in your child learning an instrument, you can book via the link on the website above or contact the school office.

Congratulations

Coach Danny and Bethan Marshall are getting married in August. We wish them both all the very best for their special day and their future together!

Finally...

On behalf of the staff and governors of Harpur Hill Primary School and Nursery, I would like to wish you a wonderful summer holiday. We look forward to welcoming the children back to school in September.

Best wishes
Mrs Giliker - Headteacher

LEARNING JOURNEYS

Year	Topic	Books of interest
Nursery Brilliant Bears	All about me and my family	My Mum, My Dad, We are Family, The Large Family, All Kinds of Families.
Reception	All about me	My Family, Your Family, We Are Family, Our Class, Our Family.
Year 1 Miss Marsh J.G. Miss Wetton L.L. Year 2 Miss Gough M.M.	What Makes a Superhero Super?	We will share a range of books about superheroes including Superworm by Julia Donaldson.
Year 3	What changes in Autumn?	The Tin Forest, The Hodgeheg, Fantastic Mr Fox.
Year 4 Ash – Ms Williamson & Ms Stanway Willow – Mr White	What rocks in the Peak District?	Cliffhanger by Jacqueline Wilson and Boy: Tales of childhood by Roald Dahl.
Year 5	Could you survive..... Like Bear Grylls?	Kensuke's Kingdom by Michael Morpurgo
Year 6	Were the Vikings Victorious and Vicious?	Viking Boy by Tony Bradman.

SCHOOL NEWS

Nursery - Bear Cubs

The Bear Cubs have enjoyed lots of messy play activities and exploring the outdoors. We have invited lots of new families for taster sessions and are very excited to welcome all of our new children after the summer.

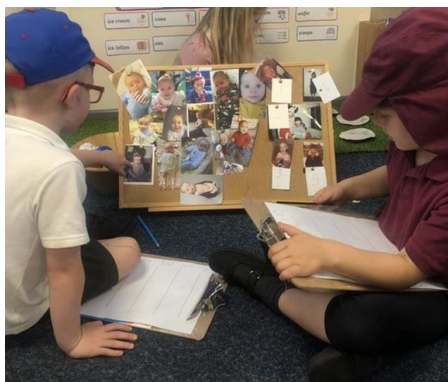


Nursery - Brilliant Bears

The children in pre-school have had a brilliant half-term exploring their 'Under the Sea' topic. They have especially enjoyed finding ways to keep cool during the warm weather! The children have enjoyed their transition visits to Reception and are excited to start school in September.

The children in nursery have been reading the story Clem and Crab. They have been very worried about the amount of rubbish that is found in the ocean and on the beaches. They have learnt about recycling and have been looking for the recycling logo on different packaging, before sorting it in to the correct recycling bin. They have even been busy collecting rubbish from our school grounds, using grabbers to pick it up and put it in to the bin

Reception



Reception have been learning about changes as we grow. We have enjoyed sharing baby photos of ourselves and discussing how we have changed and how we might change in the future.

Through reading the story *Somebody Swallowed Stanley* we have learnt about pollution in the sea and the effect it has on the environment.

We shared our own personal experiences of going on holiday and made posters advising people how to stay safe at the seaside. We have enjoyed doing more writing and particularly enjoyed writing about what we could hear/see at the seaside.

Year 1

The Jolly Giraffes have had a super year. We have enjoyed exploring Brilliant Buxton and enjoyed lots of artwork during this topic including sketching, painting and making clay pots! We thoroughly enjoyed the 'Is Art Everywhere?' topic with a visit from the Northern Ballet to learn dance skills and a trip to Buxton Opera House to watch *Pinocchio*. Our Dragons topic was a huge favourite with the children, and they enjoyed learning about how to care for pets and animals and they loved holding a range of animals with our visit from 'Animal Magic'. The Summer Term has flown by; we enjoyed our Sports Day, visits to our new classes and learning all about weather in hot and cold countries.



Year 2



The Marvellous Monkeys have had a fantastic year! We started off our year exploring what is Brilliant about Buxton, followed by what it was like during the Victorian times. We really enjoyed developing our art skills during this topic including sketching and painting, and learning about a Victorian Christmas.

We successfully completed our Arts Award through our topic 'Is Art Everywhere?' and our favourite parts were definitely the visit from the Northern Ballet and our school trip to Buxton Opera House to watch *Pinocchio*.

Our Dragons topic was another favourite, and we enjoyed learning about how to care for pets and animals and they loved holding a range of animals with our visit from 'Animal Magic'. In the Summer Term, we thoroughly enjoyed dressing up for our Inspirational People Day and learning about how different people have changed history. In the last few weeks of term, we have had lots of fun taking part in Sports Day, getting ready for Year 3 and visiting our new classroom.

Year 3



Rowan Class have really enjoyed their final term in Year 3. They have been fascinated by the Greek Myths that they have learned as part of their 'What is the Ancient Greek's Legacy for Today?' topic. They have taken part in an Ancient Greek Olympic Games activity chariot racing, sprinting and discus throwing. They have designed some lovely Greek vases after looking at historical sources and understanding how the pictures on the pottery helps us to understand daily life, clothes and food in Ancient Greece.

Some of the children took part in a Commonwealth themed games morning at Chesterfield, taking part in archery, body zorbing, laser tag, team building games, cricket and rugby skills.

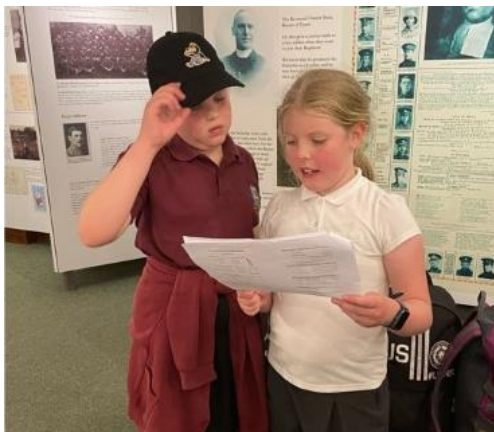


Year 3&4

Ash and Willow had a most wonderful time at Mossy Lea. The children learned about countryside safety, respect and enjoyment. This included watching hunting dogs responding to the ranger and learning about fire safety from the fire brigade. We looked at the impact on the conditions of soils when they are saturated from water and when they are dried out. We learned to recognise bird calls and saw a range of birds of prey.



Year 5



Elm and Ash classes have expanded their history knowledge this half term, exploring 'What did we learn from the Great Plague?'.

The children visited Eyam and learnt about the different families and their sacrifices
Both classes have looked at the symptoms of the plague and the strange ideas they had to cure them.

Many children created their medicines as part of their long term projects.

Year 6



Year 6 enjoyed a residential visit to Lea Green. They faced their fears on the high ropes and left with many memories.

The Year 6 performed the musical of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory last week. They had a fantastic time and all took part: as the characters, in the chorus or as stagehands. This was the end of what has been a busy and exciting year for our Year 6 children.

This week Year 6 designed and built water rockets which they launched before having a giant water fight in the playground.

TEAM HARPUR (P.F.T.A.)

A message from the Chair:

After 7 years of being involved with Team Harpur, it is with great sadness that I have to step down from my role as Chair due my son starting secondary school in September. I would like to thank the Team, past and present, and all of the parents who have supported our events over the years; I couldn't have done it without you! I have enjoyed every minute of being part of Team Harpur and I would recommend it to anyone, especially as you get to experience school life and see the children in this environment, it's a privilege most parents don't get to experience.

The PTFA will be holding their AGM and electing their new Chair and welcoming new members. If you are interested in joining the PTFA in the future, kindly look out for the date of the next meeting.
Rebecca Young

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

We love to read at Harpur! Sign up to the Summer Reading Challenge?

This year's challenge has been developed in partnership with the [Science Museum Group](#) and features the Gadgeteers – 6 fictional young innovators who plan a party for their town's summer fair using creative thinking and teamwork.

If you're aged between 4 and 11, you can help the Gadgeteers come up with ingenious inventions to make the summer party the best ever!

The challenge is to read 6 or more library books over summer.

[Buxton Library](#) will give you a sticker for every book you read, and after finishing 6 books, you'll get a medal and certificate.

We will have a celebration in school in September to see who has had a go at the challenge.

Don't forget to get your child to keep reading amazing books over the summer.

See the link below for the latest recommended reads for children of all ages.

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/our-recommendations/100-best-books/>

Happy Reading!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 22 nd July	End of term
Thursday 1 st September	Staff INSET day
Friday 2 nd September	School open for new term
Friday 14 th October	Active Photographic to take family/individual/sibling photographs. Details to follow
Thursday 20 th October	School closes at 3.30pm
Friday 21 st October	Staff INSET day

ADMINISTRATION

Absence 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 a message on the 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.

Kindly let the school know any changes in you address/telephone/email details, so we can amend records to enable you to receive texts/emails.

ATTENDANCE

Research shows that the higher a child's attendance, the better they do in school; and this in turn improves their life chances. During the pandemic, as in all schools, our attendance was affected by absences due to coronavirus and other covid-related issues/illnesses. Prior to the pandemic, our attendance was above the national average.

New national guidance has been introduced for schools to follow from September, and we will continue to follow procedures from Derbyshire County Council about the issue of penalty notices for unauthorised absences. Holidays during term time will not be authorised. Leave of absence may be requested for exceptional circumstances and may be authorised if there are exceptional circumstances. We will be reintroducing our attendance awards for improved attendance and a termly award for 100% attendance. Let's aim to keep our attendance well above the national average again so Harpur children can make the most of their learning! Thank you for your support.

Lateness

The morning register is taken at 9am; children are expected to be in school prior to this and ready for the start of the school day. To see how lateness can affect your child's education, see below:

Minutes late per day	Equivalent of missing
10 Minutes	6 school days a year
15 Minutes	10 school days a year
20 Minutes	14 school days a year
30 Minutes	20 school days a year

Parking Issues and Road Safety

In order to keep your children safe, please may we remind you to:

- Take care when driving on the school site and nearby roads
- Please park safely and considerately – do not block, driveways, footpaths or roads
- Do not park in disabled spaces – these are only for badge holders
- Please drop your child and leave fairly quickly to make room for other parents/carers
- Keep younger children with you and do not let them run around in the car park or roads near the school

We know that the majority of parents/carers park considerately and safely – thank you. Children can be dropped off between 8.45am and 9am to allow more time for the drop off. Also, you may like to consider the following:

- Walk or cycle to school when you can
- Use parent or neighbourhood groups on social media etc such as Whatsapp to arrange a walking bus or take it in turn to bring each other's children to school
- Park a little further away from school and walk the last five minutes to avoid the roads next to school

In recent weeks, both the Police and Fire Service have patrolled and spoken to a few drivers about parking. They asked us to remind parents/carers to park safely and considerately, leaving sufficient access for emergency services to access the school or the houses on Trent Avenue, Dane Grove or Ferneydale Avenue in the event of a fire or other incident. We are considering piloting a drop off system in the new school year – more information to follow in September.

PLAYDAYS

Playdays is the part of Green Lane Nursery Ltd that offers wraparound care for many local families offering holiday clubs for young children. If you are interested, please click on the link for further information: <https://www.greenlanenurseryltd.co.uk/>

SPORT

Hello all, I will start with the big news. We have achieved the Gold Standard Sports award from the school games mark body which is a fantastic!

P.E. in school has been a great success this year. The new curriculum which we designed last year has moved away from sport specific topics to a more physical literacy-based approach. This is to engage and develop ALL pupils and inspire a love for being active into our children.

Pupils have given feedback that lessons are even more fun, and they are enjoying the new approach. We will continue this next academic year leaning more to the physical literacy side.

We have had a fantastic year of competitive sports also showing that the move to a less sports-based curriculum hasn't impacted our competitive teams. We have competed in almost all the events on the calendar this year with over 90% of our year 4, 5 & 6 children attending an out of school sports event this year! We hope to get to 100% next year.

We are the High Peak champions of Basketball, Girls Football, Quad-Kids and Cross Country and Buxton Champions in all the above and many more. Our next step is to win the county finals in at least one of the sports that I am confident of for next year.

We have reintroduced our Harpur Heroes this year with all year 5 children completing a playground leadership award and being involved in break-times and lunchtime activities with KS1 children.

We have had great initiatives in school such as the daily mile, which has been successful, and Healthy Living week, which included children cycling to school and competing in different sports during the week.

Breakfast clubs have been wildly popular all year as has after-school football. Next year the school will be running our own after-school clubs offering at least three sports options and one dance.

We finished the year with some fantastic Sports Days for our children and it was great to see some fun and competitive events that the children have worked so hard on!

Lastly, we will be reworking our House system to allow for more intra school sports events during the year in September!

Thank you all and have a great summer

Danny

BREAKFAST AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

From September, the following Breakfast and After School Clubs will be running in school.

Danny will be taking the sessions and there will be a charge per block of sessions, payable to school via school money.

The first block will run from week commencing 5th September 2022 to week commencing 17th October - 7 sessions.

The second block will run from week commencing 31st October to week commencing 12th December - 7 sessions.

Breakfast Club sessions are from 8.15am to 8.45am to be paid as a block of 7 at a total cost of £17.50 (£2.50 per session) payable via school money by 2nd September 2022.

After School Club, sessions are from 3.30pm to 4.30pm to be paid as a block of 7 at a total cost of £35 (£5 per session) payable via school money by 2nd September 2022.

At Breakfast Club,

Danny will be doing fitness games with the children for the following year groups:

Wednesdays - open to children in Years 3 or 4

Thursdays - open to children in Years 5 and 6

At After School Club, Danny will be doing the following:

Tuesdays - KS1 Football (for children in Y1 and Y2 only)

Wednesdays - KS2 Football (for children in Y3 to Y6)

Thursdays - KS2 Multi Sports (for children in Y3 to Y6)

If you would like your child to attend any of the above sessions, then please complete the form below and return to school by Monday 25th July.

Places are limited so will be allocated on a first come basis. If you complete the form, you are agreeing to pay for the sessions in one upfront payment as listed above. Unfortunately, it will not be possible to make a refund if a child does not attend one of the sessions.

<https://forms.office.com/r/RkPtNy1YZQ>

We are also hoping that there will be a Dance after school club running on a Friday, but this will be run by an outside company, details will be sent out as soon as they have been confirmed.