

HARPUR HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY

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



NEWSLETTER

HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE

Thursday 20th October 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

What a busy start to the new school year we have had this term! I am so proud of how the new Nursery and Reception starters have settled, as well as children who have joined us in other year groups. It has been good to see families in school this term, for reading together, craft sessions and curriculum events, as well as parents' evenings. We hope that you have enjoyed coming in to school and sharing your child's learning. There are more sessions planned next term for different year groups. Class teachers will invite you on Dojo/Tapestry or via a newsletter.

Welcome!

We have had a few families join us in the last few weeks. A very warm welcome to you all!

Sporting Success

We are so proud of our sporting teams who have been very busy this term. Huge congratulations to our boys' and girls' football teams who played at the High Peak Finals earlier this week. The boys' team are through to the County finals next term – an excellent achievement! Thank you to the children and also to Coach Danny and parent helpers. (Please see Danny's Sport Update later in the newsletter).

Parents' Evenings

It was lovely to welcome parents and carers into school for parents' evenings over the last few weeks. Many of you said you were pleased to be able to come into school and see your children's work, talk with the teacher and see the classrooms. Some of you preferred the phone call option too, and we're happy to accommodate whatever suits you best. Most teachers have talked to all parents of children in their class, which is fantastic – thank you! If you haven't yet spoken to your child's teacher, please get in touch with them via Dojo/Tapestry or calling the office to arrange an appointment at the start of next term.

Reception Intake September 2023

We were delighted to see so many families at our Open Afternoon and Evening for Reception starters September 2023, earlier this week. If you were unable to make it, or know someone who may be interested in a place for September, please give us a call, or pass on our details, and I will be happy to arrange a guided tour of our school.

Finally...

Wishing our families a great holiday. Thank you for all your support this term.

Best wishes

Mrs Giliker (Headteacher)

ATTENDANCE

Thank you for sending your children to school every day and on time. Research shows that the higher a child's attendance, the better they do in school; and this in turn improves their life chances.

If a child is late 10 minutes a day, this is equivalent to missing 6 days of school in a year. We are now following the national guidance for school attendance, and 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 and only authorised for exceptional circumstances. We will be rewarding the children with 100% attendance for this term when we return after the holiday.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Please make sure that the children only use the High Peak Borough Council play area before or after school. The school's MUGA/perimeter fences are totally out of bounds.

As per the Derbyshire County Council's policy may we remind you that dogs are not allowed on the school grounds. Thank you

SCHOOL NEWS

Nursery – Bear Cubs



Our new Bear Cubs have settled in to nursery brilliantly and have enjoyed exploring their new environment. This half term, they have listened to new stories, including The Very Hungry Caterpillar and Dear Zoo.

They have particularly enjoyed exploring the outdoors during regular visits to the conservation area and school grounds, and they have begun to learn about Autumn with lots of opportunities to investigate natural objects and create some wonderful Autumn artwork.

Nursery - Brilliant Bears

This term the Brilliant Bears have been learning about families. They have enjoyed talking about their own families and have shared many stories from home. The children have been busy drawing self-portraits, using a mirror to look carefully at their features. They also spent some time learning about Autumn and have noticed the changes in the trees and how the weather is beginning to get much colder! The children have enjoyed exploring Autumn objects and even planted some seeds that they found hiding inside pinecones.



Reception



This term in reception, we have been reading We're All Wonders. We have talked about kindness and being a good friend. The children have enjoyed designing and making their own space helmets and rockets so that we can visit Pluto, like Auggie in the story. We have been using our kind hands to look after each other in our doctor's role-play and have had great fun taking on different roles.

Year 1

The children have really enjoyed their Superhero topic this term and they have especially enjoyed learning about their senses. They children did a tasting experiment where they learned about the four main tastes on the tongue. We tasted salt, sour lemon, sweet sugar and bitter dark chocolate. The children were surprised at how sweet the lemon tasted after the salt! Year 1 enjoyed having their families with them during a Halloween craft activity. We made a moving witch together.



Year 2



Have had a very busy half term! In English we have been enjoying lots of Superhero books, using adjectives to write character descriptions and creating our own superhero vegetable story! We have been learning about different shades of colour in Art and mixed our own colours that we could then print images with. We have been finding out about our grandparents' childhoods for our History, as well as learning about how transport has changed over time. In D&T, we have been learning about linkages, and then designed and made our own moving monster!

Year 3

Rowan Class have really settled well into their first term. They have loved their Autumn topic and have enjoyed sharing some super homework projects with the class. The children really enjoyed creating land art after learning about artist, Andy Goldsworthy. They love singing and have learned two French songs - a greetings song and a Halloween song. The children have enjoyed learning to play the glockenspiels to Let Your Spirit Fly. The children have worked especially hard to join their handwriting in all their work, with some pleasing results.



Year 4



This term, Year 4 have been learning about the Peak District and the local area. We enjoyed a day out in the woods with Frag from Buxton Civic Association looking at local geography including rock formation, fossils and some of the old lime kilns - learning all about how the lime from the woods was used to build local buildings including The Crescent. We have also been learning how to read maps and use a compass.

Year 5

We have had a super-busy start to the term, kicking it off with learning all about our topic – Could you survive like Bear Grylls? The children have designed and made their own dens, learnt all about which plants are vital for survival in the wild and how to use a map and compass to navigate. We had two fun filled and action-packed days at Whitehall where we showcased our teamwork skills on the zip-wire, our perseverance on the adventure walk, and bags of courage on the rope climbing challenge!



Year 6



The children have been learning about the Vikings this term. They have found out where they came from, why they invaded Britain and how they lived.

Year 6 had a super Viking Day. They baked Viking bread, made longships and went on a raid! Later, they shared their learning in an exhibition for families. Thank you for the parents who were able to join the children and well done to our vicious and victorious Vikings!



LEARNING JOURNEYS

Year	Topic	Books of interest
Nursery Brilliant Bears	Celebrations	Diwali Story Book It's My Birthday Cake Uncle Bobby's Wedding The Scarecrow's Wedding The Story of Hanukkah The Christmas Pine The Jolly Christmas Postman
Reception	Traditional Tales	The Mitten (Ukrainian folktale) The Little Red Hen The Gingerbread Man Don't spill the milk (African tale) We're Going on a Bear Hunt
Year 1	Where do the leaves go in Winter?	We will share a range of books about Autumn in our daily story-time sessions including:- Pumpkin Soup The Leaf Thief Goodbye Summer, Hello Autumn
Year 2	How do we get Rainbows?	A Scientist Like Me by Dr Shini Somara What Are Germs? By Katie Daynes Bug Collector By Alex Griffiths
Year 3	Who First Lived in Britain?	Stone Age Boy by Satoshi Kitamura Stone Girl Bone Girl by Laurence Anholt How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth by Michael Robinson
Year 4	What did the Romans do for us?	Non-fiction books about Romans Outlaw by Michael Morpurgo Any version of the Robin Hood legend
Year 5	Why should gunpowder treason and plot never be forgotten?	Wonder by R.J Palacio
Year 6	What makes the USA special?	Holes by Louis Sachar

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

Contact details

Thank you for returning the pupil update forms to school.

If your details change after sending your update forms to school, kindly let the school know so we can amend your records to enable you to receive texts/emails.

Burbage Educational Fund

The Trustees of the above Fund invite applications for funding from young people resident in the former Ecclesiastical Parish of Burbage and the Harpur Hill area. The Fund has a small amount of money to distribute annually and invites applications from young people or their parents, including pupils at Harpur Hill Primary School and Nursery.

Applications must be for **educational needs, including social and physical training**.

Individuals or Groups should apply by email - individuals must include the young person's name and date of birth.

All applicants will be judged on most need.

Closing date 30th November 2022

email old_vic@btinternet.com

SPORT

We have had a great start to the year in sports so far at Harpur Hill.

Our Nursery pupils visit 'big' school every Thursday morning and have been exploring different games and equipment this half term.

Our Reception classes have started to learn about their A, B, and Cs in P.E. (Agility, Balance & Co-ordination), using different games and sports to see how important they can be.

Year 1 & 2 have further explored their A, B, and Cs with a focus on starting to be competitive and being comfortable with winning & losing.

Year 3 have explored attacking & defending within different types of Tag Games and later started to understand Fundamental movements that are important in everyday life.

Our Year 4 children have started to understand how we can beat a player in 1 v 1 situation and how to defend in the same situation. We used different sports such as Football and Rugby to help paint a picture.

Year 5 worked well being competitive in different sports situations. We investigated Parkour and how to move across obstacles safely and quickly. We finished the half term with some Ultimate Tag, which was super fun.

Lastly, our Year 6 children revisited their attacking and defending skills. They created their own small-sided games to play with new rules focusing on tactics and teamwork.

Our after school sports clubs have started and our KS1 and KS2 football groups have been popular, with places already almost full for next half term. Our new Multisports club has spaces left and is a great way for children to explore new and different sports. Please bring in your child's letter or speak to the office if you would like to book on.

Breakfast Clubs have again started and been very successful. As one of our regular pupils says, 'They are a great way to wake up and start the day with some exercise and fun'. We have played sports such as scooter ball/basketball/tennis/badminton and dodgeball.

Onto our Inter School competitions... We had so many children attend the Cross Country event earlier in the half term. We finished a respectable third, unfortunately missing the next round; however, we had some great individual placements especially in our younger events.



Our big news is that both our boys and girls Year 6 football teams WON the Buxton area Football tournament! Both teams performed amazingly and qualified for the High Peak Finals in Glossop.

As one of the rewards for winning, the teams were invited down to be mascots for an official Buxton Football Game at Silverlands, warming up with the players on the pitch and walking out hand in hand with the players before the game. An amazing experience.

Onto the High Peak Finals... Both teams again performed incredibly against other High Peak area winners. The girls dominated all of their games but unfortunately left their scoring boots at home, and although their performances warranted more, they still finished an amazing fourth. Well done, girls!

The boys' team played some tough fixtures especially against local rivals, Burbage. The standard was high but I am so proud to say our boys won every game, not conceding a goal throughout the whole tournament. In fact, they have only conceded 1 goal during the 2 stages. Unbelievable work! This of course ensured they finished 1st and they will now go to represent the High Peak in the Derbyshire County Finals! Good Luck



Have a lovely week off, everybody.

Danny

Buxton Football Club

This half term football camp will be available this holiday with Chris Hill and Danny. Please click on the link if you wish to enrol. <https://forms.office.com/r/9hyqnsaTYR>

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 21 st October	Staff INSET day
Monday 31 st October	Start of a new term
Tuesday 8 th November	The Benedetti Foundation music workshop to visit school teaching KS1/KS2 children a variation, inspirational and enriched lesson of primary music
Thursday 10 th November	A local artist, Sandra Orme to visit the Year 4's to teach an art afternoon
Thursday 17 th November	Year 4 parents will be invited to a Roman activity afternoon at 2.30pm.
Wednesday 21 st December	School closes at 3.30pm
Thursday 22 nd December	Staff INSET day

Term dates for 2023/2024 (academic year)

	Term Starts	Term Ends
Autumn 1	(INSET DAY) Monday 4 th September 2023 Tuesday 5 th September 2023	Thursday 26 th October 2023 (INSET DAY) Friday 27 th October 2023
Autumn 2	Monday 6 th November 2023	Thursday 21 st December 2023 (INSET DAY) Friday 22 nd December 2023
Spring 1	Monday 8 th January 2024	Friday 16 th February 2024
Spring 2	(INSET DAY) Monday 26 th February 2024 Tuesday 27 th February 2024	Thursday 28 th March 2024
Summer	Monday 15 th April 2024	Friday 24 th May 2024
Summer	(INSET DAY) Monday 3 rd June 2024 Tuesday 4 th June 2024	Tuesday 23 rd July 2024

Bank Holidays

Monday 25th December 2023
 Tuesday 26th December 2023
 Monday 1st January 2024
 Friday March 29th 2024
 Monday 1st April 2024
 Monday 6th May 2024
 Monday 27th May 2024