

HARPUR HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY

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



NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2023

HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE

Dear Parents/Carers,

A very happy New Year to you all! The new term has got off to a busy start and the weeks are flying by! You will see from the 'School News' section of this newsletter that the children are working hard and enjoying their learning in their new topics this term.

Artsmark Silver Award

We are thrilled to announce that we have achieved our Silver Artsmark Award. Our Artsmark journey started just before the pandemic, and I am so proud that we have been able to achieve this award in recognition of our work to develop the art and music curriculum, as well as wider arts provision for our children. Well done to Miss Wallace, our Art leader, who has played a key role in achieving this.



**Artsmark
Silver Award**
Awarded by Arts
Council England

Winter Weather

Thank you for you for getting your children into school in the last few weeks during the winter weather. Just a reminder, that in the event of any more disruptive winter weather, we will do our best to remain open. Any decisions to either close, or open later, will be made considering site conditions, roads and safe staffing levels. We will use the text messaging service and High Peak Radio to inform you of any closures.

Strike Action

Please also see the letter I sent out on Monday 23rd January, concerning strike action on 1st February. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your understanding concerning this issue. If you have any questions or concerns, please get in touch.

Finally...

Thank you for your continued support of our school. Here's to a great term ahead!

Best wishes,

Mrs Giliker (Headteacher)

Nursery

The Brilliant Bears in Nursery have been learning about shape. They discovered that lots of large shapes had appeared around the classroom. The children named each of the shapes and carefully counted the number of sides and corners. They used brilliant vocabulary to describe their properties such as straight, curved and long. Then they went on a hunt to find lots of other objects that matched each shape!



Reception



In Reception we have been learning about the Chinese New Year. We enjoyed reading *The Great Race* and talking about how people celebrate the Chinese New Year. We have been making and painting our own dragons and Chinese lanterns. We especially enjoyed making our own noodles and trying some different Chinese sauces.

This term, Reception classes are extremely lucky to have Emily and Ann from 'Musical Gems' coming to visit them every Thursday afternoon. We used shaker eggs to make music. The children showed great control when tapping their eggs and listened beautifully to the instructions. We enjoyed listening to Emily playing her flute and meeting the bear family.



Year 1 and 2



Year 1 and 2 had a visit from the Northern Ballet Company at the start of term. They had a fun filled workshop delivered by Kim, a professional ballet dancer, all based on the story 'The Ugly Duckling'. The children learnt how to express different character's feelings and actions through movement. They were able to create different movements to represent a duckling, cat and a frog.

Year 2

The children have been learning about 2D and 3D shapes in Maths. They have been learning the different properties of each one, including counting the sides and vertices of 2D shapes, and the edges, faces and vertices of 3D shapes. Great work, Year 2!



Year 3



Rowan Class have enjoyed sharing their Europe homework for their geography work 'Who are our European Neighbours?' We had lots of flags and a special treat of Italian foods such as focaccia, salami, mozzarella, mascarpone, ricotta, bread sticks and amaretti biscuits from Asa too!



We have also been learning about the features of different European countries this week. In geography we researched the flags, languages, currencies and whether countries had royal families. In art we carefully observed European landmarks and drew fantastic line drawings of them.

Year 4

Some of our Year 4 children visited Haddon Hall Care Home to celebrate Winne the Pooh day. We value fostering positive relationships with different local community groups across the generations. We had a warm welcome from the residents and the staff. The children read stories to the residents then shared morning drinks together. The children were commendably polite, respectful and caring. It was a wonderful experience for all.



Year 5



As part of their history topic 'How did the Shang Dynasty fall?' Year 5 have been learning about the Ancient Chinese culture. They celebrated the Lunar New Year. They blessed the classrooms around school with a dragon dance, delivered their wishes in red envelopes and tried eating some Chinese food with chopsticks! We have been reading 'The Firework Maker's Daughter' by Philip Pullman and writing letters linked to the book.

Year 6

This term, Year 6 are learning about the World War II History topic. They have been finding out what life was like for children in the war, including evacuees. In English children have been reading, 'Goodnight, Mister Tom' and have written letters home from an evacuee. In Art, they produced chalk silhouette drawings to recreate the Blitz.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 1 st February	The following classes will be closed as indicated:- Mr White's Year 4 Willow (closed for morning only – children to arrive at 12.00) Mrs Clay's Year 5 Birch (closed for afternoon only – children to be collected at 1pm) Mrs Deveney's Year 5 Elm (all day) Mr Kilgallon's Year 6 Maple (all day)
Friday 3 rd February	Year 4 Brass concert for parents 9.15 – 9.45 am
Friday 3 rd February	KS2 NSPCC Maths Day
Friday 10 th February	Choir at St John's 'Big Sing'
Thursday 16 th February	Year 4 to visit the Manchester Science and Industry Museum
Friday 17 th February 2023	End of term

ADMINISTRATION

Midday Supervisor

We have vacancies for a Permanent Midday Supervisor and a Relief Midday Supervisor, if you are interested kindly view the DCC website or click on the link:

<https://jobs.derbyshire.gov.uk/SearchResults.aspx?key=midday+supervisor&ocg=&loc=&pg=1>

sence 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 your address/telephone/email details, so we can amend our records to enable you to receive texts/emails.

Public Health Reminder

Schools follow Public Health guidelines with regard to rashes, skin infections, diarrhoea, vomiting and infections. Please see letter sent out earlier this term about Strep A and Scarlet Fever. If your child is off school due to diarrhoea or vomiting it is absolutely necessary to make sure your child does not return to school until 48 hours after the last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting.