

HARRIETSHAM CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Nurtured We Flourish

18.10.24

Dear Families,

What an incredibly busy week! Our children are so very lucky to have such an incredible team of staff, who work so hard to provide them with such exciting learning opportunities. I urge you to please read each page of this newsletter carefully as every page contains some really important information.

School Improvement Advisor Visit:

The week started with a visit from our School Improvement Advisor from KCC. He was incredibly pleased with the school. He commented on the amazing learning behaviours seen across the school and on the warm and caring relationships between staff and children and between the children themselves. All children should be congratulated for showing our values: Love, Forgiveness and Fellowship.

Year 5 Science Museum Trip:

Year 5 enjoyed a wonderful trip to the Science Museum this week. Despite being delayed on the way home, all children behaved impeccably and made us all really proud of them. Several members of the Museum staff took the time to personally let the teachers know that they were by far the best behaved, and most engaged, school that had visited all week. Well done Year 5! I was slightly worried on the gate upon their arrival that the children seemed more excited about the Mc Donald's chips that they had on the way home, than the Science Museum (!!), but, we are so pleased that they had a lovely trip to remember forever. Thanks to the Year 5 staff, and the parent helpers, for making this possible.

Sports Events:

Mrs Frost has been busy arranging and supporting several Sporting events this week. She is so proud of all children who took part - they showed great determination and effort to achieve at their personal best and we thank them for their participation. More about this can be found on Page 2. Thanks to Mrs Frost, and the parent helpers, for making these events possible.

African Drumming:

As part of our Black History Month celebrations, Mrs Holland arranged an African Drumming session for children in Year 4 and Year 6 this week. The children all had a lovely time and joined in wonderfully - the soft sound (!!!) of the drumming that drifted through into my office all day was delightful! We are pleased that the children enjoyed such a wonderfully creative opportunity. More about this can be found on Page 2. Thanks to Mrs Holland for organising such a fun event for our children.

Parents Evenings:

Thank you to all families who attended parents evenings this week. It is so important to us that you get to see your child's learning in their books and that you get to spend 10 minutes of quality time discussing your child's learning with their teacher. The teachers are all so proud of how well the children have settled into their new classes this year, but your children's educational journey is very much about a partnership between home and school. We appreciate your support. If you didn't make an appointment, please do see your child's teacher to book one in.

Y6 worship:

Family feedback when I first started at Harrietsham was that you miss Class Worship, where families can come in to see their children perform. This week saw our Year 6 children lead Worship - the first Year Group Worship of the year. We are very proud of the children and enjoyed learning about their learning this year. Thank you to the families who came along to watch. Please keep an eye on our Term Dates to see when other Year Group Worship are this school year.

Reminders:

INSET Day - Friday 25th October: School closed to children.

School Values Display - Mr Gambell and myself are collecting photographs of the children showing 'Love', 'Forgiveness' and 'Fellowship' both inside and outside of school for a giant school values display in the hall. If you have any photographs to send in, please send to Mrs Chambers at: headteacher@harrietsham.kent.sch.uk.

Term Dates:

Term Dates and year dates for families: [Term Dates | Harrietsham Church of England Primary School](#)

Parent Calendar: [Calendar | Harrietsham Church of England Primary School](#)

Thursday 24th October:

School recognition of Diwali

(Friday 25th October: – INSET Day – School Closed to all children)

TERM ENDS: Thursday 24th October 2024



Years 4 and 6 had a very enriching day on Wednesday, learning how to play the African djembe drums. Our visiting expert, Ivan from the Education People, got the children playing with enthusiasm and skill. Sessions lasted for a full hour of fun for each class, and every pupil had an instrument to play. Thank you for supporting this with your £5 contribution. Well done Hawks,



Hérons, Nightingales and Swallows.

Mrs Holland



Boys Football tournament - Gallagher Stadium

We are very proud of the boys who took part in this event.



Girls Football tournament at The Gallagher Stadium - Monday 14th October

A huge well done to all the girls for taking part in the Football Tournament on Monday, it was a great event and the girls did brilliantly even though the weather was exceptionally wet! The girls won two games, drew 1 and lost 2, which is excellent, particularly as the field of teams were very strong! The girls were true sports women, shaking hands with the opposition at the end of every match and working well as part of a team. They were also delighted to have a picture taken with some of Maidstone United's Ladies First Team!

A huge thank you again to the parent's for their continued support in transporting the children and cheering them on!!

Here's what the girls had to say:

Deanna J said: "I really enjoyed it, however we needed to stop crowding the ball".

Lily L said: "It was really good, sadly we didn't make it through to the next round".



Year 1 and 2 Multi Skills Festival at The Stour Centre Ashford - Tuesday 15th October

Well done to the Year 1 and 2 children who attended the Key Stage 1 Mutli skills Festival at The Stour Centre, Ashford. The children got to participate in a variety of activities; including, jumping, obstacle team relay and finally finishing off the event with some races against the other schools. It was really nice to see them having fun and trying different activities. They were a credit to the school and I was super proud of all of them!

Thank you again to the parents for all their support both transporting the children to and from the event as well as staying to watch and cheer on their children.

Here's what the children said:

Joshua P: "I loved all of it!"

Rainbeau C: "I really enjoyed the obstacles, balancing and weaving poles".





We URGENTLY need new members for our PTFA!



Families - We urgently need your help!

What is the PTFA?

Our PTFA are a charity. They do so much for the school - in terms of organising events for our children and families to enjoy - from discos and film nights - to christmas and summer fayres - not to forget Hot Dogs and Cool Music!



All of this is to raise money for our school.



This money is spent on additional learning opportunities for your children - nurture equipment, sensory room equipment, play equipment, extra learning resources for the classrooms, ICT equipment, etc.

HELP!

The issue:

The main positions within our PTFA are currently vacant:

Chair, Treasurer and Secretary.

If we cannot fill these roles, we will no longer have a PTFA and the charity will have to close.

Our idea for a solution:

Could you be a Parent Rep for your child's class?

We are looking for one / two Parent Reps for each class.



Parent Reps would be the Parent / Teacher link for each class. They would automatically be members of the PTFA and would drum up support for events as and when needed. The Reps would also liaise with the class teachers in terms of finding parent helpers for their class trips, finding reading volunteers for the class, finding helpers for curriculum days etc.

They would also act as a lovely link for new families to a class - so that the parent body for each class comes together as a mini community.

SIGN UP

TODAY

If you are interested in being a Parent Rep for your class, and saving our PTFA, please do email Mrs Chambers (headteacher@harrietsham.kent.sch.uk) with details of your name and your child's class.

Please do come along to the PTFA AGM at 7pm on Tuesday 19th November - tea, coffee and biscuits available!

Please Note: New Disco Timings Below!

HARVEST DISCO

THURSDAY, 24 OCTOBER 2024

YRS R, AND 1 - 3.30 to 4.15pm

YRS 2 AND 3 - 4.30 to 5.15

YRS 4, 5 AND 6 - 5.30 to 6.15



Scan here to buy tickets
ALSO AVAILABLE IN OFFICE

**TUCK SHOP AVAILABLE
FOR YR 2 AND OVER**

£3 PER CHILD



If your child would like to attend our Harvest Disco, please scan the QR code, or visit the school office for tickets.

A quiet space will be available, with some arts and crafts activities, for any child struggling with the noise from the disco.

Year R and 1 are welcome to wear party clothes to school on Thursday 24th October to avoid needing to change within school.

Arrangements for the Evening:

Year R and 1 - Disco attendees to stay at school. Collection from classroom doors at 4:15pm.

Year 2 and 3 - Disco attendees to be signed in via their classroom doors at 4:30pm. Collection from classroom doors at 5:15pm. **Woodpeckers to use corner playground door.

Year 4, 5 and 6 - Disco attendees to be signed in and collected from the following classroom doors:

Year 4: Kestrels (Mr Walkers Classroom)

Year 5: Hawks (Mr Hyders Classroom)

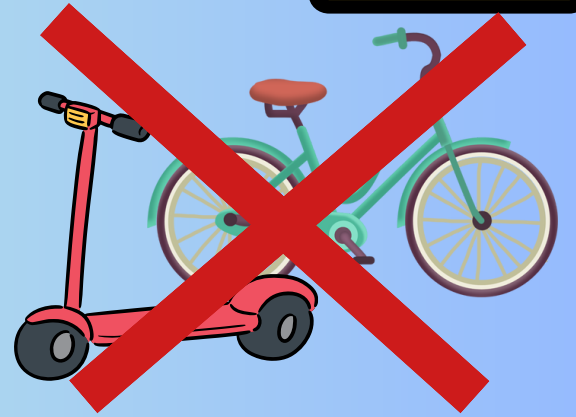
Year 6: Herons (Mrs Pickerings Classroom)

Safety Reminders

For all of our safety



Please do not allow your child to play on the playground equipment before or after school.



Please do not allow your child to ride their bike or scooter on the playground, or up or down the slope.



We have had a number of complaints from local residents about families parking on their lawns, on corners of roads, up on pavements, etc during school drop-off and pick up. Please park considerably. We would rather hold onto your children a little longer at the end of the day, than you park inconsiderately and potentially endanger a life.



**you scan,
we donate
££s TO
SCHOOLS.**



Please select us at Asda!

Asda Rewards Cashpot for Schools

[Cashpot for Schools Terms & Conditions](#) [Asda Rewards terms & Conditions](#)

1

Download and sign up to the Asda Rewards app

Opt into the Cashpot for Schools campaign and select a specific primary school or select 'Schools in Need'.

2

Shop in store across Asda and George, or online at Asda.com

Asda will donate a percentage of your shop to your chosen school each time you shop and scan.

3

Asda does the rest

The money raised will be donated through Parentkind to schools to spend on what they need most. This won't affect your own Cashpot earn.

Once opted in and selected a school, we will add £1 to your chosen schools Cashpot to help get them started.

Each school will get an additional £50 added to their Cashpot, after at least one customer has shopped and scanned their Rewards app.



[Cashpot for schools \(asda.com\)](http://asda.com)

**Please vote for us
in Tesco stores.**

Please add tokens to our
containers in Maidstone
Tesco Stores.



OPAL WET WEATHER PLAY PLEA



Calling all families!

As we begin to develop our play spaces, we are hoping to have the children outside and playing in most weather conditions (except torrential rain and dangerous icy weather!).

For this reason, please send your child to school **every day** with a **WARM, WATERPROOF COAT**.

If your child wishes to play in the new sand pits or mud kitchen, which will be open after half term, we also ask that they also bring into school a pair of **wellington boots** and a pair of **waterproof trousers**. Please note that these are likely to get muddy, so you are welcome to send in a **lightweight cagoule** to protect a winter coat if you prefer.



School Vacancies:

We are currently advertising two vacancies within our school.

LSA (Kent Range 3, Temporary Contract)

Learning Support Assistant / Teaching Assistant Teaching/Child Support at Harrietsham CEP School, Maidstone (kent-teach.com)

HLTA (Kent Range 6, Permanent Contract)

Higher Level Teaching Assistant Teaching/Child Support at Harrietsham CEP School, Maidstone (kent-teach.com)

Please share with anyone who you feel has the relevant skills, experience and knowledge.

As you may already know, as a school we use Numbots (Year R-2) and Time Table Rockstars (TTRS)(Year 3-6) at home to support Maths learning in school. The children are able to build knowledge of the fundamental number bonds needed to solve calculations and later on build their times table knowledge.

We would love to invite all children from Year R-Year 6 to dress up as a rockstar on Monday 4th November 2024.



Children will come to school dressed up and have a 'Rockin' day planned with lots of fun learning to inspire all things Maths. During the day, all teachers will show the children how they can access Numbots and TTRS at home. All that I ask is that parents/carers know their child's login - as they may be excited to have a go at home straight away.

This wonderful day is to inspire the children and encourage them to access Numbots and TTRS at home, as they do in school.

I can't wait to see you all on the first day back in Term 2. Ready to rock!

Ms Pittam (Year 3 teacher and Maths Leader)