



Newsletter 1

Blog Updates:

Make sure you check your child's Seesaw account for latest news, reminders and photos from their class teacher.

Puppets:

Bee Class would be very grateful for any donations of puppets for their classroom. If you have any that you no longer need at home, please may they be given to Mrs Bacon or delivered to the school office? Thank you 😊

Meet the Teachers:

We wanted to give an opportunity for any parents who would like to come in and visit their child's new classroom and meet their new teacher after school one day over the next week or so. Please note this will not be a formal presentation but just an opportunity to say hello.

The teachers will be in their classrooms from 3.10 – 3.45pm on the following dates:

Year 2 – Monday 13th September

Year 1 – Tuesday 14th September

EYFS – Tuesday 21st September

Changes to school dinners:

Some children have expressed an interest in having a jacket potato for lunch. The kitchen staff would therefore be happy to trial this on a Friday each week to begin with, to be possibly be further extended afterwards. Children will be offered Baked Beans or Cheese as a topping.

Menu for Week Beginning 13.9.21:

We are pleased to be offering the following choices of hot dinners:

Monday: Sausages and Mash or Tomato Pasta. **Dessert:** Ice Cream

Tuesday: Chicken Curry and Rice or Omelette **Dessert:** Biscuit

Wednesday: Bubble Salmon or Pizza **Dessert:** Mousse

Thursday: Roast Beef and Yorkshire Pudding or Vegetable Puff. **Dessert:** Apple Sponge

Friday: Fish Fingers and Chips or Vegetable Lasagne or Jacket Potato. **Dessert:** Cold desserts

Friday 10th September 2021

Dear Families,

Welcome to the first school newsletter of this academic year. This is a bumper jam-packed edition so it might be wise to make a cup of tea and put your feet up to take in all of the important information it contains.

This week, we were delighted to welcome our new Hedgehogs, Ladybirds and Robins to school for their very first days at school! Everyone was very brave, including the teachers and parents and the children are settling in beautifully. Not only are the children calm and settled, but so is Murphy, our school dog. We are so proud of them all.

Our school assemblies have also resumed this week after 18 months of not having them due to Covid restrictions. Miss Dorrington and Mrs Pike were quite choked up to see the whole school sitting together in the hall again for some special time about our school values and a growth mindset. Every class has been given 'Hope' the Harnham Bear who is delivering them an inspirational message each week. This week was 'Try your best' and when travelling around the school, this is certainly something we have seen in action. Well done everyone!

We are very excited about everything this academic year has in store for Harnham Infant School and we are looking forward to working closely with parents, carers and the wider community to make it a success. Please do come and talk to us anytime if you have any worries, concerns or things you would like to celebrate too.

Wishing you a lovely weekend,
The Harnham Infant School Team

Calendar Dates for this Academic Year:

You will find attached to this newsletter some important dates for this academic year, such as school plays, parent stay and learn sessions, coffee and chat, teacher training days, parents evenings, sports week and many more. Please do look at this carefully and update your calendars and diaries at home as appropriate. We hope you will find this advance notice of events helpful.

Please note that sometimes there may be a need to make changes due to unforeseen circumstances. These changes will be kept to a minimum and communicated as soon as we know them. Thank you.

Resignation:

We are sad to inform you that Mrs Abi Robinson has resigned from her post as Forest School Leader and Breakfast Club Leader too. Mrs Robinson is leaving us after October half term to emigrate to Australia with her family in November, which is incredibly exciting for them all. During the years she has worked at our school, Mrs Robinson has been such an asset; bringing her love of the outdoors, combined with her passion for children's learning and her kind, nurturing heart together to make such a difference to all of the little lives who have travelled through our school. We shall miss her very much but do hope she sends us the sunshine! ☺

Year 1 and 2 Parents:

Your child will be bringing home from school an Authorised Adult Form for this academic year. Please may you complete and return to the school office as soon as possible, preferably by Wednesday 15th September. Thank you.

Parent Helpers:

Earlier this week, a letter came home via School Comms for any parents who would like to come in to school to help. As part of this, there was a reply slip, which you can fill in using this link if you would like to become a volunteer in school.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=oiJAFbKsxkK0IQENP_WB2wLgcWZebQJLpYe_dJ64Ql-5UQ1c2OUZWVIRYRFhEQVpGWEIOMIFZSFowWS4_u

Thank you in advance for your support.

**The more that you read,
The more things you will know.
The more that you learn,
The more places you'll go.**
-Dr. Seuss

Strive for Five:

School Expectation is that children should read to an adult at home 5 times per week or more. Reading regularly is so important to develop your child's learning and vocabulary and is precious time spent with them too. Please record your reading in their reading record each week. Thank you.

Pupil Premium:

Did you know the school could receive additional money to support your child if they are eligible for the Pupil Premium Grant? We can use this money to purchase uniform, pay for school trips and even access to after school clubs too.

To find out if your child is eligible, please visit this link, where you will also find instructions of how to apply online:

<https://parentportal.wiltshire.gov.uk/web/portal/pages/parents/free-school-meals> or we can process a paper application form, available from the school office if you prefer.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Pike, our Pupil Premium Leader. lpike@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk

Teaching Assistant Structure:

Here is the staffing structure for this academic year, including the support staff allocated to each class.

EYFS	Hedgehogs Mrs Ainley Mrs Bruss	Ladybirds Miss Hibberd Miss Jones	Robins Mrs Jackson Mrs Ansell
Year 1	Squirrels Mr Geal Mrs Shaw	Bees Mrs Bacon Mrs Salmon (Mon-Wed) Miss Tracy (Thu-Fri)	Woodpeckers Mrs Sowerby Miss Collier
Year 2		Dragonflies Miss Swaine Mrs Willshire	Owls Mrs Allexant Mrs Hopkins
Additional	Mrs McGinley – Speech and Language Support Mrs Batchelor – ELSA Support		

Term Dates and Teacher Training Days:

Attached to this newsletter you will also find a calendar of term dates for this academic year. Please note that Monday 25th July is no longer a term day for Wiltshire Schools due to being given it in lieu of the additional bank holiday given for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022. Therefore, the Teacher Training Days remaining for this academic year are:
Monday 18th October
Tuesday 19th October
Wednesday 20th October
With one remaining day still to be decided. Thank you.

Update from Children's Centre:

Attached with this newsletter you will also find an update from the Children's Centre about events that are happening this term to support you and your child. We hope you find this helpful.

Parent Governor Vacancy:

Please do look out for a letter very soon for any parents who would be interested in joining our supportive and proactive Governing Body. There will be opportunities to find out more about this exciting role in making a difference to children's lives. If you have any initial questions or would like to speak to Beth Evans, the Chair of Governors, you can contact her by emailing chair@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk

There are magic moments scattered throughout everyday, sometimes we just need to look up and slow down long enough to experience them...

@laurajaneillustrations

Seesaw:

Your Seesaw account has moved up with your child to their new class. The classes have been renamed and the teachers allocated to the accounts. If you are unable to access your child's Seesaw account, please get in touch with us using the requestforsupport@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk and your child's code can be sent to you. Teachers love to use Seesaw as a way of communicating with you – sending you photographs, reminders and updates. You are very welcome to use this platform to send a message to the teacher, or to upload anything exciting from home for us to see too.

Calm Minds, Happy Kids Training:

On the recent Teacher Training Day, our teachers enjoyed a very inspiring workshop led by the founder of Calm Minds, Happy Kids. They learnt lots about brain development and ways to support children in reducing anxiety and talking about their emotions. In all our classrooms the children have designed calm areas and have tried out different breathing techniques and ways to increase children's self esteem and wellbeing. Do talk to your children about this at home, especially if their teacher has been finding new ways of giving them a 'high five' style greeting each day!

Year 2 Parents:

As much as we don't wish to contemplate it yet as we have only just begun, but your children will be leaving us at the end of this academic year. You will need to apply for a place at Harnham Junior School, ready for Year 3 by 15th January 2022. You can find more information here:

<https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/article/1657/Apply-for-a-school-place>



Parent Support Advisor Contact:

Chris Lister is the Parent Support Advisor for Harnham Infants and many families benefit from her expertise, support and advice. She can help parents with all sorts of things including difficulties with behaviour, financial matters, family breakdown and bereavement. Chris is also happy for you to get in touch if you're worried or concerned about any school related matters. You can contact her by email psa@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk or by telephone 07595217569



Class emails:

You can also use the class emails to get in touch with the class teacher or teaching assistant too.

hedgehogs@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk

robins@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk

ladybirds@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk

squirrels@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk

woodpeckers@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk

honeybees@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk

owls@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk

dragonflies@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk

Alternatively, you can always telephone or email the school office.

From Wiltshire Council:

Here are some helpful links that have been sent to us from Wiltshire Council.

For top tips about the return to school:

<https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/news/parents-checklist-of-top-tips-for-return-school-college>

For the most up to date advice regarding the Covid-19 guidelines in school settings:

<https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/schools-learning-coronavirus> This is a particularly helpful link giving advice about the requirements around self-isolation.

spurgeons
children's charity

BookTrust

For families of children aged 0-5 yrs

Bookstart

Five fun weekly sessions where you and your child can explore stories and rhymes in fun and creative ways

You will also receive a FREE goody bag and story books!

For more information or to book a space contact the Children's Centre central line on; 0800 970 4669
www.wiltshirechildrenscentres.org.uk

Sessions now available either **ONLINE** or **FACE TO FACE**

Extra-Curricular Activities:

Do keep an eye on your email inbox for a letter regarding Extra-Curricular Clubs that are going to be on offer starting soon.

Just for Fun – Game of the Week:

Each week, we thought we might suggest a fun game or activity you can play at home with your child. These might have a theme; such as well-being, listening or thinking skills, or working memory but they are certainly intended to be something fun you can do together at home. Enjoy! This week's game promotes good listening and is called **Remote Control**

Explain to your child that they need to move according to the remote control button that tells them how to move.

Play: Walk forward at a normal pace

Fast-forward: run on the spot

Rewind: Walk backwards

Pause: Jump Up and Down

Slow-motion: Walk forwards very slowly

Stop: Finishes the game.

Call out the instructions, changing between them and altering the speed between changes. Could you swap over for your child to give the instructions?

no matter how small,
kindness makes a difference.

@jessrachelsharp