



Newsletter 4

Dojo points rewards:

Congratulations to the Owls and Dragonflies class who have both reached the 1,000 points milestone on Class Dojo. Both classes have chosen to have a Pyjama and Teddy Bear day on Friday 8th October.

Friday 1st October 2021

Dear Families,

We cannot believe that it is October already – though the changeable weather this week has certainly hinted that Autumn is well and truly here now!

It has been a busy week at school and we have been delighted to complete several tours this week for prospective families for next September. It is always lovely to hear their comments about our friendly and nurturing atmosphere, how engaged the children are and how much they clearly enjoy their learning.

This newsletter seems like it is packed full of little snippets of information so please do read it through carefully as there are a number of things that will impact your child over the coming weeks as we head towards the half-term break.

Wishing you a lovely weekend,
The Harnham Infant School Team

Parents Evening Appointments:

The teaching staff are really looking forward to meeting with you next week to discuss your child. We are delighted to be able to offer these appointments face to face. **Please note that you will not be able to access the building without wearing a face mask.** Once seated at the table with your child's class teacher, they may invite you to remove it in order to aid discussion but masks must be worn when moving around the building, unless you are medically exempt. Thank you for your cooperation and helping to keep everyone safe.

There is still opportunity to book an appointment with your class teacher using the school cloud system. In addition, if you would like to meet with Mrs Pike in her SENDCo role, please email inclusion@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk to arrange a suitable appointment.

Blog Updates:

Don't forget to log in to your child's Seesaw account for the weekly blog from the class teacher and to find out what they have been learning about and ideas for supporting at home.

Celebration Assembly!

It is wonderful to be able to hold our celebration assemblies again and to invite parents to come in and see their child receive an award. Our recent celebrants are:

27th September 2021

Hugo – Hedgehogs, Louie – Ladybirds, Esme – Robins, Luna – Woodpeckers, Charlie S – Bees, Harley – Squirrels, Srita – Owls, Chloe – Dragonflies.

A huge well done to all of these children. We are so proud of you all!

We look forward to celebrating more children on Monday!

UPDATE: Stay and...:

Due to staff shortages and the rise in numbers of cases of Covid-19, **we have made the difficult decision to cancel the Stay and... sessions for Year 1 and Year 2 children planned for the 5th and 14th October respectively.** We recognise this may cause some disappointment but the large number of parents and children in a classroom where social distancing is not possible, poses too much of a risk at this present time. Thank you for your understanding.

The EYFS Stay and be an Explorer session on Thursday 7th October at 1.45pm will go ahead as this is taking place outside.

Menu for Week Beginning 4.10.21:

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

Monday: Sausages and Mashed Potato or Tomato Pasta **Dessert:** Ice cream

Tuesday: Chicken Curry with Rice or Free-Range Omelette **Dessert:** Biscuit

Wednesday: Fish Cake and Potato Wedges or Pizza **Dessert:** Fruit and Yogurt Pot

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

Friday: Fish fingers and Chips or Vegetable Lasagne **Dessert:** Cold Desserts

Important reminders:

Please take note of these important reminders:

- We are a nut-free school. Please ensure that items included in lunchboxes do not contain nuts of any kind, including chocolate spread. We do have children in school with serious allergies. Thank you.
- Harnham Infant School Hoodies are to be worn for PE only, they are not part of day to day school uniform.
- School is CLOSED for children on Monday 18th, Tuesday 19th and Wednesday 20th October for Teacher Training Days. We reopen for children on Monday 1st November.
- School Photographs are due to be taken on Tuesday 12th October.

Parent Governors Opportunity:

A letter was sent out earlier this week regarding an opportunity to become a parent governor for Harnham Infant School. There is an opportunity to come in and have a coffee and a chat with some of our current serving governors on Friday 8th October, at 9.15am in the school hall. Please do come along with your questions and to find out what it is like to be a school governor. We look forward to welcoming you. If you would like to contact the Chair of Governors, Beth Evans, you can do so by emailing chair@harnhaminf.wilts.sch.uk

CENSUS DAY:

School Census Day is Thursday 7th October. As in previous years, **our school budget is allocated based on the numbers of children having a hot school meal on that day.** Therefore, in these tricky financial times, it would help us enormously if your child would have a hot dinner on this day. It really makes a big difference. Thank you so much.

Do you have?:

Our EYFS classes are looking for donations of cardboard boxes, ribbon, string, wool and old laces. If you are able to help, please pass them to a member of the EYFS team or hand in at the front office. Thank you in advance



Wiltshire Year of Reading:

On Monday, the Wiltshire Year of Reading was launched and Harnham Infant School have signed up to take part. This is a project that is encouraging people of all ages to delve into reading.

At school, we will be working to ensure that we enhance reading in our school as we work through the bronze, silver and gold awards. We will keep you informed of our progress and how you can get involved at home too.

Contacting Teachers:

If you have an urgent message for the class teacher that requires a response, please do not use Seesaw for this purpose as the teacher's may not see it in time.

Please email them using the class email addresses as these are checked throughout the day:

hedgehogs@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk

ladybirds@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk

robins@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk

honeybees@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk

squirrels@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk

woodpeckers@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk

dragonflies@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk

owls@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk

Of course, other correspondence and information from home is welcomed and celebrated via Seesaw.

People Who Help Us:

Hedgehogs, Ladybirds and Robins would love to hear from any parents or family friends who are nurses, doctors, firefighters, dentists, police officers etc. They are about to begin a People Who Help Us topic and would love some first hand experiences and opportunity to talk to and ask questions to people who carry out these important roles. This can take place via Zoom or a face to face visit if preferred. If you are able to help, please get in contact with a member of the EYFS team on the playground or by sending an email. Thank you.

hedgehogs@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk

ladybirds@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk

robins@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk

Attendance Letters:

For children whose attendance is under 90%, a letter will soon be sent out to you. Please note that this is a requirement of the Local Authority under our obligation to monitor attendance and is not intended to cause offence to any families who may currently fall in this category.

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



After School Club:

Please ensure that your accounts are cleared and all paid up for After School Club by Friday 8th October. Failure to do so will mean that you are unable to book your child in for any sessions next term, which will open on the same day. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

Year 1 School Trip to Harnham Water Meadows:

Year 1 are due to visit Harnham Water Meadows on 13th October. A letter will follow shortly but if you would like to offer to accompany the children on this visit, please do get in touch with your child's class teacher. Mrs Bacon, Mrs Sowerby and Mr Geal would be very grateful for offers of help.

Nasal Flu Vaccinations:

Virgin Care are due to be in school on 8th November to administer the nasal flu vaccination to children. They will send out a link to register your child about 2 weeks in advance of this date. Do look out for it and make sure your child is signed up in time if you would like them to be vaccinated.

Donations needed:

Our supply of children's underwear, tights, leggings and socks is running very low. We would be delighted for any donations of these items for the children. Also, if your child has outgrown a coat recently, these are always good to have as a spare in school too. Thank you!

STEM Returners – a message for parents:

STEM Returners programme for a returning or transferring Economist or Economic/Social/Environmental Impact Consultant with Arke in Heywood. Have you taken a career break from an engineering or a technical sector and wish to return? Are you working below your experience in a different sector? Do you have an engineering or technical degree that you aren't using? Do you just wish to transfer sectors but don't have any experience? If so this could be the opportunity for you! After the unprecedented success of the previous programme where 97% of returners were offered permanent roles, we are currently sourcing candidates for the Arke 'STEM Returners' programme. All candidates not only get to take a different route to finding a new role, they will also have the opportunity to obtain free advice from a career coach and/or Mentor to support them right from application through to navigating the transition to work. No career break is too long, register to return to STEM today! For more information please visit www.stemreturners.com or email hello@stemreturners.com. More information on this opportunity is also available here: https://www.stemreturners.com/returner-opportunities/?company_spec=arke

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 attention, imagination and movement skills. It is called

Walking a tightrope!

Have some fun around your home or while you are out and about pretending to walk on different surfaces. Think carefully about the surface and what it would be like to walk on.

You could use:

Wet, sticky mud

A tightrope

Hot coals

A hard floor when you are wearing noisy shoes!

Thick sponge

The moon

A cloud

The river

Tall grass

Can you think of your own ideas for surfaces to pretend to walk on? Perhaps you could describe what it is like too.