



Harnham C.E. Junior School

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Friday 17th November 2017

Newsletter No 9

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Here at the Junior School we welcome you to approach us with anything that you need. We may sometimes look a bit busy and we can often have a bit of queue, or seem as if we're dashing about, but we promise you that we do our best to help everybody as quickly as we can. Please help us by waiting patiently and calmly in the Reception Area. As you know, to make sure the children stay safe, access through to the classrooms, hall, and library is restricted to staff only, especially when there are children in school. This is also to safeguard *you*. We really aren't trying to be difficult. Can we also ask you to consider language, and behaviour, whilst in school because this is a place where children come to learn, and the things they learn from us aren't just academic, they learn through watching our behaviours, through the way we speak to them, and the way that we speak to each other.

As you know, the School had some unwelcome visitors on Monday evening who, unfortunately, caused some damage on the way in, and through, the building. Whilst things like this are rare, it is a sad fact that they do happen and, although inconvenient, we are pleased that we did not have to close the school, although we did have to put some different measures in place, to safeguard the children, and staff, and allow everything to run smoothly. In classes, teachers and other adults, spent considerable time re-assuring the children, who all showed a really positive and mature spirit (as we have come to expect); carrying on as usual, happy in their learning. Non-teaching staff were able to clean, tidy, and make the site safe in order to minimise the impact on the children and, indeed, yourselves. We would like to thank you all for following the change in logistics sent by text, and for giving us the time and space to do what needed to be done.

Unsurprisingly, children asked what they thought about Tuesday's visitors, replied that she was brilliant. That's because we were absolutely delighted to welcome Maz Evans, author of "Who Let the Gods Out" and "Simply the Quest", into School. The children were treated to an incredibly funny and interactive assembly, during which we discovered we have our very own gods teaching in the school. Maz was so impressed with the School that she launched her third book during the afternoon assembly, rather than during the evening on Twitter as planned. The librarians were given the opportunity to interview Maz. They asked her lots of questions, her absolute favourite being "Would you choose a pet dragon or a pet unicorn?" Look out for this interview on the School blog next week.

The School Day - runs from 8.40am to 3.15pm and children can arrive at 8.30am and go straight through to class where the teachers are waiting. The teachers will bring the children out onto the playground at the end of the school day and will be available for you to speak to about any non-urgent issues then.

Communication - If you have any information that you would like passed to the class teacher in the morning then please feel free to speak to one of our Senior Leadership Team who will be available on the playground, or come into the office.

Absence - If your child is poorly or unable to attend school for any reason, then please let us know, if you can, by 8.30am that day, either by calling 01722 327218 or emailing absence@harnham-jun.wilts.sch.uk. Officially reasons for absence must be provided in writing so if you call, then please do back it up with a note. If we are unable to get to the phone, because we are helping another parent, or on the other line already, please do leave us a message and we will pick it up as soon as we can.

If you need to collect your child for a **necessary** appointment, please make sure you give us plenty of notice so that we can make sure that they are ready for you to collect.

School Lunches - are £2 per day per child, please make sure that you send the money in a clearly marked envelope with the child's name, class and "Dinner Money" written on it. You are also welcome to use one of the "dinner money" envelopes that we have available in reception.

Lost Property - Any named items of lost property are returned to the children in class (assuming they are handed into the office). Any un-named items are placed in the lost property box in reception. Please speak to your child's class teacher about

any lost items, that you can't find in lost property, in the first instance. The teachers are always available on the playground at the end of the day and happy to help look in the classroom.

Green Cards – the classes that won the most Green Cards this week for good deeds, outstanding behaviour and academic prowess, and will therefore have a non-uniform day next Friday 24th November are Birch. Well done Birch.

Attendance – winners of the Smith Cup today for the best attendance record for last week were Oak Class, with overall attendance of 99.2%.

Attendance for last week is as follows:

	Mornings	Afternoons		Mornings	Afternoons
Mulberry	94.8	94.8	Aspen	98.6	97.9
Oak	99.2	99.2	Larch	89.7	92.4
Sycamore	93.8	94.5	Willow	97.2	97.9
Birch	97.9	97.9	Ash	98.7	98.0
Cherry	89.7	90.3	Cedar	91.3	91.3
Rowan	96.1	96.1	Juniper	98.7	98.7

Attending school late (after registration) will have an adverse effect on attendance figures, but it does not just affect our attendance figures. A calm and prompt arrival at School has such a positive impact for each child - meaning that they can get themselves ready and settled for the important business of learning, which is, after all, what they are here for, rather than being flustered, and disturbing the rest of the class, by arriving late.

Rights Respecting Schools Award – As you know, at Harnham Junior School, we aim to inspire children and adults to develop self-motivation, confidence and independence. As part of the School's aims to promote joyful and memorable experiences, we are working towards recognition as a 'Rights Respecting School'. This is an award which is given to schools on behalf of UNICEF, which is the world's leading organisation working for children and their rights. In 1989, governments worldwide promised all children the same rights by adopting the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. These rights are based on what a child needs to survive, grow, flourish and fulfil their potential.

At the Junior School (along with our community, as a whole) we are encouraged to reflect on how our behaviour and actions affect those around us, which allows us to build and maintain a positive and safe learning environment for all. By learning about their rights, your children also learn about respecting the rights of others, and their responsibilities in achieving balance. We are really looking forward to working towards these goals and hope that you will feel able to support us and your children, so we can not only all be recognised as members of a 'Rights Respecting School', but we can ensure all children can flourish even more.

The Scholastic Book Fair – it is so lovely to see so many children and parents supporting our Book Fair. We love having the Fair here each year. The classes visit, in turn, throughout the week, and we love hearing the children reading to their classmates from the books (especially when they do the voices). Don't panic, there is still time to visit on Monday morning for a quick last minute spending spree.



Trussell Trust – Christmas Boxes – thank you so much to everyone who was able to bring a Christmas Box in for the Trussell Trust Appeal. They were so happy when they collected our fantastic tree shaped pile of **71 boxes**. We have loved seeing the pile grow throughout the last few weeks. If you didn't get a chance to bring anything in to us here, then don't worry, it's not too late, you can pop them in to Salisbury College who are sorting the boxes on behalf of the Trust.

Children In Need Reminder – Friday 17th November 2017 – what a dotty spotty day we've had. We have had so many coins handed in that we haven't been able to count them all yet, but we just know that Pudsey is going to be a very happy bear when we take our donations to the bank. Thank you all, once again, for your generosity.



Photographs - Individuals and with Siblings – as you know from the lists of dates we send out, the children are having their individual School Photos next Tuesday (21st November 2017). Although no sibling photos will be taken during the school day, Fraser Portraits are holding a **siblings' drop-in session between 3.15pm and 4.00pm**. There is no need to make an appointment, just turn up and queue – first come, first served. Proofs of photos will be sent to you, by Fraser Portraits, so you can decide whether to buy. Obviously, at this time of year, they make great presents for extended family members (memorable and light enough to post without an additional mortgage).

HSA Christmas Fayre – As the Christmas Fair gets nearer there are lots of preparations going on behind the scenes by all the helpful elves ☺. Your children should have received a letter this week with information on what we would like you to contribute to the Christmas Fair. If you have not received it from your child then please see the attached letters for each year group with the information about what we would like you to contribute. Copies are also available from the letter display in reception. You are of course welcome to make as many donations as you like, for as many year groups as you like, should you

wish to. We also need donations of clean new/nearly new soft toys, jars, tins or bottles for the mixed tombola and cakes and baked goods. There will be boxes in each school reception area where you can drop off your donations. Please leave donations of cakes and biscuits until the morning of the fair. Thank you in advance for all of your support for the schools biggest fundraiser of the year.

HSA Disco – Thank You - the HSA would like to say a big thank you to all parents and teachers that supported this weeks discos, enjoyed by all the attending Disco Divas. We are pleased to announce a profit of £599.43 from this fun filled evening.

Scout Post – the Harnham Scouts are being very prepared and have dropped in a post box and a stock of Scout Stamps to us. Stamps are 25p each and for every one sold, 10p is donated to the Scouts. We attach a list of delivery locations, with this Newsletter; it will also be displayed, with the post box, in reception. You can buy your Scout Stamps from the office, or send payment in, with your child, in a clearly marked envelope stating how many you would like and your child's name and class, and we will send them home.

Year 4 Proudly Presents... a letter will be coming home shortly which will tell you all about our exciting Year 4 production, including costume information and timings. As you know, the performances will take place on the 12th, 13th and 14th December and tickets will go on sale a week or so before.

Harnham After School Club – still has some places available, a very rare event. If you are interested, please call into the club (Beech classroom at Harnham Junior School) or phone 07544 499288, after 3.30pm.

Mr L Coles
Headteacher

Important Dates for Term 2 – (Previous Updates in Purple) New Updates in Blue

Monday 20 th November 2017	Book Fair – last chance to buy Road Safety Week – we have planned a week of special activities focussed on the important issue of road safety
Tuesday 21 st November 2017	School Photo Day – see the information in the Newsletter above.
Friday 1 st December 2017	HSA Christmas Fayre
Friday 8 th December 2017	“Sleeps to Santa” – Spire FM are with us recording. Make sure to let us know if you do NOT want your child to take part. LAST POST for Scout Stamps
Monday 11 th and Tuesday 12 th December 2017	Year 6: Bikeability Course: FULL
Monday 11 th December 2017	School Choir and Orchestra: Performance for Parents at 3.30pm
Tuesday 12 th December 2017	Year 4 Production – from 1.30pm – details to follow
Wednesday 13 th December 2017	Whole School Christmas Lunch – watch out for menus which will be sent out soon Year 4 Production – from 6pm – details to follow
Thursday 14 th December 2017	Year 4 Production – from 6pm – details to follow
Friday 15 th December 2017	Christmas Jumper Day – more information to follow HSA Film Club – watch out for flyers coming home soon
Monday 18 th December 2017	Christmas Party Afternoon – letters will come home at the beginning of December.
Tuesday 19 th December 2017	Whole School Carol Service at St Thomas’ Church – 5.30pm onwards
Wednesday 20 th December 2017	Break up for Christmas at 1.15pm
Thursday 4 th and Friday 5 th January 2018	TD DAYS – SCHOOL IS CLOSED
Monday 8 th January 2018	Start of Term 3

Our website calendar will be updated as and when new events are planned but we will continue to publish our key dates for the current term here.