

Newsletter 7 - Thursday 25th October 2018

Dear Families,

I can hardly believe our first half term as a new school is over! It has flown by and what a great half term it has been. The children have settled in so brilliantly and seem to be loving school which is very important to myself and the rest of the staff. We're also having a great time with the children, enjoying each day and new adventure. Lunchtimes are a particular joy. The children have devised a game with our hula hoops and skipping ropes so that the person in the hula hoop is the horse and the person holding the skipping rope, is the rider with the reins. Hours of fun have been had with this and Mrs Dennis can regularly be seen galloping up and down the MUGA with a child at the reins! Coincidentally, the grounds the school has been built on was a horse riding school! Please see photographs below of our new bikes that have arrived that the children love playing on at lunchtime too. Last Friday, we also had the fun of seeing a big digger come to lay some top soil.

Midday Supervisor Vacancy: shortly we will be advertising for 2 Midday Supervisors to add to our capacity at lunchtimes. Please let friends and family know in case anyone is interested in this role. It will be for 1.5 hours a day (11:45am-1:15pm), more details when the advert goes live will be posted on our website under the Vacancy page.

Parents' Consultations: Many thanks for 100% attendance at this event which shows your commitment to be Parents as Partners. It was lovely to see so many proud parents leaving school after it and quite rightly so!

Harvest Festival: We couldn't have finished our first half term any better than our fantastic Harvest Festival yesterday! The children did such a great job retelling The Enormous Turnip - it's hard to believe how much they can remember and with actions! The songs were lovely too with some great dance moves! Thank you again for all the incredibly generous donations that you gave. They will really make someone's Christmas this year when they receive them via the YMCA.

Building update: As I mentioned at the Harvest Festival, we are now in the final stages of the building completion. The rest of the furniture arrives this week as well as the IT equipment - it's all very exciting and just so great to see the vision that we had all those months ago finally come to fruition. Don't forget we have our Macmillan Coffee morning on **Friday 9th November.** Please do invite friends and family to this event. There will be an opportunity to tour the building and then we will have a chance to get together, have a cup of coffee and cake and raise some money for a fabulous cause. Please do support it by bringing cakes in and then making a donation whilst you're there and we will get this sent off to Macmillan.

Arrangements for after half term: External works will continue until mid-November when electronic gates will be fitted and the landscaping will be completed. Therefore, some of the temporary fencing will remain until that time to ensure that pedestrians can enter the school grounds safely and that all areas that could pose any danger to the children are cordoned off.

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This also means that parents can continue to park in the school grounds until the external works are complete. Please continue to drive and manoeuvre round the car park as carefully as you have been doing. The children's safety is of paramount importance.

When the children return on **Monday 5th November**, we will be in our new classroom (yes another one but our final one - for this year anyway!). This will be at the front of the school near the entrance. So from Monday 5th November, the children will enter school via this new classroom. You will see myself and Miss Coxon at the classroom door so you will know where to go. The children will also be collected from this entrance.

Breakfast Club - children attending Breakfast Club will continue to come to school via the main entrance. Many thanks indeed.

Official opening: Our official opening will be on the **14th March 2019 at 1:30pm**. All our parents are invited to attend so please put it on your calendar as we would love for you to share in this wonderful event.

Uniform: The children continue to look super smart every day, thank you for all your efforts with this. They really are a credit to our school. Just to let you know that nail varnish is not permitted during term time. Many thanks for your help with this.

Text messaging service: Unfortunately, our texting service does not notify us when you reply to a text message from school or if you text on that number so can you please not use this as a way of communicating with us at this moment in time as we may not pick up the message which could cause problems if it's something urgent or important. Many thanks.

Old pans: Our very talented Mr Parker is making a Messy Kitchen for the children's new play area as well as musical instruments for them to play. He is looking for any old saucepans that you may not need anymore. Please bring in after half term. Many thanks.

Once again, thank you for your support over this half term, it has been very much appreciated by myself and the staffing team. We wish you a very restful and happy half term holiday and we are already looking forward to welcoming you into our new classroom and play area!

With very best wishes,

Mrs Hopkins, Miss Coxon, Mrs Blackshaw, Mrs Dennis & Mr Parker.

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Watching the digger!



Our new balance bikes!



One of our new ride alongs.

Henhurst Ridge Primary Academy / Henhurst Ridge / Burton on Trent / Staffordshire / DE13 9SF

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Please see a reminder of the upcoming dates for the rest of the Autumn Term:

Date	Event	Additional information
Friday 26 th October	INSET DAY	Children not in school
Mon 29 th -Fri 2 nd November	Half term	
Monday 5 th November	Children back to school	
Friday 9 th November	Macmillan Coffee Morning	9am in hall, includes a tour of the school.
Tuesday 13 th November	Individual school photographs	Super smart hairstyles!
Thursday 15 th November	Phonics Information Sessions	2pm & 5:30pm
Friday 16 th November	Children in Need Fun Day	Children wear their own clothes for £1 for charity
Wed 21 st November	Open day for prospective parents for 2019 Intake.	9:30-11 & 1:30-3pm
Thursday 22 nd November	Open evening for prospective parents for 2019 Intake.	5:30-7pm
Friday 30 th November	Class assembly for parents	2:30pm
Friday 14 th December	Christmas performance	2pm
Friday 21 st December	'Save the Children' Christmas Jumper Day	Wear a Christmas Jumper for £1 donation to charity

Don't forget that tomorrow is an INSET day so children will not be in school.

HENHURST
RIDGE

PRIMARY ACADEMY

PROVIDING THE ROOTS TO GROW AND THE WINGS TO FLY