

Newsletter 6 – Friday 11th October 2019

Dear Families,

Another busy week here at Henhurst Ridge Primary Academy with our first Parents' Evening of the year. It was lovely to see you all there and to have a proper catch up! It seems the children have settled in brilliantly and we're all feeling very proud of them. I heard lots of comments from parents about how impressed they were with the progress their child is making or how well they are doing. It's always so nice to be able to have a look in their books and see what they are up to! Thank you for completing the Parent Survey for us. It help gives us key information about how you feel your child is doing and how well we are communicating with you as a school. The majority of questions follow the Ofsted Parent Survey and asks the same things that Ofsted will next academic year when they come so it's always good to look at those areas in advance.

The photographs on Wednesday were a joy! The children all looked so super smart and had some excellent hairstyles! I hope you were happy with the proofs - we thought they looked great! Please make sure you have your orders in by **Friday 18th October**.

Today we hosted our first every Multi-Skills Festival for Key Stage One. As the newsletter went to press, we did not yet know how our Year One children did but one thing I can be sure of is that the children had a brilliant time and represented the school superbly! I will bring you more news of this event in next week's newsletter.

Road re-surfacing: Thank you so much for your support with this situation. We did not receive any direct communications regarding the road resurfacing other than the signage around the estate so it was very difficult to make suitable arrangements to ensure the safety of the children getting to and from school. We were told on the day that the re-surfacing would be finished before the end of the school day and were not made aware of any road closures. As many of you will have seen this was not the case and quite a lot of chaos was caused when both Henhurst Ridge and Aviation Lane were closed during the afternoon. I have written to the appropriate agencies expressing our concern regarding this. Thank you for your patience and for acting upon text messages to enable us to do the best by the children. The line marking is expected to take place during half-term per our request so hopefully there will not be any disruption around this, however, please may I stress the importance of adhering to the parking restrictions that are in place. The majority of these are to ensure that motorists do not park on bends where visibility would be restricted or double park on the bus routes where buses wouldn't then be able to get through as well as emergency vehicles. So far, everyone has responded brilliantly so please can I ask that you keep this up? Many thanks.

Mr Bhoola's Visit: As mentioned in the newsletter last week, Mrs Bhoola our Deputy Director of Education visited us on Monday and conducted a learning walk with myself. He was very impressed with what he saw. He couldn't believe how well the Reception and Nursery children had settled in after only a few weeks and he really enjoyed the Year One children's Talk for Writing work. He will visit again next term.

Parent Governor: The application window has now closed for this position and we had two applications. Therefore, we will now move to a vote. Your child has brought home a letter today

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with two voting slips as each parent of a child at school is entitled to vote. Please follow the instructions on the letter and please read each parent's statement carefully before making your vote. Return the envelope provided with the voting slips in on or before **Friday 18th October**. We will then count the votes at 2:30pm and be ready to announce the successful candidate via text message. Please do use your vote. This parent will represent you on the governing body.

Book Fair: Thank you so much for your support with our Book Fair this week. The children really enjoyed exploring the bookshelves during the day and they are very fortunate to have such generous parents that bought them some lovely books! It really benefits us too as Scholastic give us commission on the books sold which we then buy more books to go in our ever-growing library - so thank you very much! The last day for the Book Fair will be Monday so books will be on sale after school both today and on Monday.

Official opening of Fruit Orchard & Allotment: On Wednesday 16th October, we have our opening of this wonderful area. Although in it's infancy, we have taken the opportunity to have a little ceremony with the children and with our friends from Argos that helped create the perimeter fencing. We will share photos on Twitter later that day so please do follow and like us on Twitter if you don't already. It really helps get the word around about all the amazing things the children do at our school!

Seeds to supper: Talking of our allotment, this week has seen our Year Ones harvest the vegetables they had sown earlier in the year. From our own recipe, we made vegetable soup together in our cooking room and it was absolutely delicious! Thank you to Katie, the Community Champion from Asda who helped us make it!

PE after half term: Now the weather is getting a bit cooler, we encourage you to send in black jogging bottoms for your child to wear in PE rather than shorts. All PE kits will be coming home at half term for a wash, so please pop them in their PE bag when they return to school and don't forget to label them. Many thanks for your help with this.

Pre-owned uniform rail: Don't forget to send in any pre-owned uniform that we can add to our rail and for a small donation, it's a great way of having a backup cardigan or jumper! The rail will be out at our Harvest Festival so do come and have a browse, most things have hardly been worn and look brand new. Not only a great way to save money but also a great way to support our sustainable lifestyle.

William's Sponsorship event: We were so proud to hear that William from Reception class is taking part in a sponsored run for Birmingham Children's Hospital this weekend. He will be running 1.5km with his brother, while his older brother is running 2.5km and Dad is running a half marathon in the Great Birmingham Run! If anyone is interested in sponsoring William, please go justgiving.com/fundraising/horsewells-bham. Well done William, we can't wait to see the photos, what a wonderful thing to do and for such a great cause!

October is Walk to School Month: Well done to all those children and families that have been doing their best to walk to school or park a little further away, you've made a great start to Walk to School month!

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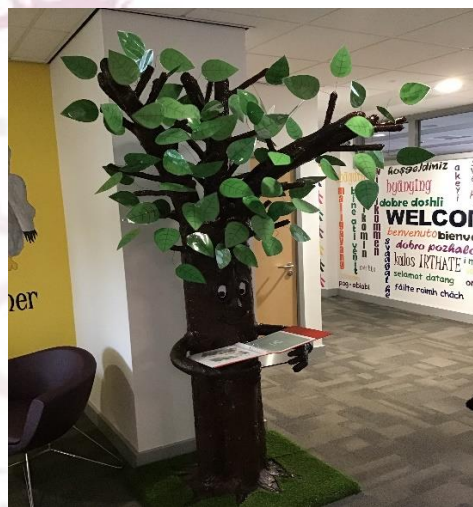
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Our Eco Tree: Many of you will have noticed the fabulous Eco Tree we have in our Library area. Mr Parker made this out of all recycled products. In June, we asked our Year One children to think of a name for our tree. It was very hard to decide between them as there were so many great ideas but we decided upon Abubakr's suggestion which was 'Honesty' so this is our tree of Honesty. We want the tree to be about wellbeing for the children and over the following months you will see lots of activities all designed around this. Well done Abubakar for a great suggestion!

Harrier Award: This week we felt it apt to name William as the Harrier for Reception class due to how he is working together with lots of other people to make sure essential funds are raised for Birmingham Children's Hospital. Well done William, we hope your legs don't ache too much on Monday! In Class One, Halle Beaumont has been chosen for the Harrier Award this week. Halle was a brilliant team player when the children started planning their own animations yesterday. Halle encouraged all her teammates to contribute and she then made sure she included everyone's ideas! Fantastic Halle, a natural born leader!

On that happy note, have a great weekend!

Mrs Hopkins
Head teacher



PROVIDING THE ROOTS TO GROW AND THE WINGS TO FLY

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