

Newsletter 8 – Friday 25th October 2019

Dear Families,

What a wonderful way to finish our half term with our fantastic Harvest Festival celebrations yesterday! The children really did a great job remembering all their lines and singing to all the songs with such confidence, in front of so many people! It really is amazing to see how far they have come in just eight short weeks. Our Year Ones look even more grown up every day I see them and very much enjoy being the 'big ones!' The Reception children look up to them and have settled in brilliantly! It was also lovely to see such a great turn out of relatives. We are so lucky at the moment to be able to extend an open invitation to family members as we only have two classes - it's something we can enjoy for the remainder of the year. I'm already looking forward to the Christmas Performance - there's nothing quite like it!

Thank you again for your generosity, considering we only had two classes involved in this with a total of 45 children, there really was a lot of food there which as we heard from Paul, will go to a great cause!

Scholastic Book Fair: Speaking of your generosity, we made a total of £337.70 at the Book Fair which means the school receives just over £160 to spend on books for our school library! Thank you so much, every penny really does count when buying books. They will go to a good home!

Publicity: We've been hitting the papers a lot over the past week with our Reception Class' first photograph that was in Wednesday's edition to a brilliant article about our 'Seeds to Supper' initiative yesterday that had loads of fabulous photos of the children and the school. What struck me the most about the photos was how happy the children looked on them which is the most important thing and quite frankly a great advert for our school! We've had some enquiries as to how our Reception parents can get a copy of the photograph that was in the paper. If you email the school office, Mrs Dennis will send it you digitally. Just a reminder that this is for your own personal use and should not be shared on social media. Mrs Dennis has emailed out the link to all parents of the article that was in the Burton Mail regarding the whole school. I do hope that you enjoy reading it as much as I did. A huge thank you to Mr Parker for all his hard work in getting our 'Seeds to Supper' campaign up and running and all the amazing Eco work that he inspires the children to get involved in each and every day - we're very lucky to have him as part of our school family!

Walk to School Month: This has been going so well and Mr Parker has been busy Tweeting out the families that are either walking or parking further away from school and then walking to school (as we appreciate it's not possible for all our children to walk as they live so far away). We're delighted with how many of you have taken part in this initiative. Thank you and keep up the great work!

Pizza making: Yesterday morning, our friend, Katie from Asda, came in to do more cooking with the children. This time it was Year Ones' turn with our Nursery children. The children had a great time, please see a couple of photos below. A huge thank you to Katie and Asda for providing all of the ingredients and leading the activity on the day. Katie will be back after half term to do some fruit tasting with our Reception class!

Parent Governor: Congratulations to William's Mum, Hannah Horsewell, who became our Parent governor last week. Our first Governor's meeting of the year is on the 19th November where I know Hannah will represent you all well. We will be advertising for another Parent Governor again in the future.

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

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Trips: The children are all very excited about their school trips that are coming up. Reception will visit Rosliston Forestry Centre on Tuesday 5th November and have the opportunity to hold owls as well as going on a guided woodland walk and then Year One are going to the Think Tank for an Outer Space Experience on Monday 11th November to launch their new Space topic. I'm sure each class is going to have a wonderful time! Please don't forget to return the permission slips and payment as soon as you're able. Packed lunches are provided for all the children so they just need to bring a water bottle with their name on it on the day. I can't wait to see the photographs! Watch this space and keep your eye out on our Twitter page!

Half Term activities: If you are looking for something fun to do with the children locally next week, please see the following link for information about a fun activity run by Staffordshire Wildlife Trust. <https://www.staffs-wildlife.org.uk/events/2019-11-01-wildlings-beans-covert>

Little Stars After School Club: Don't forget this fantastic club starts operating out of school from **Monday 4th November** and there's an open event on that day after school if you want to come along and find out more. For any enquiries please call Kirsty on: 07487638083.

Harrier Award: This week in Reception Class the teaching staff have chosen Esme Shaw for her participation in all lessons, her brilliant contribution to the Harvest assembly and letting others go first! Wow Esme you have been busy! In Year One, the Harrier Award goes to Freya Shorthouse for helping her group sound out words to create sentences in writing lessons this week. Super team work Freya, thank you for helping your class mates out in this way, I'm sure they really appreciated it! After half term, we move onto a different Harrier Value - 'Respect'. I'm sure our children will do a good job of demonstrating this to all they meet.

Wishing you a wonderful half term holiday that includes all the excitement that Halloween brings! Hopefully the children won't eat too many sweets! Don't forget to put your clocks back this weekend to enjoy a well-earned extra hour in bed...well at least for all those that have children that sleep in a little!

Happy half term and we will see you back on **MONDAY 4th NOVEMBER!**

Mrs Hopkins



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