Newsletter 20 - Friday 14th February 2020

Dear Families.

Welcome back to our second half term of this Spring Term. I think we're all looking forward to some warmer and drier weather! As you can see our field has taken quite a soaking over the last week or so and is very water logged. The Constructor is looking at this to see if they can add some drainage to this area. Watch this space!

<u>Parent Consultations</u>: It was so great to see you all over the past week at the Parent Consultations. As always, there were big smiles all round and lots of proud parents when they heard how amazing their children are doing. Thank you for your support. As you have heard me say before, the best way to ensure children meet their potential is by a brilliant parent and school working relationship. Myself and the staff often comment on how blessed we are to work with such supportive and easy to work with parents.

New teacher recruitment: You may have seen our advert for the next new teacher to join our school. Myself and Miss Jack had the pleasure of showing eight teachers around yesterday and we have two more tours booked in that are filling up fast before the closing date on 11th March. We will be interviewing on the 20th March and I look forward to sharing who has been the successful candidate.

<u>Community Partnership (Parent Teacher Association - PTA):</u> our next meeting is on TUESDAY 3rd MARCH at 7pm at school. At this meeting, we will be organising our Spring Disco that takes place in a few weeks and planning other events for the children. Please do come along as the more people we have, the easier it is to organise things and the more events we can put on for the children.

World Book Day - THURSDAY 5th MARCH: I've heard lots of children talking about what they will be this year! All children (and staff!) are invited to dress up as a book character on Thursday to celebrate World Book Day. Please don't feel you need to go and buy costumes. The World Book Day website has lots of great ideas of how you can use every day items to make your own costumes so please do visit: https://www.worldbookday.com. Also, the website lets you know what books are available to exchange for The World Book Day voucher the children are given on the day. Every year, they release special books for the vouchers and they just keep getting better and better. This year they have one that features Supertato which I know our Year One children will love as they read a book about Supertato last year. Then there's one from Matthew Syed all about having a Growth Mindset. A great book to share with the children and one for them to keep for the future.





If you'd prefer not to have one of the books for the £1 book voucher, you can use the voucher towards a book of your child's choice at most good bookshops. Details on the website.

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Year 1 Reading under the Stars - 11B411 Adventure: On Friday 6th March, Year One will be coming back to school to do their next 11B411 adventure of Reading under the Stars. We're all very excited about it. Sunset is due to be at 5:55pm on that day so we are going to move the event back to a 5:30pm start if that's okay with our parents. Miss Lester has organised a star projection for the hall wall and star lights so we will start with an indoor experience before going outside at 6pm after its gone dark. If there are any problems with this, please do let Miss Lester know. Follow us on Twitter to see the adventure unfold!

<u>Year 1 Adopt a Houseplant:</u> Today the Year Ones will be bringing home a plant. If you would like to adopt it, please send in £2 to school. There is an information letter all about it coming home with them too.

<u>Sports Relief</u> is the week beginning the 9th March and we are going to be taking part in the Sports Relief Mile, running and walking around our school field on the Friday. Sponsor forms have come home for you to sponsor this great event that not only encourages children to exercise but also raises money for this brilliant charity. Please collect what you can, however big or small and return on <u>Friday 13th March</u> so that we can send the money off to Sports Relief. Children can wear sports kits on this day too.

<u>Water Bottles:</u> Please can I ask that every child has a water bottle in school every day? When children do not have one and feel thirsty, we give them plastic cups to drink out of as we don't want them to get dehydrated but it causes issues with spillages etc. so if you could send one in that would be really helpful. Thank you in advance for your help with this.

<u>Harrier Award:</u> This half term we are focusing on the Innovation Harrier Value and on Monday's assembly the children learned about Steve Jobs as an innovator and entrepreneur. We are looking for the children to try out new ideas, have a go and be creative. This week Miss Jack and Mrs Carlile have chosen Esa who has been fascinated by our non-fiction book about animals. He has been studying this carefully by himself at free choice times before drawing his observations on the whiteboard. He has asked questions to learn new animal names. This week Miss Lester and Mrs Morgan have chosen Wills for his enthusiasm, interest and creativity in Science Club this week! He loved learning about static and spent a lot of time with a balloon on his head showing everyone how it worked! Well done Wills, we can't wait to see how you apply this Science learning into your own Science work!

<u>A new baby:</u> Congratulations to Alexia's family in Reception who have welcomed a baby girl this week. Both Mum and baby are doing well. We can't wait to meet her!

Have a great weekend, with very best wishes,

Mrs Hopkins & The Henhurst Ridge Primary Academy Family