

Newsletter 19 - 15th February 2019

Dear Families,

It's hard to believe another half term has flown by and that we are now half way through your child's first academic year at school! What a year it has been so far. I was once again amazed at how fantastically they did in their assembly last week. They were so confident in their retelling of Handa's Surprise and their singing of 'Five Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed!' We are incredibly proud of what they have achieved so far and what they will go on to achieve while they are with us. It was lovely to see you at Parents Evening so that we could tell you how each of your children are doing and the great progress they continue to make. This was evident to Miss Coxon and myself when we attended a Writing Moderation for the local cluster of schools on Wednesday evening. Each school takes a selection of children's books along to compare to other schools and see if the standards are the same. Our children's work was of a great standard!

Safeguarding Audit: Last Friday, we had a Safeguarding Audit with our Regional Safeguarding Lead for REAch2. Not many Academy Trusts have this position, which shows the importance REAch2 places on ensuring that safeguarding procedures in our schools are the best they can be. I am delighted to inform you that we received a green rating for our Safeguarding work which is the highest a school can get! We will continue to work hard on this so that all our children are safe whilst at school.

Safer Internet Day: Last week was Safer Internet Day and part of our Safeguarding remit is to ensure that children know how to keep themselves safe on line. It might seem surprising to do this with such young children but many games that children play now enable them to play with other players who they might not know and who may not be other children but adults. Our assemblies around this topic have been teaching the children never to tell anyone on the internet their personal information (their full name, where they live or what school they go to). There are some brilliant resources on the following websites for both children and parents. Please do take a look. It is never too early to start educating our children on this matter,
<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/2019>
<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

Chinese New Year: Last week we were also very lucky to have two visitors into school to help us celebrate Chinese New Year. Katie, the Asda Community Champion brought some fabulous food for the children to taste. They had fun learning how to use chopsticks! Then in the afternoon, Mrs Wagstaffe, Bess' Mum, came in to deliver an assembly where we had dragon dancing, learning about the different animals for each of the years, looking at Chinese artefacts and much more! A huge thank you to Mrs Wagstaffe for giving up her time to come and work with the children, we all had a great time!

Newsletter 19 - 15th February 2019

If any other parents have anything they would like to share with the class (hobbies to tell them about, places you have visited, jobs the children would like to know about), please do not hesitate to get in touch with either myself or Miss Coxon.

Official opening of our kitchen: Last week saw the official opening of our kitchen which was a very happy event. We went all out with ribbon cutting to practise ready for the official opening of the school! It has been so lovely to have the food cooked on site and our Catering Manager, Miss Karina is doing a fantastic job! This week the children have started pre-ordering their lunch in the mornings to ensure they get just what they want. So far it has worked really well. If you get a chance to look through the menu before school with your child to let them know of the options, it gives them a bit more thinking time before they have to choose.

Mothers' Day lunch: We are delighted to be able to offer our first parent lunch on **FRIDAY 29th MARCH**. All Mums and Nans or Grandmas are cordially invited to join us for a delicious roast dinner at **12pm**. A letter will come out after half term with more details on and how to book your place/s. Following this, we will be having a Fathers' and Grandfathers' lunch on **WEDNESDAY 12th JUNE** to celebrate Fathers' Day. On this occasion we are able to invite Grandparents to our Mothers' Day and Fathers' Day lunches, however in future years, when we have more children, we will hold a Grandparents' lunch to celebrate Grandparents' Day. In addition to these special lunches, Miss Karina will be putting on some special theme days for the children to celebrate certain times of the year. Please see our important dates attached to find out more.

Nursery: Please don't forget to spread the word about our brilliant new Nursery that's opening in September! We will be taking children aged three and above. We have 25 places available and would love to fill all of them!

Harrier Award: We have two weeks' worth of Harrier Awards to catch up on! Last week, Hallei Beaumont was nominated for the award by Miss Coxon and Mrs Blackshaw for her Writing. Hallei has been trying super hard to use all the sounds she knows to write words correctly. Well done Hallei and keep up that amazing handwriting too! This week's Harrier Award goes to Abubakr for innovating in the Construction Area. Abubakr used lots of different materials to make a police station and really persevered until he got it right! Well done Abubakr, we were very impressed!

Building work: Great news! The tank is finally in and secure! It was such a lovely sight to see all the ground being levelled this week. I feel like we are really nearly there now! Once the hole is completely filled, all the grounds work will commence, final landscaping and electronic gates will be fitted. There's also some lovely lettering going on the front elevation as you approach the school with the school name on it. We are really excited to see that go up too! We will continue

Newsletter 19 - 15th February 2019

to have the current arrangements for using the car park for at least the first week back after half term before we make any changes to our daily routines.

From all of us here at Henhurst Ridge Primary Academy, we wish you a wonderful half term holiday and hope you have lots of relaxing times and fun!

Very best wishes,

Mrs Hopkins

Dates for your diary:

Date	Event	Additional information
Monday 18th February-Friday 21st February - Half Term		
Tuesday 5 th March	Theme lunch: Pancake Day	No additional charge
Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day	Dress up as a character from a book.
Friday 15 th March	Red Nose Day	Children wear their own clothes for £1 for charity
Friday 22 nd March	INSET DAY	Children not in school
Friday 29 th March	Mothers' Day Lunch	All mums and grandmas invited into school to have lunch 12pm.
Wednesday 10 th April	Theme lunch: Easter	No additional charge
Thursday 11 th April	Easter Bonnet parade	2.30pm
Monday 15th April - Friday 26th April - Easter Holidays		
Friday 3 rd May	May Day Celebrations	2.30pm
Monday 27th May - Friday 31st May		
Wednesday 12 th June	Fathers' Day Lunch	All Dads and Grandads invited into school to have lunch 12pm
Friday 28 th June	Class Assembly for parents	2:30pm
Week beginning 1 st July	Annual reports out	
Thursday 4 th July	Theme lunch: American Independence Day	No additional charge
Friday 12 th July	Sports Day	All afternoon
Monday 15 th July & Tuesday 16 th July	Reserve Sports Days in case it rains	All afternoon
Friday 19 th July	Theme lunch: A Taste of America	No additional charge
Monday 22nd July - Monday 2nd September - Summer holidays		