

Newsletter 18 – Friday 31st January 2020

Dear Families,

We've had another busy and exciting week here at school. I've enjoyed going into each class to do lesson observations and see how the children are getting on in their Maths. In Reception class, they were learning all the different ways of making 5 by visiting Miss Jack's shop where everything was 5p! Mrs Carlile was in the outdoor area exploring different ways of adding beanbags together. Alexia kindly invited me to join them in the Messy Kitchen and offered me a lovely meal of grapes and cucumber! Year Ones were grappling with making 2 digit numbers out of Base 10 equipment and then adding one more, all the way up to 40. They really did enjoy exploring these numbers in this practical way!

Maths Toolkit Time lessons: In Maths we want to give the children opportunity to be fluent in the basic skills they need like knowing their number bonds to 5 or 10 or being able to count in 2s, 5s and 10s and then onto recalling their times tables. So we have designed and introduced a 15 minute additional Maths lesson called 'Toolkit Time' where the children have a chance to practise and learn all these skills, giving them the tools to be able to be brilliant Mathematicians - hence the name. So far the lessons have been really successful and the children have thoroughly enjoyed them and been engaged. Later in the academic year, we will invite you in to come and have a look at this part of our curriculum so you can see what we're doing but also so that you can do it at home too should you want to.

Assemblies: Reception Class had their assembly on Monday and it was fantastic! They recalled the story of 'Shhh' really well and shared some lovely Art work and songs with us too - they have been busy! Thank you to all the staff over the past two weeks for preparing these for us. Thank you also to Mr Parker for telling us all about our 11B411 adventures - the response has been tremendous. If you were unable to be there and would like to know more, please see Mr Parker to find out more.

Reading Under the Stars: Our first 11B411 adventure for Year 1 will be on **Friday 6th March from 5:15-6:15pm**. It is going to be a fun hour of reading outside and inside, star gazing (fingers crossed for a clear night), wrapped up and enjoying a cup of hot chocolate and biscuits! Can't wait! A letter with all the information regarding this will be coming out shortly.

Eco Meeting: We had our first Eco Meeting with our newly elected Eco Leaders on Tuesday which was great! They all had lots of ideas on how we can continue our Eco work! Thank you to Mrs Wagstaffe, our parent representative, for her time and contribution. We were very excited to hear from Mr Parker that we have applied for the Green Flag award which is the highest achievement for Eco Schools which we can hardly believe after only being open 18 months! What an achievement! The assessor should be visiting us in the next few weeks! Keep everything crossed!

Slapped Cheek Syndrome: We have had a couple of case of this in school today. Please read the attached guidance taken from the NHS and government website. Many thanks.

Year One Phonics Check Parent Information Session – Thursday 13th February at 2:30pm & 6pm: This is to let parents know a bit more about the national Phonics Check that all Year One children have to take during the **week beginning 8th June**. It will let you know what the check is about, how it is administered and the way in which the results are communicated to you and reported nationally. I do hope you can make one of these sessions.

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Year One Show & Tell: Show & Tell is an activity designed to develop the children's speaking & listening skills. When the children bring in toys to show, they would rather play with them than show and talk about them which is understandable as they are very lovely! Therefore, we are now asking the children to only bring in items that are very special or are particular achievements from that week/time (e.g. certificates, medals/trophies or pictures of birthdays etc). They will then be able to tell their classmates more about it and the children will find out much more about each other. They do not have to bring in something every week, it is an optional activity should they want to. Many thanks for your help with this.

Parent Consultation: After half term we will have our second round of Parent Consultations on **Tuesday 25th February 3:30-5pm and on Thursday 4-6pm**. More information about this will be coming out next week and we will be operating a similar system as last time, where you can sign up at the school office for an appointment time.

Half-Term Holiday Club: Don't forget Little Stars is running a fabulous holiday club over the February half term. Flyers are available from the school office if you're interested.

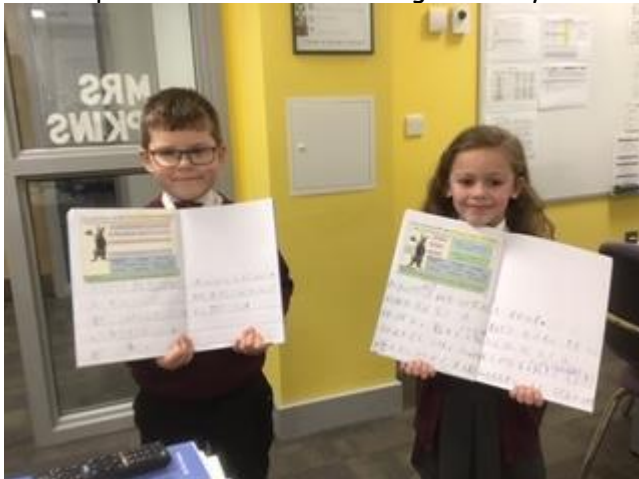
Breakfast Club: On a Friday at Breakfast Club we have fewer children and none that start before 8am so we have made the decision to **start Breakfast Club at 8am on a Friday**. All other days, it will continue to open at 7:45am.

Harrier Award: This week we have been concentrating on our Harrier Value of **Honesty**. Miss Jack and Mrs Carlile have chosen **Teddy** for displaying our value of honesty throughout the year so far. Teddy has never told a lie and can always be relied upon to be truthful. Thank you Teddy! In Class One, Miss Lester and Mrs Morgan have chosen **Leo** to receive the award this week for taking responsibility and being honest if things don't work out. Well done Leo, what a grown up attitude! In assembly on Monday, we spoke to the children about how important it is to be honest so it is great that we have these two great examples of honesty in our school! Keep up the good work boys!

Have a great weekend and I look forward to seeing you on Monday morning for the first week of February!

With very best wishes,

Mrs Hopkins & The Henhurst Ridge Primary Academy Family



So proud of Caitlyn and Leo's writing!

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HENHURST RIDGE

PRIMARY ACADEMY

PROVIDING THE ROOTS TO GROW AND THE WINGS TO FLY

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