

Newsletter 19 - Friday 7th February 2020

Dear Families,

This week saw the start of our Gymnastics training for some of our Year Ones who will be entering a competition later this term and the Science Club had another wonderful session on Thursday! I enjoyed visiting the classes to see how their Toolkit Time was going. I saw some very enthusiastic counting backwards from 20 in Reception Class and then some equally enthusiastic counting in 5s to a 100 in Year One. These sessions are proving to be a big hit with both the children and adults alike and will undoubtedly increase the children's fluency in remembering their key facts.

Children's Mental Health Week: This week was Children's Mental Health Week and on Wednesday we had an assembly all about what to do if you're worried. Mr Parker introduced the Worry Box that our Tree of Honesty holds so the children can go to the tree whenever they have a worry and write it down and post it into the Worry Box. Hopefully, this will encourage the children to share any worries or concerns they have from an early age so that we can all help them solve it. If you'd like to find out more about Children's Mental Health Week, please follow this link: <https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/parents-and-carers/>

National Storytelling Week: It was also National Storytelling Week this week and we've had great fun making up stories to share with each other. If you get chance over the weekend, perhaps you can make up a story together with your child.

School Vegetable Growing Campaign: On Wednesday, Mr Parker and I attended a planning meeting for this and we are very much looking forward to getting involved in this over the next few months. In June, the leader of the Council will be visiting each of the schools to see how they've got on - let's get growing! We're also entering the Schools Category of the In Bloom nationwide competition which we're very excited about. Watch this space!

Eco Work: Our Eco Monitors have got to work with jobs such as Waste Management (making sure people are not wasting paper towels etc), Recycling Monitor (making sure everyone puts the right items in the right bins) and Composting (emptying the class composter into the school one)! The Monitors take their work very seriously and are doing an amazing job. We are very lucky to have such dedicated and responsible citizens!

Parent Consultation: You will have received a letter regarding this earlier in the week. The sign-up sheets will be out in the Entrance Hall by Mrs Dennis's office at 8:30am on Monday. If you are unable to come into school, please just give Mrs Dennis a call and she will be happy to make an appointment for you. We can't wait for you to see your child's books and how much progress they have made since you last saw them!

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 next week. There's no need to book, please just come along to either session.

Safer Internet Day - Tuesday 11th February: Next week, we will be supporting this annual event that is integral in keeping our children safe on the Internet. We will be having assemblies and activities around this. If you would like to find out more, please follow this link:

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<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2020/i-am-parent-or-carer>

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.

Harrier Award: This week Miss Jack and Mrs Carlile have chosen **Holly** for taking responsibility when there was a problem when a magnet was washed down the sink. Holly took action and made sure the adults knew what had happened - well done Holly! In Class One, Miss Lester and Mrs Morgan have chosen **Muhid** for being such a positive and responsible presence in the classroom at all times - wow what a lovely thing to have said about you Muhid!

Wishing you a wonderful weekend, wrap up and keep warm!

With very best wishes,

Mrs Hopkins & The Henhurst Ridge Primary Academy Family



Gymnastics Training



Toolkit Time in Reception Class! Even the flying unicorn is joining in!