

Newsletter 24 - Friday 20th March 2020

Dear Families,

I think we all feel a bit strange today and rather uncertain as to how the next few weeks and months will unfold. Please be assured that we will keep in touch to give you any updates that we might have and to find out how the children are doing. We hope that you enjoy working through the learning packs that we have provided for the children. A lot of thought and care has gone into providing a variety of activities and things the children will enjoy doing. Please follow us on Twitter as we post out additional ideas too and the Nursery & Reception staff will communicate via Tapestry so do keep uploading those photos and films, we'd love to see them!

Key Worker & Vulnerable Children: The government has now provided a definition of critical workers and has clarified that if a parent is a 'critical worker', children will be eligible to attend school during this period. Thank you to everyone who responded to our text yesterday. We will be in touch with those parents over the weekend with more details.

Sports Relief: Thank you so much for all the sponsorship money that has been sent in over the last two weeks. We can hardly believe your generosity as we've seen it pouring in! Mrs Dennis will count it all up next week and we will announce the total on Twitter. I hope you got to see the photographs on Twitter last week of us doing it. We had so much fun! The children didn't want to stop - I think they could have done another four laps (not sure about the staff though!)

Science Club: The children have LOVED attending this club so a huge thank you to Mr Horsewell for putting it on for us. I know we will have a queue of children wanting to attend when we are back at school.

Gym Competition: Unfortunately, the Gym Competition scheduled for this Monday was cancelled. As soon as we're back, the girls will do a gymnastics display for their parents and the whole school so you can see how hard they have worked! I was so impressed when I saw them in training recently. Yesterday, we presented them with medals for their brilliant efforts!

Mothers' Day Meal: Apologies that this has had to be postponed. Again, as soon as we're back, we will rearrange this and look forward to sharing a meal with our Mums!

NSPCC PANTS campaign: As mentioned last week, we completed the PANTS campaign with the children. They responded brilliantly to it. Don't forget to check the website out too while you're off: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/underwear-rule/>

Archie & Fleur's birthday party: Mrs Hill has asked me to pop this in the newsletter so everyone that was invited to the children's party, knows that it has unfortunately had to be cancelled.

Staffing news: As mentioned in last week's newsletter, our lovely Breakfast Club leader and Year One TA, Mrs Morgan, is leaving us and the children have had to say farewell to her a bit sooner than they would have liked to with the imminent school closure. A huge thank you to Mrs Morgan for being such a wonderful part of our school with her cheerful manner, always willing to lend a hand and help in anyway and all the learning she has helped the children with during the time she has been here and her endless patience! We are going to miss you so much Mrs Morgan, make sure you come back and see us! The interviews for Mrs Morgan's replacement were due to take place on Friday 3rd April. I am working with HR as to how we can still try and facilitate this. More news to follow on this.

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In other staffing news, we have been interviewing for our new teacher for September today. Again, as the newsletter went to press today we were still in the process. I will share who we have appointed by email/newsletter next week.

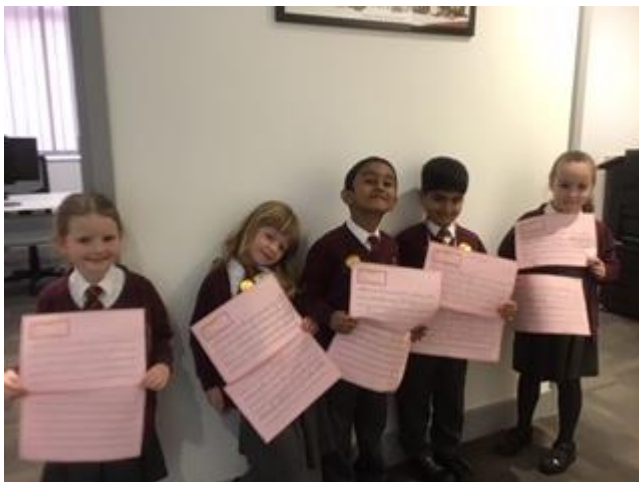
Harrier Award: This week Miss Jack and Mrs Carlile have chosen Lucas for being so super helpful and finding Jessica's cardigan when it was lost! He is also always enthusiastic in all his learning and gets stuck into all tasks! Well done Lucas! This week Miss Lester and Mrs Morgan have chosen Emily for thinking of really creative ideas for her hot write and for being able to be so independent with her writing! Well done Emily - I always love reading your stories!

We will email out a newsletter next week to give you any updates we have. Should you have any questions please contact us via the office email address office@henhurstridgeacademy.org as Mrs Dennis and I will be checking messages every day. In the meantime, can I thank you for all your lovely messages over the last few days about the staff and how they have tried to prepare the children for the change that is to come and for the Home Learning that is on its way. Also, a huge thank you for the offers of help that you can give while the school is closed, it is very much appreciated. We feel very fortunate to serve such a wonderful community. We are going to miss the children so much over the next few weeks, so please do upload photos to Tapestry or send them to the school office email so we can see what they're up to. Please take care of yourselves and of them, stay safe and keep in touch.

With the warmest of wishes, Mrs Hopkins & The Henhurst Ridge Primary Academy Family



Year One Gymnastics Team



Just look at all these brilliant writers!!

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

Tel: 01283 372200 / Email: office@henhurstridgeacademy.org
Website: www.henhurstridgeacademy.org / Twitter: @HenhurstRidge