

Newsletter 10 - Friday 13th November 2020

Dear Families,

As you will now be aware, we have had to close two of our classes due to a confirmed case of COVID19. I know you will be as disappointed as myself and the staff are about this but we have to continue to follow government guidance to do all we can to minimise any chance of any spread of it. For those children self-isolating, the teachers will be in touch with you tomorrow regarding how the Home Learning will work this time. They are continuing to do all they can to make it as interactive and interesting as possible whilst doing their best to keep the learning going so the children miss as little as possible. Our assembly will be on Teams tomorrow and Friday so please do tune in if you are able. Both assemblies will be at 10:45am. Please do get in touch if you experience any problems with the Home Learning or if you have any queries.

Please read on to find the usual academy news.

This week's round up around the school:

Nursery: This week we have continued our Bear Hunt journey by developing story maps, complete with actions to retell the tale. The staff have been amazed by how well the children have absorbed this story and they have thought of some brilliant actions to accompany it. Next week, we will be looking at some arctic animals and seeing if we can use them to innovate our map!

Reception: This week in Reception, we have made story maps for our book, Whatever Next, and have even changed the characters to make up our own story! In Maths, we have been practising adding and number bonds, and have had some very fun maths lessons with Mrs Holdcroft and Miss Banham. We have also learned all about different people who help us at night when we are fast asleep in bed. A big thank you to the parents who have offered to talk to our class about their night time jobs - we can't wait to speak with you over the coming weeks!

Year One: In Year One we built animal dens for woodland creatures on our school field. We also did bottle top printing to create beautiful Poppy Day paintings!

Year Two: In Year Two this week we have enjoyed innovating our story 'Pumpkin Soup' by changing parts of the story in preparation to write our own story next week. In project, we have been learning about different food groups and did some taste testing of foods from around the world. We also created some artwork of Flanders fields on Remembrance Day.

Self-isolation reminders: Just a reminder regarding this guidance. If you suspect a member of your household is symptomatic and/or you are awaiting the results of a COVID test, please DO NOT send your child into school until a negative result has come back. This means that we can protect all the other children and staff in school, some of whom have underlying health conditions. If you are unsure what to do, please call the school and Mrs Dennis or Miss Batkin will be happy to go through the guidance with you to enable you to make the best decision for the good of everyone.

Face masks/coverings: Thank you for wearing a mask/covering when speaking to staff members. It really helps reduce the risk of spreading COVID19. We will continue with this while the national lockdown continues and will review it in early December.

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Children in Need: It is always so lovely to see the children come to school in their own clothes and it always makes for a fun day! Year One had the opportunity to do a Dance workshop with Georgia today and they learnt the Children in Need dance that's been on You Tube. Thank you for all the donations, we have raised £113.00.

Remembrance Day & Poppies: Yet again, our children showed huge respect when we had our virtual Remembrance Day assembly on Wednesday and took part in the two-minute silence at 11am. They were all very keen to buy poppies and wear them with pride which is so wonderful to see! Thank you for your support with this. Hopefully it will be much easier to see them next year.

Year 2 Phonics Check: Our current Year 2 children should have had a Phonics screening in June but this was cancelled due to the school closures. It has now been re-scheduled to take place in December. There will be a Teams meeting about this held on **THURSDAY 19th NOVEMBER at 4pm** for all Year 2 parents to come to where the process will be explained. If you attended the meeting earlier this year you may feel you don't need to come to this one as much of the same information will be repeated. However, if you weren't able to attend or would like a refresher, please do join myself and Miss Pollitt for this. It will last about 15 minutes. We look forward to seeing you there.

Ties: Please don't forget that the tie is a key part of our uniform and all children should be wearing them every day other than their PE day. Many thanks.

Harrier Award: The Harrier Value for this half term is Respect. It is so great to hear the feedback from the staff when they send in their choices each week. This week, it just goes to show what a brilliant job our parents are doing when we have so many children with such wonderful manners showing care to each other and to adults! Please see below who has been chosen by the staff to receive this special award that was presented in our virtual assembly this morning.

Congratulations to the following children:

Class	Name	Reason
Nursery	Harris	For always showing respect towards others but especially for showing respect for resources in the Nursery. He always puts the lids back on pens and makes sure everything goes back in the right place!
Reception	Jaxon	For showing using his excellent manners to show respect every sing day and always being so polite to children and adults alike!
Year 1	Esa	Esa shows great respect to all adults by constantly showing his good listening skills - we're very proud of him!
Year 2	Holly	For always showing respect by being kind to others, helping other children sort problems out and having super manners.

Wishing you all a lovely rest of the weekend.

Best wishes,

Mrs Hopkins & The Henhurst Ridge Primary Academy Family

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