

Newsletter 8 - Friday 23rd October 2020

Dear Families,

It is starting to feel like we're getting a bit back to normal although we are still missing our fabulous Little Harriers and some of our other children and staff. We can't wait to have everyone back together after the half term! There has been lots of lovely learning going on whether it is at home or at school and a huge thank you to our parents yet again, for really making the Home Learning work so well and for your understanding and support!

This week's round up:

From Mrs Blackshaw & Mrs Buckley: "All of the children have done a great job this week practising their counting at home as they played board games and followed 2 and 3 simple instructions in order as we explored our first instruction map."

From Miss Jack & Miss Elliott: "In Reception class, we have been learning to use Numicon, cubes and number fans in maths to find one more and one less. We have been learning to draw increasingly detailed pictures and have drawn some lovely Autumn woodland pictures with hedgehogs and mice scuttling through puddles! To finish off our project 'Do you want to be friends?' we have collaged heart shaped pictures and given them to one of our new friends. We have role-played ways to be a good friend and watched in horror as our toy hedgehog wasn't very kind to our teddy. He is sitting on the board so that we can show him how to be kind!"

From Miss Cox: "We have been learning about the different types of clouds there are and making our own clouds as part of our Splendid Skies project. We have also been singing about the rain and making percussion instruments from recycled bottles!"

From Miss Pollitt: "Year 2 had a very exciting day on Wednesday when they had a pirate day - please see photo below. Working as pirates we followed the clues to find the treasure. We then ordered the coins from smallest to largest up to 100. Next, we made our own pirate parrot, Jolly Roger and learnt some sea shanties. We also learnt about the code and wrote a letter back to Captain Longbeard to explain what to do with the treasure."

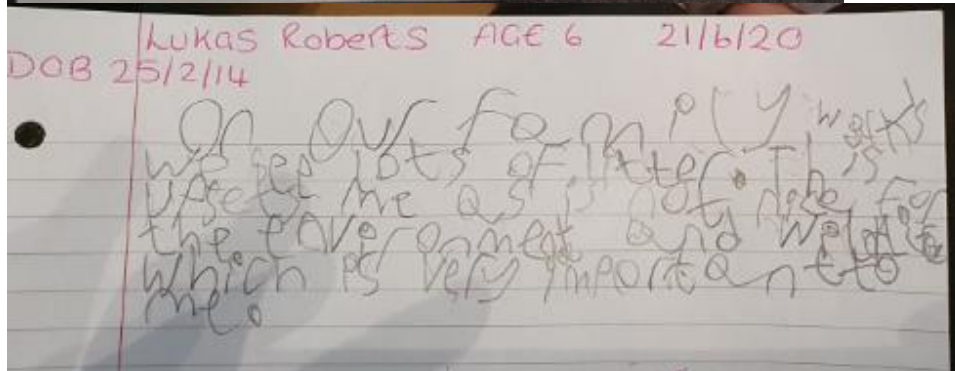
Parent Consultation Meetings: Well we got there in the end with the not very successful electronic booking system! On the night, there were a few glitches here and there but generally most appointments went very smoothly and the staff told me how great it was to be able to have some quality time talking with you about how your child is doing. You will often hear us say how important the parent-teacher partnership is to ensure your child reaches their full potential whilst at school. We are extremely lucky to have such a great set of parents to work with who also believe the same. We look forward to continuing this relationship as the academic year continues.

Blue Peter badge - 'green badge award' I am delighted to let you know that Lukas in Year 2 has been awarded this for his work for the environment which was all to do with the importance of Litter picking. This is something very close to our hearts at Henhurst Ridge and we like to do our bit for the local environment on our regular litter picks. Lukas took this a step further and created a fabulous poster about not dropping litter and wrote a letter too - please see below!

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Well done Lukas, we are all so proud of you! Please see link below that tells you how you can apply for Blue Peter badges and not only does it give the children something to do over the half term but it also can give you free entry to loads of attractions too!

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/joinin/about-blue-peter-badges>



Our neighbour's gardens: Please do your best to remind the children not to run or walk on our neighbour's gardens. Many thanks.

Wrapping up warm and black trainers: As per the government guidelines, we have been keeping all the teaching spaces well-ventilated with windows open. After half term, the weather will get colder, so please ensure your child has an extra layer on underneath their school shirts such as a vest or a T-shirt. We would also highly recommend tights for girls. Many thanks for your help with this. If your child needs new trainers and you are buying them this half term, please could you buy black ones for their PE days? Please don't worry if your child already has ones that are not black but over the course of the year, we would like to phase out colourful ones and replace with black, darker coloured or plain ones. Children should also be wearing black jogging bottoms, leggings or shorts for PE not any other colour. Many thanks.

Teacher training students: After half term, we will welcome some students from The University of Derby who will be with us every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday each week until the Christmas holidays. They will be working in Reception Class and in Year 2. They will be taking some group sessions and then some whole class sessions nearer to Christmas under the watchful eye of our teaching team. The students are very excited to have their placements with us and

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will be a welcome addition to each class as they will be extra adults to help boost any lost learning over the school closure period.

Treats: Many of you have been sending in sweets and treats for your children's birthdays as they cannot celebrate in the usual way. This is a lovely thing to do and I know the children always look forward to handing them out at the end of the day and the children receiving them particularly enjoy it! Just to let you know that some of our children are unable to eat gelatine that can be found in sweets such as Haribo so if these could be avoided that would be great or alternatively, Tesco in Burton usually sell gelatine free Haribo. Many thanks.

A fond farewell: I know you will join me in saying a fond farewell to Mr Parker who will be leaving at the end of the half term break. He has made a lasting impression on our school and on the children. We wish him every success in his new position.

We are still advertising for a new part-time Site Manager. Please see link below. The closing date is Tuesday 27th October with interviews the following week.

<https://www.wmjobs.co.uk/job/83124/site-manager-part-time-25-hours/?LinkSource=PremiumListing>

Harrier Award: The Harrier Value for this half term is Resilience. Please see below who has been chosen by the staff to receive this special award that was presented in our virtual assembly this afternoon.

Congratulations to the following children:

Class	Name	Reason
Nursery	Adeline	For working hard on her Home Learning and for showing lots of resilience outdoors in the wet weather too - she collected leaves for some autumnal art in wellies and dressing up clothes!
Reception	Hannah	For really concentrating during Phonics and trying her best to remember all the sounds. She has moved to a new group now with a big smile and lots of confidence! Well done Hannah for making such great progress in your first half term!
Year 1	William	William has shown that even though it's sometimes hard to come to school and we might feel upset, that we can talk to our teachers and make it a good day. He's been very brave and we are very proud!
Year 2	Isaac B	For persevering with his learning and always putting a smile on Miss Pollitt's face! Well done Isaac!

Wishing you all a lovely half term break, please stay safe and we look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 2nd November, hopefully with a full complement of staff and children!

Best wishes,

Mrs Hopkins & The Henhurst Ridge Primary Academy Family

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A very fierce looking Year 2 Pirate Crew!

HENHURST RIDGE

PRIMARY ACADEMY

PROVIDING THE ROOTS TO GROW AND THE WINGS TO FLY

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