

Newsletter 25 - Friday 19th March 2021

Dear Families,

Sadly on Wednesday, we had the news that there had been a positive case of coronavirus within our school community which resulted in both our Nursery and Reception class being closed. This is so disappointing for all concerned but cannot be helped and it reminds us how important it is to continue to follow all the guidelines to reduce the spread of the virus. The staff have sprung into action to reinstate the Remote Learning and so far, it is going well. Fortunately, we are expecting everyone back a week today which we can't wait for. It is very quiet around school without all our little ones!

Our Harrier Award assembly has been moved to 2:30pm on Fridays for this term. It was lovely to see so many of our friends join us from home today!

Comic Relief's Red Nose Day 2021: Thank you for all the donations so that the children could wear their own clothes to school. It was a sea of red both at school and at home and all going to such a great cause!

Appointment of class teacher for September: It has been a very busy week with recruitment as we have been observing virtual lessons and interviewing remotely for our new class teacher for next academic year. We had an incredible 80 applications for this post!! Today we completed the final stages of the interview process and will announce who the successful candidate was once they have had a chance to inform their current school community. We are very excited to be adding to our hardworking teaching team and look forward to sharing with you later in the Summer Term what the staffing structure will look like for September as we move up to having Year 3 children for the first time!

Here's a roundup of what each class has been up to this week:

Nursery: This week, the Little Harriers have been retelling the story of 'What the ladybird heard...on holiday!' They were very relieved to see that Hefty Hugh and Lofty Len failed in their attempt to steal the Queen's shiny crown thanks to the Royal corgis. Our small world area turned into an obstacle course for dogs as the children developed the story independently.

Reception: We have restarted our Remote Learning. Well done to everyone who has joined in and shown us everything that they've done on Tapestry! We love seeing what you do!

Year One: This week we have become historians and have been learning about timelines. We created a timeline of important events on our lives and also made a timeline of the Great Fire of London.

Year Two: We have loved being back in school this week in Year 2. We started the week with a mystery scary box in the classroom, we have been writing about what scary item could be in the box and reading the story 'The Dark' to inspire us. We have also been testing out waterproof materials in preparation for making our Titanic boat next week.

A fond 'See you soon' (nähdään pian): To the Aro family who are moving back to Finland temporarily. We will miss Julia and Jasmine so much as they have become so much part of our school community and the place won't be the same without them! We hope they won't be away too long and we look forward to welcoming them back in the near future. Very best wishes to you all!

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Miss Smallwood in Year 2: Will also be leaving us this week as her teaching placement comes to an end. She has been a wonderful support at what has been a challenging time for schools and indeed for completing a teaching placement. Thank you Miss Smallwood for all you've done and we wish you every success in the future. Don't forget about us!

Branston Parish - Community Engagement: Branston Parish Council are inviting local residents to give feedback on Branston Parish. If you wish to participate in the survey, which will take approximately 5 minutes of your time, please click [here](#).

Little Stars Holiday Club: Little Stars will be running over the Easter holidays. Please contact Kirsty if you would like to book a place for your child. Details are on the attached flyer.

Harrier Award: The Harrier Value for this half term is Aspiration. The staff will be looking for children that are being really aspirational in their work, in their abilities and in their play. Read on to find out who was given the Harrier Award this morning in our virtual assembly.

Congratulations to the following children:

Class	Name	Reason
Nursery	Ronny	Being an aspirational artist! He has played with lots of different ways to make marks this week- mostly to draw pictures of his daddy!
Reception	Julia & Jasmin	For a wonderful first year at school. They always give their best and have been aspirational in their phonics, trying so hard! Well done to both of them, we're going to miss them so much!
Year 1	Hope	For trying so hard in phonics! Every day she works hard and never gives up, always aiming high! She even asked for an extra maths challenge this week!
Year 2	Isla	Has aspired to be on the 'pot of gold' by the end of the week and she has achieved this! Well done Isla, you must have been doing some amazing things in class to do this!

We look forward to seeing all our lovely children back next week at some point and wish you a relaxing weekend,

With best wishes

Mrs Hopkins & The Henhurst Ridge Primary Academy Family