

Newsletter 27 - Thursday 1st April 2021

Dear Families,

Here we are at the end of what has been a term like no other but we made it! It is so good to feel like the end is in sight as schools reopened and the vaccine programme continues to roll out and with restrictions starting to ease. The sun even shone down on us this week too!

This week we had all our children back in school after the most recent class closures and we are yet again staggered by the resilience of the children. They have just got straight back into it with routines and behaviour at their usual high standard. They are simply brilliant!

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

Nursery: This week, the Little Harriers have wrapped up their latest topic, 'Is it shiny?', by making their very own twinkle lamps and creating a poem using some of our favourite shiny words! We have also had lots of Easter fun as we enjoyed an egg and spoon race and made Easter cards.

Reception: Reception have enjoyed a great week back at school, playing with their friends and taking part in lots of learning activities, both inside and out. The children's reading is really improving - we hope you enjoy lots of chances to keep doing this over the holidays, ready for our final term in Reception after the Easter break. Don't forget your Oxford Owl eBooks subscription (see details in your child's Reading Diary) to keep your child's learning going!

Year One: This week Year One have written wishing tales inspired by the story 'Giraffes Can't Dance'. I have been so blown away by Year One's hard work and determination with their writing - well done to all!

Year Two: This week, we have continued researching information about different habitats and created our own fact book about how animals are adapted to their environment. In Science, we have been learning about food chains and animals' diets.

Track & Trace: We are required by the government to assist with Track & Trace during school holidays so please let us know if your child becomes symptomatic or tests positive for COVID19 up to and including Easter Monday. This is because you can be carrying the virus up to 48 hours before you become symptomatic. This way, we can then get in touch with any close contacts of your child as they will be required to self-isolate. We sincerely hope we do not need to get in touch with anyone over the holidays.

Parent's Evening Tuesday 20th April & Thursday 22nd April: Apologies for the short notice around the sign-up sheet being displayed yesterday. Hopefully, you have had a chance to sign up for an appointment and if not, please contact the school office and Miss Batkin or Mrs Dennis will only be too happy to help you. A Teams invite will then be sent to you before the day. Please try and log in to your child's account before the appointment time to ensure it is working and you have the correct password etc. If you have any difficulties, please don't hesitate to let the school office know and we will try and resolve these as soon as possible. Hopefully, this will be the last one we have to do like this!

School Photographer: On Friday 23rd April, the school photographer will be coming into school to take the annual school photographs of the children. This will be done socially distanced. We look forward to sharing the proofs with you after the event!

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Uniform: Just a few uniform reminders. Ties should be worn at all times other than on PE days and when wearing the summer dresses. Earrings should be small studs and should not be worn on PE days. This is for health & safety reasons and to protect your child. The larger the earrings, the easier they can be pulled out causing damage to the ear lobe. Finally, nail varnish is not allowed so please ensure this is removed before the children come back to school. Many thanks for your support with this.

Staffing: We are delighted that Miss Elliott will be able to return to school after Easter due to the guidance around shielding being lifted. She is desperate to be back in the classroom and I know the children will be overjoyed to see her! Miss Johal will also join us in the Reception Team after Easter to cover Miss Jack's Maternity leave. Miss Jack doesn't start her leave until the 23rd April so it will give both teachers a good chance to continue handing over during this time. A huge thank you to Mrs Cunningham and Mrs Saleem who have done a brilliant job in looking after our Reception children over the past few weeks. Both teachers have told me how much they have enjoyed working with the children, what a joy they have been and how they hope to come back again whenever we might need someone. That's always lovely to hear from teachers that work in lots of different schools!

In other staffing news, Mr Dawson has moved onto pastures new. We wish him every success for the future and thank him for all of his hard work.

Thinkuknow.co.uk: There are a number of home activity packs available which you are able to do with your family to support their online safety at home. Please click [here](#) for further details.

Little Stars Holiday Club: Don't forget that Little Stars will be running over the Easter holidays. Please contact Kirsty on 07487 638083 if you would like to book a place for your child.

Georgia Gough School of Dance: Georgia's dance school will be restarting the week beginning 19th April. Please contact Georgia on 07960 883313 for more details.

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 afternoon in our virtual assembly.

Congratulations to the following children:

Class	Name	Reason
Nursery	Lainey	Lainey for always aspiring to do her best now that she is a 'big girl' and having a go at everything with a huge smile on her face! 😊
Reception	Saoirse	Saoirse has such a brilliant understanding of our rules and expectations and always aspires to help others to understand and follow these too. Thank you Saoirse!
Year 1	Harry	Harry has blown me away with his growing confidence in Maths and Phonics this week! Well done Harry!
Year 2	Emily	Emily has been a superstar listener this week! She has been ready to learn, always listening and produced some amazing learning as a result. Well done.

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Wishing you a wonderfully relaxing holiday where we can hopefully start to reconnect with family and friends in the outdoors. Please take care and stay safe, wishing all of our families who celebrate Easter a happy and joyful one.

With best wishes

Mrs Hopkins & The Henhurst Ridge Primary Academy Family



A huge congratulations to Isaac and Haydn Clark who completed a 5km run recently and were proudly wearing their medals in school on Monday! I think Isaac's smile says it all! It's inspired me to keep on running!

PROVIDING THE ROOTS TO GROW AND THE WINGS TO FLY

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