

WHOLE SCHOOL INFORMATION

Staffing update

We are pleased to inform you that Mrs Jacques and her husband are expecting their first baby. Mrs Jacques' baby is due in April so she will be leaving at the end of the Spring term until 1st January 2020. We wish her well with her pregnancy and will inform you when baby Jacques is born. We will advertise the two day a week teaching role in the New Year, to start after the Easter holidays.

We say goodbye and good luck to two members of the lunchtime team who are leaving the school today. Mrs Hayes has been at Harestock as Lunchtime Supervisor since 2014 and we wish her well with her new job at Harestock Nursery. Mrs Prior is also leaving us but not going far, as she has been appointed as a kitchen assistant here at school, employed by H3CS. Thank you to both members of staff for their hard work whilst employed as a Lunchtime Supervisor. Well done to Mr Seath who is currently a volunteer here at Harestock and a temporary Lunchtime Supervisor who has now been appointed as a permanent member of staff. Thank you also to Mrs Dover, Mrs Parsons and Mrs Hughes who all work as Learning Support Assistants who between them will be doing Lunchtime Supervisor sessions.

Harestock Primary is officially a 'Healthy school'

We are very pleased to announce that Harestock has successfully completed the Healthy Schools Whole School Review and Hampshire Healthy School status is confirmed for the next two years, Congratulations on our commitment to the improvements of the health and well-being of our school community. Thank you to Mrs Jacques and Mrs Bannister who have put in a lot of hard work into collating the portfolio for assessment.

Golden book

We would like to say a huge 'well done' to all of the children who have been in the Golden Book this term. Adults all around school have been noticing exemplary citizenship; here are a few examples of ways that children have made a positive contribution to our school community:

- Being courteous to other children and adults
- Taking the initiative to be helpful without being asked
- Taking time to help other children and encourage them when they face a challenge
- Being thoughtful and kind to other children and adults
- Being caring and supportive towards other children
- Being self-motivated to get things done
- Trying new things even though they thought they might not enjoy it
- Making good choices when faced with a challenging situation
- Joining in with enthusiasm and going above and beyond expectations
- Showing commitment and reliability to regular jobs that help others

We look forward to seeing many more children in our Golden Book in 2019!

Events through the Spring term

Coming home today is an 'Events through the term' document. Please take a look and make a note of anything you are interested in attending, especially the parent-teacher meetings in March.

Performances collections

Thank you so much for your generosity with donations after all the Christmas performances. We collected £394.31 which is absolutely amazing in total so our donations to our charities will have 1/3 of the funds each; Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance; Dog's Trust and EIA. Thank you very much.

House captains

The house captains had their end of term tea party with Mrs Sankey this week as a thank you for their commitment to their role. Next term the children will be assisting the Senior Leadership team with observations across the school of effective learning.

Attendance

Congratulations to the 84 children who received a 100% attendance certificate for the Autumn term. The winner of the Book Token for 100% was Blake in Owl class.

December attendance %

Dragonfly 96.1	Ladybird 96.8	Woodpecker 95.8	Owl 97.4
Koala 97.2	Otter 97.6	Panda 96.0	
Dolphin 92.9	Panther 96.1		

School total for December 96.2%

Christmas Fayre

A HUGE thank you to everyone who made the Christmas Fayre so successful recently - the Friends of the School and all the parents for all their hard work and time setting up the Santa's grotto and the stalls; the staff and children for their hard work over the week designing and making their Christmas decorations; Father Christmas for coming from Lapland and letting the children tell him their Christmas wishes; all the parents who donated bottles, chocolates, raffle prizes, books and toys; to those who helped clear away at the end of the afternoon, and to everyone who came and spent money to buy things. The fayre was a great success. In total we raised £1270 which is a massive achievement. Fantastic! How we intend to spend this money will be explained in the New Year.

Our first edition of the Harestock school newspaper

This term, a team of seven budding journalists, have produced a newspaper for you to read. We have given the eldest sibling a copy to take home. Under the guidance of Mrs Sankey (Editor-in-Chief) the children decided on which news articles to be in the newspaper then collected the information. The children have spent many hours producing this newspaper, over their lunchtimes. Mrs Sankey is incredibly impressed with the children's commitment to their role and with the finished newspaper. A fantastic achievement. The Newspaper club hope you enjoy reading the articles in their first edition and even completing the Christmas fun activities. Their 2nd edition will be with you at the end of the Spring term.

School Choir

The school choir has been amazing this term., singing in Winchester, twice, and at a residential home for the elderly on Chilbolton Avenue. A huge thank you to Mrs Butler and Mrs Clements for organising these performances in the community as well as choir performance on Sunday 23rd December at the March Hare pub for a performance at 6.15pm. Then Santa arrives.....

Steve Brine MP Christmas Card Competition 2018

Seven of our pupils were finalists in this competition and received a certificate for producing an awesome painting. The pupils were Abigail, Eliana, Sophia, Jasmine, Alex, Chloe and Kirie. Well done.

Sweets and cakes as gifts for classes

As we are a Healthy School and although a very kind gesture, please do not send in sweets/cakes when it is your child's birthday or as a leaving gift. Thank you.

Wishing everyone a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

INFANT CLASSES INFORMATION (Year R, 1 and 2)

Year 1 & Year 2 Nativity

On Tuesday and Thursday this week the Infants performed their nativity, 'Sleepy Shepherd', to parents and other relatives/friends. All the children were great at singing; the performers acted their parts really well and the narrators were fantastic. The nativity photo of the narrators and the Christmas Story characters has been taken for the Daily Echo.

Year R performances

On Thursday the children performed their dress rehearsal to the Year 1 and 2 children. All the children enjoyed the show. The Year R children were great on Thursday morning and it was lovely to see so many parents having a 'cuppa' and a mince pie before the show started. Well done to the children for their speaking, singing and actions. They did so well after only one term at school. They learnt the words off by heart to many songs and all were sung so well. Thank you to the choir for compiling the backing track for Away in a Manger. We are all very proud of them. The nativity photo has been taken for the Daily Echo.

JUNIOR CLASSES INFORMATION

Chess club

Ten children have been frequently coming to Chess club run by Mrs Sankey once a week this term over a lunchtime. Some children have won a few of their games now and earned a chess challenge badge, their first or second gold spot and even a fluffy mascot. New dates for the Spring term will be displayed in cloakrooms for the children at the start of next term.

Junior Concert

On Wednesday the Juniors performed their concerts to parents and other relatives/ friends. The dress rehearsal and both evening concerts were brilliant! The children sang beautifully. We were immensely proud of each and every one of the children; we are sure you are too. They all should have a huge sense of achievement. We really appreciate all the kind words spoken to us after the junior concerts saying how brilliant the children were and also thanking the staff for their hard work and support.

Year 5 Swimming

After Christmas, starting Thursday 17th of January, all Year 5 children will go swimming. It will be ten weeks of swimming lessons for most children at the River Park Leisure Centre. Miss Barrett and Mrs Kent will be escorting the Year 5 children each week. The children will travel to the leisure centre by coach in the morning and arrive back to school at about 11.30am. If your child is in Year 5 and you can help with coming along, please contact the office. Thank you to the parents who have already offered help during these sessions.

We are planning on taking the Year 4 swimming for five weeks in the Summer term using the Sports Premium funding to enable this to happen.

Year 5/6 parents

On Wednesday 9th January the children will be having internet safety sessions with Coram Life Education and they will be taking part in a unit called bCyberwise. **A parent information session for parents of Year 3- Year 6 children will be held at 2.45pm that day in the After School Club room until 3.15pm.** Please contact the school office if you wish to attend and learn more about being Cyber-wise!

Homework club

Homework club will be starting again from Friday 11th January, each week 3.15pm until 4pm. The children will be in the IT suite and dismissed from Otter/Dolphin cloakroom area. Mrs Clements with Mrs Garabette / Mrs Sankey will be supervising this club. Please contact the office if your child requires a place and we will let you know about the waiting list.

ATTACHMENTS

Spring term events through the term

Friday 25th January - Film Night in the hall after school

Friday 8th February Alfred and Walker bake sale

Friday 22nd March Infant and Junior Discos 5.15pm - 6.15pm and 6.30pm - 7.30pm

WEBSITE UPDATE

Koala, Otter, Panda, Dolphin, Panther, Whole School and After School Club blogs. School clubs page.

REMINDERS

First day back Monday 7th January 2019

School place for Sept 2019 Year R

Are you (or someone else you know) looking for a school place for your son/daughter to start school in Year R in September 2019? We have another Open afternoon for parents to come and look round Year R and other classrooms and find out about what a great school we are. It is Wednesday 9th January at 9.30am and 11am. We look forward to welcoming potential new parents (and children) to Harestock.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

Christmas Services at St Barnabas Church

Carols at Kings Barton - 18th December - 6:30 pm

Join us this Christmas for Carols at the new Kings Barton housing estate. We'll be meeting near to where the show home office is.

Join us for a festive sing-a-long to some Carols as well as FREE festive refreshments. A great chance to get to know your neighbours and be a part of the newly formed community.

Carols on the Green - Friday 21st December - 6 pm

Join us for a festive sing a long on the big screen on the green outside St Barnabas. We're getting together with the other churches in the area to put together this ever popular community event. There'll also be free festive refreshments as well as a short Christmas message.

Crib and Christingle Service - 24th December 4:00 pm

Join us for a magical re-telling of the Christmas Story at St Barnabas. Ever popular and ideal for families and children. Children come dressed up in your favourite nativity character and take part in our nativity scene or borrow some of our nativity dress up.

We'll also have some beautiful well known carols and candle-lit christingles at the end of the service.

Does your child play a musical instrument in school or out of school?

For those children who learn to play a musical instrument, have you considered joining an ensemble? The evidence shows that children who regularly play in a group are less likely to give up and make faster progress on their instruments. Hampshire Music Service provides around 70 Area and County ensembles dotted around Hampshire, with something for everyone, from beginners to the highest level. The nearest Area pyramids of ensembles to Harestock meet at Henry Beaufort and provide a wide range of groups for wind, brass, percussion and string players. Youngsters are encouraged to come along and try a group before committing. Find out more here:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/hampshireremusic/ensembles>