

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER EDITION



WORLD WAR 2 COOKING

Synergy Governor and HRPS Local School Committee Chair, Mrs Alison Whittaker, kindly joined out Year 6 class recently to help them prepare some magnificent Trench Stew and Rock Cakes. The children (and staff) were dressed in traditional 40s attire and looked fantastic as they showed off their cooking and baking skills. The results were delicious (apart from the Rock Cake that had a little too much baking powder in – the difference between table and teaspoons has never been more apparent!)

PARENTS EVENING

Thank you to all of the parents and carers who visited school before half-term to chat to your children's teachers. Having so many engaged parents makes such a difference to the education of the children, just as knowing that we have your support makes a difference to us as educators.

NATIONAL DWARFISM DAY

The school was turned green for the day! As well as raising awareness, Dwarfism Day raised £156 for Little People UK. Thank you for getting involved and supporting a magnificent charity.

FOOTBALL FINALS

Teams of boys and girls both represented the school at local football finals (see last month's newsletter to read about how they reached these finals). Whilst none of our teams won their finals, the children represented the school superbly. They demonstrated excellent sportsmanship, teamwork and determination. The children were a pleasure to take out and should be very proud of themselves.

NEW STARTERS - 2025

There is still space in Reception 2025! If you, or anybody you know, has a child who is starting school in September, please let them know that we will happily provide a one-to-one tour of the school and answer any questions that they have about the education we offer.

TAG RUGBY

Our tag rugby teams also represented the school wonderfully recently. They showed tenacity and dedication to pick up some winners' medals and should be incredibly proud of their efforts.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Mrs Straw on becoming a grandma for the first time!





REMEMBRANCE

Remembrance Day was perfectly observed in school. The behaviour of the children was sublime and the reflections that they made as they walked inside were meaningful and poignant. Our Year 6 class showed their respect publicly by laying poppies and crosse at the war memorial in the village.



DIARY DATES

Christmas term is a very busy, exciting one. Please see this reminder of some of the things that we have planned:

Event	Date(s) & Times
Assessment Week	Wb 02.12.24
KS1 Nativity Dress Rehearsal	09.12.24 - 1:30pm
KS1 Nativity	10.12.24 – 9am
	11.12.24 – 1:30pm
KS1 Christmas Party	12.12.24
Lower KS2 Christmas Party	16.12.24
Upper KS2 Christmas Party	17.12.24
Christmas Dinner Day	18.12.24
Christmas Church Services	19.12.24
	KS1: 10:30am
	KS2: 2pm
Carols Around the Tree	20.12.24
Last Day of Term	20.12.24

HOUSES

This is a reminder that our school is split into 4 houses, red, blue, yellow or green. In the past, these were named after castles / abbeys, but we thought it was time for a change. Following nominations from the children, we have renamed our school houses after planets (and therefore also after Roman Gods).

Neptune (blue) god of sea, rivers and horses Venus (green) god of love and victory

Mars (red) god of war and protection

god of farming and wealth

STARGAZING

Mr Beckwith, Mrs Ruddy, Mrs Mallaby and Miss Louwrens braved the elements to take our Year 5 class to Hadrian's Wall and, later, Twice Brewed's Stargazing centre. Visiting Vindolanda Museum and walking along Hadrian's Wall was a marvellous way to start a day which only got better. Upon arrival at the stargazing centre, things were looking cloudy. Literally. Luckily, however, the clouds parted, and the children got a wonderful view of the stars. The children stayed the night and, despite not getting much sleep, all reported having an excellent time.



PERSONAL, SOCIAL, HEALTH AND ECONOMIC EDUCATION

Currently, the children are learning about Celebrating Differences in PSHE. This topic looks at all of the ways that people are different. This includes celebrating the differences in everyone, making new friends, different families and managing conflict within families, giving and receiving compliments, challenging assumptions, first impressions, challenging stereotypes and understanding bullying. It is a very worthwhile topic and will help our children gain a better understanding of the wider world.

As always, if you would like more information about what your child will be learning about in PSHE, please contact the class teacher on Class Dojo.

HOMEWORK

The homework that is set in school is designed to support children's learning through practise, pre-teaching or consolidation tasks. Our weekly homework expectations are:

Times Tables Rockstars / Numbots

Spelling Shed

Century

Reading – please continue to add your comments on BoomReader so that teachers are able to follow the progress that your children are making at home.



SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding is a crucial part of school life, as such it will form a regular part of newsletters moving forward. In this issue we'll look at Christmas gifts and safeguarding:

As Christmas approaches, many children will be excited about new toys, games and devices. To ensure these gifts are safe and suitable, here are a few quick tips:

- ·Check age ratings: Always check the age ratings on games, toys and apps to ensure they're appropriate for your child. Remember, they are there for a reason!
- ·Set up safeguards: For tech gifts, set up parental controls and monitor online activity to keep your child safe.
- ·Be careful with vouchers: If giving vouchers for online games, remind children not to share codes or account details and supervise any purchases to avoid overspending or exposure to inappropriate content.

PARKING

Please can parents / carers remember to park considerately when dropping children off and picking them up. It is important that enough space is left for emergency service vehicles to be able to pass by cars if necessary. Please do not drive into school unless there is an emergency, this includes parking in the small car park at the bottom of the drive and the main car park at the top of the drive. Please also do not park on any grass around the school. Please remember that there are children present at the start and end of the school day.



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