

NEWSLETTER

Friday 25th October 2019

Headteacher's Update

Dear Parents/Carers

The first term of this academic year has flown by! We have packed so much learning and fun into the last 7 ½ weeks! Several of the year groups have been out of school on visits this term, and some have had visitors into school to enrich the children's learning. Many year groups have taken advantage of our wonderful grounds and surroundings and enjoyed outdoor learning. This term we have had much to celebrate in sport and many children, in different year groups, have taken part in various events. We have had particular success in running, football and map quest this term, as well as entering gymnastics for the first time. Well done to all children who have taken part in the various events and proudly represented our school. Over the last weeks, we have had parents' evening and many of you have been into school to attend a curriculum event. Thank you for your continued support at these events. A huge thank you to Team Harpur PTFA and everyone who helped with the Halloween Discos. What a great end to a busy term.



Year 6 World War 2 event

Year 6 have been learning about World War 2 this term and have visited the National Holocaust Centre and found out about the Kinder Transport as well as reading Goodnight Mister Tom. This week children took part in role play, made gas mask boxes, wrote postcards and made bread pudding following a ration book recipe. Families joined us for an exhibition of the children's work.



Year 2 – What’s brilliant about Buxton?

On Monday, Year 2 had a wonderful morning visiting the Buxton Pump Room where they met the Well Woman, Mary! They got to take, taste and test the water. Then they built their own model of The Crescent using Lego. We were the first school to use this facility and Learn Buxton said that the children were fantastic.



Welly Wednesday

Reception and Year 1 have enjoyed their Welly Wednesdays this term. This week, Year 1 loved gathering natural materials to make their own woodland characters. Thank you to all our volunteers for all your support over the last half term. It’s been wonderful to have your help.



Nursery’s Special Visitors

Sarah and her guide dog, Ushi, visited nursery this week. Sarah told us all about Ushi’s job and Ushi demonstrated how she helps Sarah day to day.



Year 3 Autumn Watch

Year 3 have enjoyed their Autumn topic. They made the most of the sunshine and created some amazing ‘Land Art’ installations after studying sculptor, Andy Goldsworthy. His work uses materials from nature, which he photographs. The children have used natural materials around school to construct their own art.





Jungle Jo

Reception and Year 1 children loved their visit from Jungle Jo. She taught them all about the layers of a Rainforest and shared seven of the creatures that could be found there. The children loved their time handling the creatures and some were braver than others - including the staff! Well done, children and thank you, #JungleJo!



Year 5 Outdoor Adventures

Year 5 have learned how to survive like Bear Grylls and had a brilliant time at Whitehall. Activities included shelter building and testing, indoor and outdoor climbing, orienteering, hiking and ropes course. The children used lots of learning for life skills such as team building, confidence, communication and overcoming fears.



Year 4 What the Peak District has to offer

Year 4 have been exploring the best of what the Peak District has to offer. They have drawn influence from local artists to create their own pastel drawings of landscapes found in the Peak District.

Year 4 have also been delving into the book, 'A pebble in my pocket', which has given them the inspiration to create both some lovely writing and art. All Year 4 pupils were involved in a celebration assembly in which they performed a range of songs and poems linked to what we have been learning about.



Macmillan World's Biggest Coffee Morning

Thank you to everyone who supported the Macmillan coffee morning in September. We raised £130 and a special thank you to Mrs. Bunting and everyone who donated their cakes and time to come along.

Finally thank you for supporting our wonderful and have an enjoyable half term break.
Mrs. V Giliker (Headteacher)

Class or Year	Next term's learning journey topic and books of interest
Nursery	'Celebrations' – 'Kipper's Birthday Party', or books that relate to any celebration.
Flamingos and Elephants	'All around the world', books and stories from around the world
Miss Marsh	'Where do the leaves go to in Winter?' We will share a selection of story books linked to the Seasonal changes which occur in Autumn and Winter.
Year 2	'What was Buxton like over 100 years ago?'. We will be reading a range of books based around the Victorians
Year 3	'Who First Lived in Britain?'. 'Stone Age Boy' by Satoshi Katamura
Year 4	'Who First Lived in Britain?' 'Poppy Fields' Michael Morpurgo and 'Stone Girl Bone Girl': 'The Story of Mary Anning of Lyme Regis' – Laurence Anholt
Year 5	'Why should gunpowder, treason and plot never be forgotten?' 'Wonder' by R.J. Palacio
Year 6	'What makes the USA so special?' 'War Horse' by Michael Morpurgo, 'Holes' by Louis Sachar and 'A Christmas Caro'l by Charles Dickens

Early Years News

Nursery Places

The school nursery caters for children aged 3-4 and rising threes (children can start during the term in which they will have their third birthday). Sessions are from 9am until 12 noon, and 12.30pm until 3.30pm. Children can use their 15 hours 'universal' with us, as well as the full 30 hours for those eligible. 'Playdays' are able to provide Breakfast and After School provision for nursery children from 7.30am until 9am, and 3.30 until 6pm. If you would like to know more about our nursery or book a place for later in the year,



please get in touch with the school office or email info@harpurhill.derbyshire.sch.uk We are now taking names for after Christmas, as well as Easter and September 2020 starters. If new families would like to come and have a chat, we welcome visits at any time and this can be organised through the school office. Please feel free to tell others about our nursery.

Safety around the School grounds

Scooters and Bikes

We would like to encourage pupils to walk, cycle or scoot to school; however, please could we ask that children take care on the roads outside school, and make sure they dismount as they enter the school grounds. Thank you.

Traffic and Safety Please could we remind you to park safely and responsibly near school. We have had reports of parents parking cars that have blocked/obstructed the roundabouts outside school and this makes it dangerous for children and other drivers.

The Governors have also discussed the issue of parking and traffic, and have asked for the following reminders to go out to parents/carers:

- Do not drive beyond the bollard after 8.30am or before 4pm. The bollard is there to prevent traffic on the school site in order to keep the children safe.
- Do not park on the area outside the Nursery near the school kitchen.
- Do not drive down to the main entrance when dropping off children. Please use the car park and 'drop off zone'.
- Please vacate the car park as soon as you have dropped off your children to allow more parents access to parking spaces. - Reverse parking into a space is safer.
- Please park considerately on the school car park and roads outside school
- Do not park on pavements or block neighbours' drive-ways. Please do not block entrances or obscure other drivers' views.
- Do not drive more than 5mph on school premises and ensure that driving especially reversing is done with extreme care. Thank you for your support and understanding.



Food bank collections

Miss Violet Colley - Young European International Junior Miss Buxton is collecting food items until Christmas for the High Peak Food Bank.

If you can spare any tinned food, long life milk/juice, pasta, rice, instant mash, tea bags, coffee, sugar, cereals, jam, biscuits, toilet rolls, hand wash, shampoo, shower gel etc., Violet will be very grateful for your kind donation.

The collection box is located in the school office together with a list of suggested suitable items.

Thank you

Sport

We have had a busy and fantastic first half term for Sports here at Harpur.

We started with the Buxton Schools' Cross Country event back in September which we won comfortably and therefore qualified for the High Peak Finals!



We had the Year 5/6 Football Tournament in which our boys' teams were frustrated by the woodwork and great goalkeeping. However, our girls' team finished 3rd overall taking home Bronze medals!



Some of our Year 3/4 girls competed at the High Peak School Sports Partnership Gymnastics competition. All our girls performed terrifically and can't wait to compete again next year!



Next up was our Year 5/6 MapQuest event at Oakland's Manor. We had great fun in the rain and one of our teams finished 2nd!



Administration

Communication

The school website lists our diary dates. You can sync the school calendar with your mobile phone to keep you up to date of our planned school activities simply by using our mobile app.

Head Lice

We have had a few head lice in school. The break from school will be a good time to check and treat your child's hair if necessary in readiness for the new term. Thank you.

Uniform

We would like to ask all parents to kindly make sure that all items of clothing are clearly marked with your child's name. We have a lot of lost property and find it difficult, without names, to find the owner.

Dates for your diary (subject to change)

Friday 25 th October	End of Term	School closes at 3.30pm
Monday 4 th November	Staff INSET day	
Tuesday 5 th November	Start of a new term	
Thursday 7 th November	Tea & Toy Group – Nursery building Children are very welcome but not essential! There will be toys and snacks for the little ones (please supervise your own children) with plenty of tea and coffee for the adults	For anyone who fancies a chat, just come along, make yourself a brew and have a good natter! Thursdays from 9.15am to 11am £1 voluntary donation to cover snacks/brews
Thursday 7 th November	Cross Country	High Peak finals at Fairfield
Tuesday 12 th November	Mountain Rescue	To visit the Jolly Giraffes
Friday 15 th November	Children in Need	Children may come to school dressed in pyjamas, (optional) donations will be kindly received
Tuesday 19 th November	NHS sight test	Nurse to visit our Reception children
Friday 6 th December	Christmas Fair	4 – 6 pm
Tuesday 10 th December	Infant Nativity	At 9.20am parents to be invited
Tuesday 10 th December	A guide to the USA	At 2.30pm Year 6 – parents to be invited
Wednesday 11 th December	Infant Nativity	At 5.45pm information to follow
Thursday 12 th December	Learning for Life awards	KS1 at 9.10am, KS2 at 10.00 Parents to be invited
Friday 13 th December	Christmas Jumper Day	Children may come to school wearing their Christmas jumper (optional)
Friday 13 th December	Church concert for our choir and musicians	At 9.30am at St John's Church information to follow
Thursday 19 th December	Christmas Party	Whole school
Friday 20 th December	End of Term	School Closes at 3.30
Monday 6 th January	Staff INSET day	
Tuesday 7 th January	Start of a new term	