



Hardwick Community Primary School Newsletter

13th February 2015

Dear Parents and Guardians

We hope you all have a happy half term, and the children get a rest, and a chance to recover from the various illnesses that have been around. We'd also like to remind you that for the final day of our book week tomorrow we are having a dressing up day with a fairy tale theme. This information went out in our last newsletter to give you plenty of notice but has possibly now been forgotten! Many thanks for your support of the after-school book fair this week, we hope your children now have plenty of things to read over the half term break.

Andy Matthews & Ruth French (Co-Headteachers)

Reception news.



We have had a great term in reception with the children making progress in all areas of the curriculum. We have enjoyed travelling around the world being explorers visiting the Arctic, Antarctica and China. They particularly enjoyed their work about Chinese New Year, and working hard in their role play Chinese restaurants! Next half term we will be visiting the rainforest for two weeks and then going under the water for our 'Under the Sea' topic. For our rainforest topic we will be making musical instruments so it would

be great if you could collect and bring in any bottles, yogurt pots, tissue boxes and kitchen roll or wrapping paper tubes. We look forward to seeing you all after half term.



The Reception Team

Year 1/2 news

Year 1 and 2 have had a fantastic half term exploring the adventurous world of pirates, and creating our own characters and treasure island settings! The children have learnt lots about map work this half term and created some great treasure maps using some key features, as well as pieces of art showing pirate ships out at sea. Pirate Days at both the Hardwick and Blue School sites were a huge success and great fun for everyone involved – we hope you have all been making lots of hardtack biscuits at home! Thank you to those who have come to parent consultations this week to reflect on the work your children have done so far this year. We are now looking ahead to our next topic, Superheroes, which will begin after the half term holidays. We will be thinking about how to use our powers to save the planet, designing superhero outfits using our knowledge of how different materials bend and stretch, and creating pieces of superhero comic-style pop art. We look forward to seeing all our caped crusaders again after the break.



Dinner Money

The cost of school dinners for next half term is as follows

<u>Daily</u>	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Half Term</u>
£2.15	£10.75	£53.75

We would be grateful if you could ensure any outstanding dinner money for this half term is settled up by the end of the school day tomorrow please, and ensure that all dinners are paid for in advance next half term. If not, children will need to bring a packed lunch until all outstanding debts are cleared.

Year 3/4 news

Year 3/4 will be sad to end their Wild West topic this half term. The children have thoroughly enjoyed learning about Native Americans and European settlers, writing information texts about the Gold Rush and Cowboys and writing short stories inspired by Native American folklore. They were especially excited to celebrate their learning with a fantastic Wild West day, which included lassoing, line dancing and making Native American jewellery, buffalo hide stories and sand paintings. A great day was had by all and we fully appreciated the efforts you went to for their costumes! The start of next half term marks the beginning of our play rehearsals. As you may already know, this year's Y3/4 production will be Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. It has been great fun watching the year 4s audition and be so confident in front of an audience. For those that are given large parts, we do encourage them to learn their lines over half term as we will only have 4 weeks of rehearsing! Our play has lent itself to the much-anticipated topic of 'Chocolate'- something the children are very excited about. We will also be starting our preparations for the year 4 trip to Grafham Water and would like to remind parents that there will be an information meeting after school on Thursday 26th February. We hope you enjoy your half term break. Weekly spellings will be in a slightly different format next half term so there will be no lists to learn over the holiday. Please keep encouraging your children to read a wide range of books and practise times tables

Thanks, The
Year 3/4 team



Year 5/6 news

Year 5 and 6 are continuing to work hard and are very much enjoying this year's Book Week (a BIG thank-you to those of you who supplied us with 'shelfies' and who supported us by visiting the Traveling Book Fair). All the children have enjoyed revisiting some of the more familiar fairy-tales and also discovering stories that they were previously unfamiliar with; some amusing, some a little gruesome but all fun to explore. Their collection of news reports, alternative stories and fairy-tale character 'shelfies' will be on display in school next half term for you to share. As part of our 'Tomorrow's World' topic, we will be studying the planet; its climate, vegetation and weather, but also the environmental impact of human settlement and energy consumption. To kick this topic off, Vanessa Bowman from the British Antarctic Survey visited us this week and delivered an enjoyable hands-on workshop that the children enjoyed. We would like to thank all those parents who came to see us at parent evenings this week; and for the support you are providing your child with their grammar homework tasks and in learning their times tables. We hope you are able to access the Learning Platform to find dates, reading lists, homework tasks and learning support etc. and that you are finding this information helpful. Year 6 parents might like to know that SATs week begins on Monday 11th May; we are not trying to cause any anxiety by sharing this date with you now, but just wish to make you aware that this will be a busy week for your child as you may be planning other out-of-school activities. We hope you all have a fun and restful half-term holiday.

8.50 Drop off session at the Hardwick Site

Can we please remind you that our early morning drop-off sessions are open from **8.50** each day. A number of children at the Hardwick site are being dropped off much earlier than this, and there is no adult available to look after them until just the 10 minutes before school starts. We offered this service for initially just very small number of families who needed this support when we changed the times of our school day, but are now finding more families are leaving their children without prior arrangement. Please bring them into the school no earlier than 8.50 and ensure they have been handed over to the adult in charge in the foyer before you leave.

Guitar Lessons

Our guitar teacher, Mr Cory, may have some available slots for the forthcoming school term. If your child is interested in learning the guitar, please contact Mr Cory via email at jimmypagefans@hotmail.com. Please note that if you have already joined a waiting list, then your child will be the first to be offered lessons. Please include:- pupils name, parent/guardian name, school name, lesson duration requirements, home telephone number & mobile phone number.