



# Hardwick & Cambourne Community Primary School Newsletter

26th September 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Firstly I'd like to welcome you all back after your summer holidays. The staff are refreshed and certainly planning lots of exciting learning opportunities for your children, many of which have already happened. I'd also like to welcome two new teachers to the school Mrs Angelides who is teaching in Year 5/6 at Cambourne and Miss Nemes who is teaching across both campuses. I'm sure that both of them will love working with your children during the year. I trust that you've all had the chance to meet with your children's teaching teams over the past couple of weeks and that you are well aware of the systems in place for this year. Some of you might have noticed that Miss Galloway has not been with her class recently, she is currently in hospital with a respiratory issue. I'm sure you'll join us in wishing her a speedy recovery.

We've changed a few things within the school, such as the school rules and some lunchtime organisation, both of which should make your children's time at school even better, and you might want to read our new positive behaviour policy on the school website. We've also welcomed to the school Pabulum as our new caterers, and the feedback from the children has been that lunchtime is much improved as an experience from last year. You'll hear more about these changes as the year progresses.

One recent change in regard to parental communication has been to incorporate a diary dates calendar of school events into the school website. This is found using the 'dates for your diary' tab on the top menu bar. This will be quickly updated with new dates for trips, consultations and special days as soon as they are set by school. Hopefully this will enable you all to feel better informed of upcoming events. You'll also notice that our term dates and closure days are also displayed here. This includes a closure day on the 19th of July 2019. This is different to the date published in the reception welcome pack in May.

I hope your children have a great start to the new term and I hope to see you all during the parent consultations during the week of the 15th October. Meeting sheets will be put out by class doors from Monday 1st October for you to book your slot. Alternatively please ring the school office to arrange a meeting time.

Andy Matthews

## **Nursery news**

Welcome back all! A huge well done to all our new starters who have settled in to nursery routines so quickly. We are very impressed! The children have been busy getting to know each other and making new friends. We have been talking about our families and emotions. Thank you to all who have provided photos for our new display board- the children love looking at them. We have been busy preparing our nursery garden for winter, chopping down raspberry canes, weeding, and planting bulbs. As the mornings become crisp and cool we will be learning about Autumn. The children are welcome to bring in any autumnal treasures they find- you can never have enough conkers! Thank you for your ongoing support. Miss Croft and Mrs Wisby.

## **Reception news**

Reception have had a great start to the year and we are so pleased and proud of how well the children have settled into school life and taken to new routines. We have started our first topic, 'All About Me' so look out for our self-portraits around the classrooms and cloakrooms. We are enjoying learning about each other, our families and making new friends. We have been busy both inside and outside as we have been gardening and exploring the school. The children have enjoyed Library sessions and PE and learning is now well underway as we have started phonics and maths. It has been great getting to know all the new parents and we would like to thank you all for all your support and positivity. Here's to a busy fun filled first half term!

## **Year 1/2 news**

Year 1 and year 2 have had a very 'egg'citing start to the school term. They had to search the school field for fossils and they stumbled across four dinosaur eggs! The children are currently writing to Professors in America to find out what they should do next. The children have enjoyed researching different dinosaurs and using the facts they have learnt to write non chronological reports. Art has followed the dinosaur theme and the children have been experimenting with tools to make printed dinosaur pictures. All the children (and teachers) are VERY excited about our trip to Paradise Wildlife Park next week where we will be coming face to face with some dinosaurs.

## **Year 3/4 news**

We have had a wonderful start to the term here in Year 3/4 and so much has already happened. Our trip to Hunstanton was a huge success – the weather was just perfect and helped give us a sunny outlook for the whole day. It all began with learning about the wonders of star fish and crabs in the Sea Life Centre, followed up by the opportunity to touch them (the children didn't need asking twice). Then we headed around the centre and gained a better understanding of other marine animals across various ecosystems of the world. This was all followed up with fish and chips in the Town Hall. Look out for the full day's write up in Hardwick Happenings. Back to daily school life - by now you should have had information about this term's homework and Grafham Water (Year 4 only). If you haven't had one/either of these, please see your child's teacher. Also, please watch out for the parents consultations which will run during the week of 15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> October. We want to say what a fantastic start we have had here and the teaching team can't wait to share the children's successes with you over the year ahead. As always, come and see us if you have any questions, comments or concerns.

## **Year 5/6 news**

We have enjoyed a smooth and purposeful start to the school year. The children are beginning to settle well into the routines of Y5/6, their individual classes and the expectations of homework for upper key stage 2. Our topic, Fighting for Freedom, is well underway and each class has enjoyed learning about Victorian childhood as the basis for understanding the 'fight for freedom' that subsequent generations pursued. It was lovely to meet so many of you at the 'Meet the teacher' meeting. Thank you for your support, especially with regard to homework and helping your child take responsibility for organising themselves and their resources. Hopefully, Year 6 parents, you have received the letter and payment card for the residential trip to Hilltop, next summer. There will also be a day trip to London later this term. Please may we remind you that the platform, It's Learning, has all the important dates on and many, many resources to help you help your child with their learning. Username: parent. Password: Hardwick1.

We have also elected our Pupil governors for this year, so well done to Bea Cole at Hardwick and Anna Gosling at Cambourne who will be representing the pupils views to the governors for this year.

If we can be of any further help, please do let us know.

## **Vacancy for both a part time school secretary and a school cleaner**

We have two vacancies on the school website at the moment. One for a part time secretary (two days a week) and another for a cleaner to work either before or after school. Both jobs are advertised in full on the EMP website and on the [school's website](#). Alternatively, if you are interested please ring the school office for more details.

## **Ethics council news**

We want to start with a big thank you for all of your efforts over the last school year. We made an impressive £100 to help families in Syria, through The British Red Cross, on our Tin-can Tombola in the summer fair, which brings the total money raised by and for the Ethics Council to an amazing £1300! Thank you to all parents and children for supporting all the events across the year. This year there are lots of events to look forward to:

4th October: Harvest - Money raised goes towards looking after our sponsored child, Youssef, in Egypt

12th-23rd November: Switch-off fortnight

14th December: Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children

4th-8th March: Waste Week

15th March: Red Nose Day for Comic Relief

## **Harvest festival**

Our Harvest festival will be next week on Wednesday 4th October on both campuses. Please send your child in with produce for the festival in the morning and we will be selling the produce in boxes after school to raise funds for a good cause.

## **Lunches**

Summer term menus are now available to view via the [school website's school meals page](#).

**Dinner Money** - the cost of school dinners for next half term is as follows:

Daily Weekly Half Term

**£2.30 £11.50 £82.80**

Please ensure all dinners are paid for in advance, we not able to provide lunches without payment.

## **Twitter**

We now have a large number of you following the school on Twitter and we are starting to use this as a very quick and immediate means of informing you of school events. If you've not already joined please start following @HardwickHead

