

Harting Primary School Newsletter



Message from the Head

Last week I found myself staying up late, rising earlier and checking the internet regularly. This was due to the weather warnings! As a Head, I will try to keep the school open but there may be circumstances when I will need to close it one day. This will not be a decision I will take lightly but, for me, the safety of families and staff is paramount. With this in mind, I went home early on the 'night of sleet' and wrote a document giving guidance to parents on how I intend to approach inclement weather closures. It is now on the school website for you to see.

Please be assured that I will do my best to make considered decisions about school opening but I will only know about the conditions close to the school if I am there, via others or weather reports early morning. I respect that parents will have to make their own decisions but will also try to bring the children in, even if a little later than usual.

I am hoping for snow only at weekends when we can all enjoy getting out the toboggans!

Best wishes

Fiona

Christmas service collection

Thank you for your generous donations to the retiring collection at our Christmas service. We have banked £292 to be shared between our sister school in Moyamba and the Rural Refugee Network. I am currently seeking advice on how best to distribute the funds as sending money to Sierra Leone is difficult to ensure it reaches our school.

Staffing

It is with sadness that I write to let you know that Abi Jonas will be leaving the school at Easter. She is keen to return to full-time teaching, now her children are older, and has been offered a post as an Early Years teacher at a school in Hampshire. It is with mixed feelings that she is leaving - excitement at a new challenge yet sad to say 'Goodbye'.

Ros Stamper has kindly offered to teach full-time during the Summer term. This, I believe, will provide the reception children with stability and allow them to continue to make progress.

4 o'clock services

The church continue to run their services for families. Details and dates are on the school noticeboards. All welcome.

Train to teach

Attached is information about teacher training, locally, which may be of interest to parents.

Outdoor clothing

Please ensure that your children have remembered their coat every day, and are wearing sufficient clothes, as they play outside as much as possible. Last week there were a few children wearing shorts when the temperatures were below freezing, so complained of feeling cold, whilst others had no coat.

Children's Concert

Thank you to Jonathan Willcocks who gave Beacon and Torberry class the opportunity to sing the song he had composed for Tuesday's concert in school. He came in on Friday afternoon to talk about the orchestra and teach the children the song - the world premiere.

The actual concert itself, was really enjoyed by the children - the narrator, also a magician, made the musical story a great part of the morning.



Open Mic - Roundhouse this Friday

Wrap up warm and come to the Roundhouse for a musical evening, led by our guitar teacher, Jamie West. Our IT technician, Rob Todd is also often there playing one of several stringed instruments. It's always a gentle, foot-tapping evening, for adults, with local musicians to entertain. Bring your own musical expertise to the evening or sit and enjoy! 7.30pm in the Roundhouse.

PTFA events

Please note the events added to the calendar

Please note the term times for the year in your diary so that children's learning at school is not broken by additional holidays or days out, which we cannot authorise.

Note: Inset days; PTFA events

Spring term dates 2017	
4.1.17	Back to school
6.1.17	'Read to Me' - parents welcome to read to children (2.30pm)
17.1.17	Chichester Festival Theatre Children's Music Concert (Torberry/Beacon)
20.1.17	Sharing assembly - Torberry/Beacon/Rother(2.30pm). All families welcome
	Open Mic - 7.30pm
3.2.17	Y5 Forest School starts
10.2.17	Y5 Forest School
	Sharing assembly - Downlands, Warren and Rother (2.30pm). All families welcome
	Harting players - evening performance in Roundhouse
17.2.17	Last day of half term
	Y5 Forest School
	'Read to Me' - parents welcome to read to children (2.30pm)
	PTFA cake sale
20.2.17	Half-term holiday
27.2.17	Back to school
2.3.17	World Book Day - 'Foxes'
	Downlands class trip
3.3.17	Y5 Forest School
Wk: 6.3.17	No teacher led clubs this week
6.3.17	Parents' evening
8.3.17	Parents' evening
10.3.17	Y5 Forest School
	Beacon - Voices for Freedom
	'Read to Me' - parents welcome to read to children (2.30pm)
13.3.17	Y5 Forest School
15.3.17	Rother Valley Debating competition
17.3.17	Y5 Forest School
24.3.17	Y5 Forest School
30.3.17	RV Arts Festival - day and evening performance
7.4.17	Last day of Spring term
	Easter Service Congregational Church 11am - all welcome
10.4.17	Easter holiday
24.4.17	Back to school
1.5.17	Bank holiday
26.5.17	Last day of half term
29.5.17	Harting Festivities/ half-term holiday
5.6.17	Inset day
6.6.17	Back to school
14.6.17	Sports day (tbc)
21.6.17	Reserve sports day (tbc)
23.6.17	Inset day
25.7.17	Last day of school year
26.7.17	Summer holiday starts

Key Harting values: love and respect
 'Love others as yourself'
 Worship Theme: Courage