

Harting Primary School Newsletter



Message from the Head

School budgetary constraints managed to eclipse Brexit news a couple of weeks ago as many Heads shared their concerns with parents. Like other schools, we have had to budget really carefully but remain solvent for a variety of reasons. Cuts, in real terms, do have an effect but in many ways austerity measures in other sectors make things really difficult for schools too.

The government flags up the need for schools to support children's mental well-being. We do this through paying for some play therapy provision; having a Learning Mentor; and by upholding a caring ethos.

Health service providers do struggle to provide early care for children with mental health needs so we aim to avoid making their time at primary school highly stressful and support all pupils. It would be so much easier if other support, from outside agencies, was available more readily.

We do, however, allocate most of our funds to staffing and choose experienced, capable staff. Of course, it would be lovely to have more. I hold on to the fact that our class sizes remain relatively small and that everyone within the school is extremely committed to the children's welfare and learning, with which I hope you agree.

If you have suggestions to help or have access to resources that would benefit the school we would be pleased to hear from you.

Best wishes,

Fiona

Spotlight on safeguarding

'Think you Know', a respected group, have created a new animation to help parents to:

- Explore websites and apps
- Initiate conversations about online safety
- Help children to identify adults who can help
- Be non-judgemental
- Supervise children's online activity
- Discuss how online actions can affect others
- Set 'SafeSearch' to limit content accessed by children
- Make use of parental controls

https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/jessie-and-friends?utm_source=Thinkuknow&utm_campaign=5c090ae51a-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_JESSIE_FRIENDS_LAUNCH_13_03_19&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_0b54505554-5c090ae51a-55389333

Key Harting values: love and respect
'Love others as yourself'
Worship Theme: Lord's prayer

World Book Day - cats!

Teachers were really impressed with the fantastic array of costumes and the ability of children to talk about how their outfit linked to the cat theme. Thank you for supporting them in this.

Netball tournament

Congratulations to our two teams for playing well in the MRC netball tournament. They came 2nd and 3rd. As always the children made us proud and Claudine Clarke returned to school saying what a wonderful afternoon it had been.

Parents' noticeboard

We are inundated with requests to advertise events and market charities on a daily basis. Clearly, we cannot spend time filtering which providers are bone fide or make recommendations. To avoid swamping you with additional information and overwhelming children with adverts in book bags we put fliers on the noticeboard in the pupils' entrance (sometimes called the 'airlock'). There are several items that might be interesting for you, including Easter holiday activities and care clubs - run by Aspire coaching and Diggers Pre-school. There is also information about a local parenting talk next week, which may be useful.

PTFA - clothes sale

Thank you to all involved with sorting clothes and dropping off bags - we are extremely grateful for all the efforts made for the children. The PTFA work hard for the school we are so fortunate to have such support.

School uniform sale

There will be school uniform available to buy at the front of school next week. This enables you to purchase summer uniform ahead of time at minimal cost.

Key dates for your diary

Note: Inset days; PTFA events; new dates/ information added to calendar
Sharing assemblies are for all families to attend, if they wish.

Holiday dates for 2019	
We respectfully ask that you log the dates of the school calendar in your diaries as legislation does not permit us to authorise leave unless there are exceptional circumstances. You are therefore asked to take family breaks in school holidays only. The school website has the Absence policy, should you need clarification.	
5.4.19	Last day of Spring term
8.4.19	Easter holiday
23.4.19	First day back after Easter
6.5.19	Bank holiday
27.5.19	Half-term holiday starts
3.6.19	First day back after half-term
21.6.19	INSET DAY
23.7.19	Last day of school year
24.7.19	Summer holiday starts

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Key events for Spring term

Spring Term 2019		
26.3.19	Pm	RV debate
28.3.19	Eve	RV Arts - dance
5.4.19	11am	Easter service (Led by and held in the Congregational church - all welcome)
		Last day of Spring term
Summer Term 2019		
12.6.19	Pm	Sports day (confirmed)
19.6.19	pm	Reserve Sports day (confirmed)
2.7.19	pm	<i>Leavers' service at Cathedral (tbc)</i>
11.7.19	6pm	School production
12.7.19	6pm	School production
		Last day of school year
24.7.19		Summer holiday starts

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