

Harting Primary School Newsletter



Message from the Head

We have loved having **all** our children in, this half-term, and it is a joy to see that they are working hard and making progress. I have been into many classrooms this week and it is good to see such positive attitudes, across the school. Long may this continue!

It is nearly the end of what has been a long half-term, in part because of all the new rules which we have had to maintain. The staff are really tired, as a result, and I am sure that the children are ready for a break too.

To date, none of the school community have COVID-19 during the term for which I am truly thankful. Thank you to all of you who have prudently had tests or self-isolated to protect us all. I ask that you continue to support us, both in your home lives and at school, to minimise the risk to the staff and other families.

Have a lovely break.

Best wishes,

Fiona

Local COVID restrictions

Across West Sussex our local COVID alert level is **medium**.

This means:

- you must not socialise in groups larger than six, indoors or outdoors (other than where a legal exemption applies)
- businesses and venues can continue to operate, in a COVID-secure manner, other than those that remain closed in law
- certain businesses are required to ensure customers only consume food and drink while seated, and must close between 10pm and 5am
- businesses and venues selling food for consumption off the premises can continue to do so after 10pm as long as this is through delivery service, click-and-collect or drive-through
- Schools, universities, nurseries and childcare remain open
- places of worship remain open, subject to the [rule of six](#)
- weddings and funerals can go ahead with restrictions on numbers of attendees
- exercise classes and organised sport can continue to take place outdoors, or indoors if the [rule of six](#) is followed

You must:

- [wear a face covering in those areas where this is mandated](#)

You should continue to:

- follow social distancing rules
- work from home where you can effectively do so

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

- when travelling, plan ahead or avoid busy times and routes. Walk or cycle if you can.

If you wish to check the COVID alert level outside of West Sussex you can enter the postcode on the [BBC website](#).

Rucksacks – to stay at home, please

Thank you to all of you who have helped us minimise the bulk of bags and items in school.

Departure

The 'Torberry parents' have already been informed that Jane Maybury will be leaving at the end of the term. Although sad to see her go, we wish her every happiness in her new home in Scotland.

This week we hope to recruit another teacher for the class. We are pleased to have had a strong field of candidates and have shortlisted several for interviews tomorrow. As soon as we can, we will let you know who will be the new teacher.

Texting app

We have just changed our texting service provider so please upload the App: This is the best way of ensuring that you receive texts from us.

Apple iPhone users, download the app

here: schoolgateway.co.uk/iosdownload

Android phone users, download the app

here: schoolgateway.co.uk/androiddownload

Please also ensure that the school have up-to-date contact details. Thank you for your help in advance.

PTFA fund raising -

This is the latest fund-raising event, which should prove to be fun:

Aim:

- to fill your class jar with the most pennies. The class with the most pennies **WINS!**
- **BUT** watch out for other classes sabotaging your chance to win!

How does it work?

- Each class has a glass jar outside their classroom
- BRONZE pennies ADD points
- SILVER coins TAKE AWAY points
- Each coin worth one point regardless of value
- Jars will be out for two weeks from Monday, 2nd November
- **PRIZE** for winning class!



Year 6 applications for secondary school

Applications for secondary school can be made from Monday, 7th September until mid-October. The closing date is **31st October**. Information on how to apply, from the West Sussex Admissions Team, will have been sent from the office this week.

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Do check your email account and look out for secondary school open evenings to help you and your child make a decision.

Reception places for academic year 2021-22

Families are no longer sent reminders to apply for reception places for their children. The window for applications is now open and closes on Friday, 15th January, 2021 for children born between 1st September 2016 - 31st August 2017. This can be done online via West Sussex Admissions:

www.westsussex.gov.uk/admissions

Should you need internet access or help, do contact the school office for support.

West Sussex Admissions team are also happy to advise: 03330 142903

Our catchment area includes Harting and surrounding villages but we are often able to accommodate children from further afield, including Petersfield and other Hampshire locations.

For families living in Hampshire, the window for application starts on 1st November and closes on Friday, 15th January 2021 – please make applications via their portal:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/admissions>

School attendance

Please avoid booking holidays in term time as we are unable to authorise such absences. From September, the government expect all children to be back in school so such absences risk penalty fines.

Key dates for your diary

Holiday dates for 2020/21	
26.10.20-30.10.20	Autumn half term break
21.12.20-1.1.21	Christmas holiday
15.2.21 – 19.2.21	Spring half term break
2.4.21	Good Friday – school closed
5.4.21-16.4.21	Easter holiday
4.5.21	Inset day
31.5.21-4.6.21	Summer half term break
25.6.21	Inset day
26.7.21 – 2.9.21	Summer holiday
Further inset day	To be arranged – staff training (this may be in the Autumn term)

Note: Inset days; PTFA events; new dates/ information added to calendar

Events for Autumn term

Autumn term 2020		
Week Beginning 19.10.20 (poetry week - choral presentations)		
23.10.20	2.30pm	Poetry assembly - as possible (no visitors, sorry)
	All day	Y3 Forest School - Torberry group
Week beginning 26.10.20 HALF TERM BREAK		
Week beginning 2.11.20		
6.11.20	All day	Y3 Forest School - Downlands group

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Issue 4: 22.10.20

Other planned events, for the term, cannot yet be confirmed at this stage.

We apologise for not being able to give you the usual notice.

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