

Harting Primary School Newsletter



Message from the Head

We have had many positive comments about our new window between the office and the front lobby. Thank you for helping us by using it, rather than asking to come in. It enables us to greet people safely and welcome just those who need to be within the school, helping to keep the children safe.

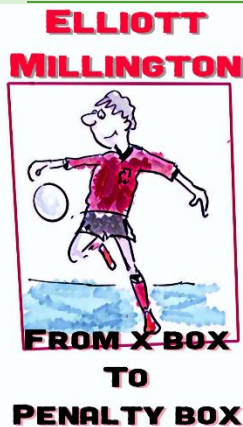
With this in mind, we are trying our best to ensure that images of those who need to be protected are kept private. This is really difficult in our world of websites, WhatsApp and social media. What seems to be innocent sharing of images can sometimes put some of our pupils at risk by putting them in the eye of those who could cause them harm.

In light of this, we do not wish to seem punitive but parents supporting us on trips are asked not to take photos, using their phones: not even to share with friends. No one truly knows what others' situations are like – something I learned from my grandmother. I thought that my grandparents were happily married for 60 years until after my grandad had died!

We really appreciate all the support you give to us and the children. I don't want you think that this is anyway a criticism but something that needs stating to keep all the children safe.

Best wishes,
Fiona

Illustrator in school



We were delighted that an illustrator, Malcolm Laverty, was able to spend some time with the children sharing his expertise. Using class visualisers, a few of the children's stories were illustrated by him. This enabled them to learn how their stories create images for the reader and to see how different they might be, along with a stimulus for illustrations of their own. It was a real treat!



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Cross-country

Well done to all those who ran in the cross-country competition, at MRC, nearly two weeks ago. Harting school came joint 5th, which is to be commended. All our runners did extremely well. Woody and Natty were particularly fast, coming 6th and 7th, respectively. Isla, too, was one of the front runners in the girls' competition. We are proud, however, of all those who took part.

Stedham closure consultation ceased – NO public meeting tonight!

We are delighted to inform you that the consultation on closure for Stedham School was terminated last Friday. This is as a result of an agreement between the two schools to work closely together and form a Federation yet continue to be distinctive with their own personnel. The Diocese are in support of this and it is an exciting opportunity to share expertise and improve practice for the children. The public meeting, planned for this evening at MRC, is therefore cancelled.

Spotlight on safeguarding

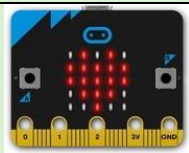
Online safety:

WSCC Community Safety & Wellbeing Staying Safe Online Team are running free primary and secondary age 'Digital online safety awareness' sessions for parents/carers in schools across the county. Listed below are the most local ones:

Sign up via: [digital safety awareness session](#). You can also check out the council's online safety team [web pages](#), follow them on [Twitter](#) or sign up for their [eNewsletter](#).

Coding workshops

Beacon class completed a half-term's project on this, using microbits, in the Autumn term but the library service are offering workshops too. See below:



Information from the library service:

If you haven't yet tried your hand at coding, give it a go at one of the **free** introduction to coding workshops we're running during Let's Get Digital Month.

Choose from [adults-only](#) or [family](#) workshops and learn some fun, basic block-based coding using a [BBC micro:bit starter kit](#). We're running sessions in [Chichester](#), [East Grinstead](#), [Haywards Heath](#) (fully booked), [Storrington](#) and [Southwick](#).

Places are very limited so please book ahead for both the [adults-only](#) and [family](#) events to avoid disappointment.

If you can't make any of the workshops you can always borrow a [micro:bit starter kit](#) **free** of charge and learn to code from the comfort of your own home with these [easy-to-follow online tutorials](#).

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NO NUTS in school after half-term – not just peanuts!

We need to become a '**nut-free school**' for the well-being of one of our pupils. Please avoid sending in **any nuts** (or products with nuts) into school. We understand that many items state 'may contain nuts' to cover companies legally – these should be fine, unless they are actually nut products.

I know that families, with children who have allergies, are really grateful that we are such a considerate community. Thank you, to you all, for keeping these children safe and well!

Headlice

We would be grateful if you could comb/treat your children's heads over the half-term break as there seems to be another outbreak of headlice. I believe that by regularly combing, cycles of infestation can be broken but it's very difficult to control if the unwanted guests spring from head to head. If every family can check/comb/tackle this, we might just be successful! Thanks for your support.

Mental well-being

We have added a link to the school website about how to help children with the stresses of life. It has some very useful strategies to maintain mental well-being and has been written by Childline. Do look if you are interested:

<https://www.childline.org.uk/toolbox/calm-zone/>

Coronavirus

There is understandable concern about the impact of the half-term holiday bringing the virus into the school community. If you are travelling to or through affected countries, it would be good (on your return to the UK) to check the government's most up-to-date travel advice to ensure that the virus cannot be transmitted to any of our children and families:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice-novel-coronavirus>

I understand that some airlines are re-directing flights to avoid stopovers in affected countries but **please be mindful that some children are more vulnerable, when deciding if your own children should return to school.**

This week, I have been asked to share this information with the school community by the Director of Education:

What is the coronavirus?

The 2019 Novel Coronavirus has been spreading since it was first reported in December 2019.

Symptoms include fever and respiratory symptoms including coughing and shortness of breath. Generally, coronavirus can cause more severe symptoms in people with weakened immune systems, older people, and those with long term conditions like diabetes, cancer and chronic lung disease.

If you develop these symptoms and have recently travelled to an area where the coronavirus is being widely reported or believe you may have come in contact with

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the virus then you should stay indoors and call NHS 111 informing them of the details linking you to the virus.

A case of coronavirus has been confirmed in Brighton & Hove

One individual from Brighton & Hove tested positive on Thursday 6 February and is in a London hospital where they are being well cared for.

The new case is a known contact of a previously confirmed UK case, and the virus was passed on in France. Where this person lives has not been confirmed by the Chief Medical Officer.

Public Health England is the lead organisation responding to the situation. Public Health England is working with partner organisations to take measures to prevent any possible further spread of the virus.

Anyone who may have been in contact with the virus is currently being identified and will be contacted directly by Public Health England.

What should I do?

If you do feel unwell having travelled to the UK from mainland China, Thailand, Japan, Republic of Korea, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia or Macau in the last 14 days, then you should stay indoors and call NHS 111, even if symptoms are mild.

If you have travelled from Wuhan or Hubei province in the last 14 days then you should stay indoors and avoid contact with others as you would with flu, and call NHS 111 informing them of your symptoms and inform them of your recent travel to the city.

Everyone is being reminded to follow Public Health England advice to:

- Always carry tissues with you and use them to catch your cough or sneeze. Then bin the tissue and wash your hands or use a sanitiser gel
- Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after using public transport. Use sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands
- Avoid close contact with people who are unwell
- The latest information and advice can be found at www.gov.uk/coronavirus

If you are feeling unwell and have not been contacted by Public Health England, then there should be no need for concern. You should treat your symptoms for seasonal flu or a common cold. If necessary, call NHS111.

More information available from:

- <http://publichealthmatters.blog.gov.uk/2020/01/23/wuhan-novel-coronaviruses-what-you-need-to-know/>

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 2019/2020	
17.02.20 to 21.02.20	February Half Term
06.04.20 to 17.04.20	Easter Holidays
08.05.20	May Bank Holiday – FRIDAY
25.05.20 to 29.05.20	May Half Term
20.07.20	INSET DAY
21.07.20 to 02.09.20	Summer holidays

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Spring term 2020		
Week beginning 10.2.20 Fairtrade week + Bikeability: y6		
14.2.20	pm	Y5 - Forest school (3)
	3.05pm	PTFA cake stall
Week beginning 17.2.20: half-term		
Week beginning 24.2.20:		
24.2.20	Back to school	
25.2.20	pm	Pupil conferences Beacon
	All day	Downlands trip to Birdworld
28.2.20	2.30pm	Sharing assembly Beacon/Warren
	pm	Y5 - Forest school (4)
Week Beginning 2.3.20		
2.3.20	9am	PTFA meeting
3.3.20	Pm	Late parents' eve + Pupil conferences Beacon
4.3.20	Pm	Early Parents' eve
5.3.20		World book day: Minibeasts (children dress up as any character from a book about 'minibeasts')
6.3.20	2-3.30pm	Y5/6 Tag rugby MRC
	Pm	Y5 - Forest school (5)
Week Beginning 9.3.20 (Science week)		
13.3.20	Pm	Y5 - Forest school (6)
	Eve	Open mic
Week beginning 16.3.20		
16.3.20	Pm	RV debate
	pm	Y5 - Forest school (7): curriculum linked
20.3.20	pm	Y5 - last Forest school (cook out)
	2.30pm	Sharing assembly Rother/Downlands/Torberry
Week Beginning 23.3.20 (last week of school led clubs)		
27.3.20	10.00-2.00	RV Dance rehearsal
	Eve	RV arts festival
Week beginning 30.3.20		
3.4.20	11am	Easter service (Congregational church)
		Last day of Spring term
6.4.20	Easter holiday	

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