

Harting Primary School Newsletter



Message from the Head

In the last newsletter I flagged up that we had become aware that lockdown had limited children's experiences beyond the home, impacting on their ability to consider how to stay safe in a range of contexts. The school has spent some time discussing strategies for them to keep safe in situations, like being separated from their family in shops, but they will need reminders from you.

On the subject of staying safe, another lack of experience attributable to the pandemic has come to light. **One of our pupils was knocked over by a car last week.** Fortunately, the only injury to the child was a scratch to their knee. It was good that the driver was moving extremely cautiously out of a parking space, hence the lack of serious harm to the child. Nevertheless, all involved were extremely shocked.

As adults, we forget that children have had little exposure to crossing busy roads (or even car parks) since last March. For this reason, I ask that you practise walking with your children and teaching them road safety. Although at school, we can teach important messages, they do not replace experience. Children can only start to judge distances and car speeds if they have practice. I thank you for doing just that and keeping your precious children safe.

Take care.

Best wishes,

Fiona

Staying safe' (conversations to have with your children)

This video may help as a conversation starter for road safety:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=odL77zH42Vs>

Road safety guidance for parents teaching children:

<https://www.rospa.com/media/documents/road-safety/teaching-road-safety-a-guide-for-parents.pdf>

General safety messages:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gpUTKeDmkZM>

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

Worship Themes: 'Stories with a meaning' and 'Stories Jesus told'

Federation information

Following meetings last week, the survey canvassing your views about Harting School federating with Stedham Primary has gone live. You can find the link on the school website under the Federation Survey tab on the home page. It has only two questions so will only take a few minutes. Please do try to remember to complete it as the governors value your views.

Staff changes

Ros Stamper has been offered a deputy headship role at an infants' school starting in September. Although it will be a sad loss for the children of Harting, she will be able to influence practice for many more young pupils beginning their education. We wish her well and thank her for the fantastic work which she has done over the past seven years.

In September, Megan Tonkyn will continue as SENCO and will teach in Rother class for two days a week. I am pleased to inform you that Claudine Clarke, our current year 5/6 teacher, has decided to partner with her to be the new reception teacher.

Claudine has a wealth of experience at the younger end of the school's age range. She has been the Head of Key stage one at another school and the Year Leader for year one pupils at a large primary. This will enable her to readily work with our younger pupils. She looks forward to the change and knows that she will love being with reception pupils as much as she has enjoyed being with Beacon class.

Beacon class will therefore have a new teacher. An advertisement has therefore been posted on the DfE and West Sussex sites. We look forward to being able to let you know that we have been successful in recruiting another excellent practitioner to join the staff.

The Big Ask

Dame Rachel de Souza launched the Big Ask last month – a survey of children asking them about their priorities and concerns for the future. Do give your child the opportunity to complete this, if you can: [The Big Ask](#)

The survey needs to be completed by 28th May.

School attendance

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

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Key dates for your diary

Holiday dates for 2020/21	
31.5.21-4.6.21	Summer half term break
25.6.21	Inset day
28.6.21	Inset day
26.7.21 – 2.9.21	Summer holiday

Events for summer term

We apologise if events are cancelled at any stage or differ to those in the past. We hope, however, that we can enjoy some time as a whole school community at some stage but ask that you strictly stick to our COVID rules, when we do!

There are other events being considered but we are cautiously dipping our toes into opening up! Many activities are yet to be confirmed. We hope you understand why!

TIMETABLE FOR SUMMER TERM EVENTS		
Week beginning 17.5.21		
21.5.21	All day	Y1 Forest School drop off at Elsted
Week beginning 14.6.21		
14.6.21	Am	PTFA meeting (tbc)
16.6.21	8pm	New yR parents meeting via zoom
17.6.21	Pm	Beacon class - Rother Valley debate competition (via zoom)
Week beginning 21.6.21		
23.6.21	1.30pm (tbc)	Sports day (tbc) - format to be decided!
24.6.21	Pm	New yR story time (zoom or Roundhouse - tbc)
25.6.21	All day	Inset day - no pupils in school
Week beginning 28.6.21		
28.6.21	All day	Inset day - no pupils in school
29.6.21	Pm	New YR story time (tbc)
30.6.21	Pm	Reserve sports day (if cancelled due to weather)
2.7.21	All day	Batafon dance workshops - Torberry/Downlands
	2.30pm	Sharing assembly (tbc - weather dependent): Torberry and Downlands classes
Week beginning 5.7.21		
5.7.21	Am	Bikeability y6
6.7.21	Am	Bikeability y6
7.7.21	Am	Bikeability y6
8.7.21	Am	Bikeability y6
9.7.21	Am	Bikeability y6
Week beginning 12.7.21		
12.7.21	am	Swimming y3/4 (parents to drop off at pool for some groups)
13.7.21	am	Swimming y3/4 (parents to drop off at pool for some groups)
14.7.21	am	Swimming y3/4 (parents to drop off at pool for some groups)
15.7.21	am	Swimming y3/4 (parents to drop off at pool for some groups)
16.7.21	All day	Batafon dance workshops - Warren and Beacon classes
	2.30pm	Sharing assembly (tbc - weather dependent): Warren and Beacon

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Week beginning 19.7.21		
19.7.21	am	Swimming y3/4 (parents to drop off at pool for some groups)
20.7.21	am	Swimming y3/4 (parents to drop off at pool for some groups)
21.7.21	am	Swimming y3/4 (parents to drop off at pool for some groups)
22.7.21	am	Swimming y3/4 (parents to drop off at pool for some groups)
23.7.21	am	Swimming y3/4 (parents to drop off at pool for some groups)

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