

Harting Primary School Newsletter



Message from the Head

We have been working with the Rother Valley for more than a decade. This is a group of 15 local schools – all in West Sussex and rated 'Good' by Ofsted – with whom we collaborate. There is a memorandum of understanding so we all contribute into a fund for shared work, now there is no locality funding from the local authority. Examples of this include audits across the schools at Headship level, known as Peer to Peer reviews; shared inset training; subject leaders collaborate and share practice at meetings; assessments are 'moderated' by teachers across schools'; and the Special Educational Needs Coordinators (SENCOs) have regular forums to update their knowledge with a Hub to support this work. The strong relationships enable children in small schools to have wider experiences, supported by a range of expertise. Additionally, the governors work together led by our Chair, Jeff Ace.

Stedham School is one of the Rother Valley Schools. Recently, our governors agreed to move towards a closer working partnership with it. There will, however, be no change in our school's staffing structure and we will continue to be two separate schools with our own budgets and leadership. It will enable shared training opportunities and stronger collaboration, to benefit all the children. We really look forward to sharing our knowledge and developing our skills alongside them.

If you have any queries, do ask either me or the governors. Their names can be found on the school website.

Best wishes,
Fiona

Warren trip to Marwell zoo



Whilst older children were at O2 arena, the y1 pupils headed to Marwell zoo to learn about animals, linked to the theme of 'Frozen', although clearly other animals were involved. They had a lovely day of learning, supported by parents. We are really grateful for this help. Torberry class are looking forward to a visit to Marwell too – this time with a workshop about African animals, related to their topic.

Peanut free

Just a reminder to everyone to avoid products containing peanuts to protect a child in the school. Thank you for being so considerate and vigilant to date.

Key Harting values: love and respect
'Love others as yourself'
Worship Theme: 'Words of Jesus'

Curriculum and the 'Big Question'

At this point, you should have received an overview of learning from your child's class teacher for the term. If you require additional information, do look at the website for more detail.

Research tells us that knowledge aids learning so our curriculum is designed to build this, as well as progress learners' skills. By providing many rich experiences and deep conversations, we aim to advance children's knowledge and thinking.

One of the ways that we are doing this is offering a Big Question session, supported by volunteers from the church (including one of our governors). This is an opportunity for a varied group of children to think more deeply. Our question this term is: 'Are rules important? Why?'

Do talk with your children at home about this too – it all helps develop our children's moral compass; thinking skills; and ability to articulate their thoughts.

Music week



As well as half the school having their usual violin, piano, guitar or recorder lessons, in addition to regular music teaching, many of our pupils have had wonderful extra musical experiences since the last newsletter.

Firstly, a group of children went to the Harting Luncheon club to sing a medley to their guests. This proved to be an extra practice for them prior to the 'Young Voices' concert at O2 on Thursday evening. We are proud of all our choir - they loved being part of



the latter: a massive children's choir performing to hundreds of parents. It was a very exciting and happy day.

Additionally, the conductor of Southern ProMusica, Jonathan Willcocks, came to school for a singing lesson with Beacon and Torberry classes. Last Tuesday afternoon (21st January), they attended one of his orchestral concerts at Chichester Festival Theatre. They were able to participate in the final song, thanks to his extra tuition.

One of our pupils was selected as a conductor at this concert – possibly because she was sitting next to Jonathan's wife, who runs our 'Yarn club'! We are really fortunate to have the Willcocks's support.

On Wednesday afternoon, Chichester Symphony Orchestra came into school to perform – another lovely concert, shared with the whole school. This also gave our most experienced strings players the chance to end the performance with a piece for us to enjoy.

We are really fortunate to have so much expertise and this helps build a musical culture across the school. We hope it inspires our children to excel and develop a lifelong enjoyment of music.

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Spotlight on safeguarding

Alongside this newsletter is a guide, created by the local authority, giving advice on how to keep your children safe online. Well worth a look!

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.

Events for Spring term

Spring term 2020	
Holiday dates for 2019/2020	
25.10.19	INSET DAY
28.10.19 to 01.11.19	October Half Term
04.11.19	INSET DAY
23.12.19 to 03.01.20	Christmas Holidays
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

Week Beginning 27.1.20		
31.1.20	2-3.30pm	KS2 cross-country MRC
	Pm	Y5 - Forest School starts (1)
	Eve	School disco
Week Beginning 3.2.20 E-safety		
6.2.20		'Being an illustrator' - visitor
7.2.20	Pm	Y5 - Forest school (2)
	2.30pm	Read to me (parents invited)
Week Beginning 10.2.20: Fairtrade week + Bikeability: y6		
11.2.20	pm	RV School Council at Harting
14.2.20	Pm	Y5 - Forest school (3)
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	Downslands trip to Birdworld
28.2.20	2.30pm	Sharing assembly Beacon/Warren
	Pm	Y5 - Forest school (4)
	3.05pm	PTFA cake sale tbc
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 + Pupil conferences Beacon from 3pm
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		
13.3.20	Pm	Y5 - Forest school (6)
	Eve	Open mic

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Week beginning 16.3.20		
16.3.20	Pm	RV debate at MRC tbc
	Pm	Y5 - Forest school (7): curriculum linked
20.3.20	Pm	Y5 - last Forest school cook-out (8)
	2.30pm	Sharing assembly Rother/Downlands/Torberry
Week Beginning 23.3.20 (last week of all clubs)		
27.3.20	10.00-2.00	RV Dance rehearsal
	Pm	Y5 - Forest school (last one)
	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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