

Harting Primary School Newsletter



Message from the Head

We thank you for adhering to our request that everyone washes their hands, on entry to the school - something we will continue to ask until after the coronavirus crisis.

Many of you heard, before I did yesterday, that schools will be closing – our last day will be Friday. We await confirmation of 'key workers' from the government later today. Initial guidance indicates these groups:

- Police
- Fire service employees
- Teachers and TAs
- Care workers
- Food delivery drivers
- NHS employees

As we do not hold a list of parents' professions, I ask that if you (and your partner, in a two-adult household) consider yourself to fall into these categories, please let the school office know by 9.30am on Friday. This will enable us to plan staffing, which will be dependent on our good health.

I would like to thank all the teaching staff for working extra hard to prepare for possible closure. The office team too have been under additional pressure, liaising and updating information. We have a really caring and supportive team.

Best wishes,

Fiona

Coronavirus – general information

Current attendance advice:

Do NOT come on site with a:

- **temperature**
- **a new 'continuous' cough**
- **shortness of breath**
- **other members of the family should also remain at home**

If you or your family have any of these symptoms, you all need to self-isolate for fourteen days. Information can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-homeguidance-for-people-with-confirmed-or-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

This gives plenty of practical guidance on what to do.

Additionally, there is a DfE advice line, should you need to find out more:

Call 0800 046 8687 or email: DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk

Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday). Details on website.

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

HOME LEARNING ON SCHOOL WEBSITE:

<https://www.harting.w-sussex.sch.uk/> under key information - home learning

Home Learning

We are advised that skype is an effective way of supporting home learning so we have created some documents to ensure that children re-visit this term's study. It is known as retrieval practice. The school website (<https://www.harting.w-sussex.sch.uk/>) has been prepared with class objectives to aid this – please work through these with your children.

In addition to this, there are many website addresses to support learning on a sheet entitled 'Projects 2020'. This document has projects, created by us, to enable children to extend their thinking and enjoy studying. We ask that children are encouraged to work and do things well – not so that everything is perfect but so that they have made some effort and tried hard. We will be awarding prizes for evidence of good work and projects when we are back at school.

The document also has some helpful advice for parents. It was taken from another useful website. By setting up a home study routine, it should prove successful.

There is also a pdf with ideas that can be done at home and are fun.

Hopefully, we have set things up well for you to make a good start with home education.

We have a Harting blog, which is initially for children to share jokes:

<https://hartingblog2020.wordpress.com/>

We expect that each day every child will:

- read at home
- talk with an adult about some reading that they have shared
- practice at least one maths task
- do some writing and drawing
- practice spellings or phonics

We will do our utmost to add resources, when we can. We believe, however, that there is a significant amount of work and plenty to study.

Please remember, we do not know when or if members of staff have to self-isolate or become sick. This will affect our ability to provide more materials, should this happen.

Tag Rugby

We were delighted that a group of children were accompanied by Joel Day to play in the friendly tag rugby tournament at Midhurst Rother College, competing with more than a dozen local schools. They had prepared in PE along with additional lunchtime sessions led by Joel, who is a keen rugby player. The children enjoyed the matches and participated well – they won all their matches! Another sporting success for Harting School!

Food vouchers

Should you require vouchers for packed lunches, during the holidays, please do let Fiona or the office staff know, in confidence? The Chichester Foodbank is aware that in this current climate there may be additional needs and a second voucher is likely to be provided on presentation of the first.

The government mentioned other vouchers, which we are yet to receive. If you are likely to need this support, please contact the school, in confidence.

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Science week

Last week the children enjoyed afternoon activities related to science. They investigated the use of their senses and should now be able to share information on them all with you. Do ask them what they did.



On Tuesday, children discovered whether they are 'tasters' or 'non-tasters', based on their ability to discern a taste or not. They should be able to let you know into which category they fall. Beware: 'tasters' are usually more likely to be faddy eaters!

Later in the week, the children considered and planned a sensory garden, based on what they had learned. It is interesting to see their ideas – some, of which, we will consider using for our grounds.

One afternoon was kept for fun science - simply to inspire them and help raise the profile of what is a very interesting subject.

The whole week boosted the children's enthusiasm for science and was enjoyed by the teaching staff too!

Harting/Stedham: DELAYED MEETING

As you are aware from previous Newsletter items, Harting School is progressing a closer working relationship with Stedham Primary School. We are now at the stage of a Soft Federation and plan to progress to a Hard Federation, these are defined relationships though. The only material difference being that there will be one Governing Body to oversee the workings of both schools. All other aspects of the two schools will remain as is. This process will take time and the plan is for this to occur over the next year. As part of this process we will be seeking your opinions on this plan either via contact with Jeff Ace, Chair of Governors, via the School Office or at a public meeting. The planned meeting, on 21st April, will be delayed until we have a better idea of the impact of coronavirus.

Key dates for your diary

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

Sharing assemblies are for all families to attend – suspended

| Holiday dates for 2019/2020 | |
|---|--|
| 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 |

| Spring term 2020 | | |
|------------------------|----------------|--|
| Week beginning 16.3.20 | | |
| 20.3.20 | pm | Y5 - Forest school (last one) |
| | 2.30pm | Sharing assembly Rother/Downlands/Torberry - postponed |
| | Evening | Open Mike - cancelled |
| Week Beginning 23.3.20 | | |
| 27.3.20 | 10.00-2.00 | RV Dance rehearsal - cancelled |
| | Eve | RV arts festival - cancelled |
| Week Beginning 30.3.20 | | |
| 3.4.20 | 11am | Easter service (Congregational church) - unlikely to happen |
| | | Last day of Spring term |
| 6.4.20 | Easter holiday | |

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