



Newsletter 20

30th June 2017

Dear Parents,

You can always tell when the end of the school year approaches as the pace of events and activities in school seems to pick up rather than slow down and the last couple of weeks have been no exception - and with 'music week' taking place next week there's no sign of things slowing just yet!

Sports week has been a whirl of activity and whilst we haven't been basking in sunshine we haven't had too much rain to contend with either and despite needing to resort to the reserve date for district sports, the day's earlier Sports Day was a great event and it was wonderful to see so many of you at the track events. Mrs Wakeman and Miss Fricker have provided a roundup of all the things the children have been involved in later on in this newsletter and our thanks go to them and all the staff involved in planning and organising such experiences for the children. My congratulations too to all the children involved; it was fantastic to see such great effort, sporting spirit and team work and all should be very proud of their achievements.

Spending last week with Year 6 was also something that made me very proud: the way the children conducted themselves was exemplary and they received many compliments from the staff of the places we visited as well as members of the public. The Hindhead PGL experience is about setting yourself physical targets and reaching them; learning to conquer fears and above all, being proud of your achievements, whatever they are. In soaring temperatures the children kept their cool and tackled some challenging activities - always with a smile and with words of encouragement for their friends - it was great to see.

We have welcomed the parents of our September Reception and Nursery classes this week and I am sure you will help them to settle quickly into our community once the new term begins.

Hopefully many of them will attend tomorrow's Summer Fair and the Friends Association and I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the event between 12-3pm. As always there's fun for everyone, and a BBQ too so do come along!

Kind regards,

Suzanne Webb



Open session

A reminder there is an opportunity for you to come and see your children's work on Thursday 6th July from 14.45 till 15.15 and on Friday 7th July from 8.15 till 8.45.

Safeguarding

In the autumn term new procedures for drop off and after school collection will be put in place in order to safeguard the children; these will include the requirement for parents to notify us in writing if their child is walking to/from school unaccompanied. In addition we will be changing the way we ask you to inform us of your child's absence as if a child does not arrive in school we will be contacting their parent unless an email or phone message has been received. These new procedures will be forwarded to you before the end of term so please look out for them.

Use of mobile phones

There are many signs around school reminding you that the use of mobile phones on school premises is not permitted. This is linked to the safeguarding of all children. Please can you make sure that your phone stays in your car or in your bag at all times on school premises. If you are seen using the mobile phone staff will ask you to put your phone away. Thank you for your cooperation.

Funding letter

Following on from the joint letter sent by the local Heads' Consortium regarding the funding gap in schools, you will today all have received a letter on behalf of myself, the Governing Board and the Friends Association outlining the different ways you can support our school. These ways includes practical help as well as financial support - we really do value all that you are able to offer.

Music week

Next week we are having some exciting activities in school for the children as part of a music week. On Monday the Year 2s are going to Sir John Lawes to sing with all the other Year 2s in Harpenden. They have been learning songs to share together. On Tuesday the Roundwood Park Band are coming to play to the KS2 pupils and give the children an opportunity to find out a little more about their experiences and the instruments they are playing. On Wednesday there is a concert in the hall at 6.30 where many children will be taking part: the Orchestra, choir, Steel Pans, percussion ensemble and Secondary School Steel Pans will be performing. On Thursday there is a performance for KSI children and afterwards they will be able to try out a few instruments in their classroom. There will be plenty of singing and music making in lessons too! *Mrs Burch*

Hindhead

Hindhead was a great experience for all of the Year 6s to enjoy as we celebrated an amazing year of hard work. The Year 6s took part in a variety of activities including abseiling, Jacob's ladder and trapeze. Jacob's ladder is a series of logs approximately one metre apart. You had to get four logs up to the black line and then you had two minutes to climb as high as you could. Along with all the other activities, the pupils left the centre to explore the Historic Dock Yard at Portsmouth where we went inside the famous HMS Victory (an old battle ship). At the Blue Reef Aquarium, we were able to touch crabs and starfish as well as play in the water park – a great way to cool down! We all had a fantastic time. *Year 6*

Sports roundup

This week has been National School Sports Week and once again the whole school has taken part in a wide variety of sporting activities. The week started with KSI having exciting tennis sessions provided by David Lawlor and his coaches from Harpenden Tennis Club. On Monday, Year 2 walked to the tennis club where they developed their tennis skills through a variety of racket and ball activities. On Tuesday, Year 1 had a similar experience with the coaches and children visiting Roundwood Park to use their tennis courts.



Also on Tuesday, KS2 participated in Hockey and Tai Kwondo sessions run by Mrs Bird and Miss Tyler.

Tai Kwondo with Miss Tyler:

The children went across to Roundwood Park and were able to use the dance studio. In here they learnt various kicks and punches and they learnt to deflect attacking moves.

Hockey with Mrs Bird:

The children learnt how to dribble the ball, shoot and change direction and pass with speed.

Lacrosse:

On Wednesday KS2 were visited by Rob Ingham Clark who is a professional coach and plays Lacrosse for Welwyn Warriors. Rob taught the children how to catch and pass the ball, pick it up off the floor and how to play the basics of the fast moving game.



Sports Day:

Thursday started grey and chilly but this didn't dampen the school's mood. Sports Day began with Reception and Nursery having a wonderful variety of races and I gather even the parents had the opportunity to race one another at the end! Once Foundation Stage had finished, KS1 & KS2 then came out of onto the field where they spent 2 hours rotating around 6 different activities. It was wonderful seeing the children participate in: javelin, discus, tennis ball throw, standing long jump, triple jump, football dribble, obstacle etc. During these activities the children collected points for their houses and these totals were then added to the afternoon races. After lunch all of KS1 & KS2 came back out onto the field where they participated in more traditional races representing each of their houses. Races included, sprint, skipping and relay. A big thank you to all of the teachers who helped ensure that the children had a fun and inspiring day but who also helped make sure the event ran smoothly.



Thursday night saw myself, Miss Fricker and Mrs Webb take over 35 children to represent the school in the rearranged District Sports tournament. The evening was a long, busy and fun one and it was fantastic to see so many children represent their school against the 14 other schools in Harpenden. Well done to all who took part but a special mention goes to Abbie and George, both who came 3rd in their throwing events & the finalists for the sprint and relay races. Well done one and all.



Today has seen all children in KS2 have a Handball coaching session with Mr Barker and a Badminton coaching session in Roundwood Park's sports hall with Mrs Wakeman. The children have all participated enthusiastically at the end of a long week of activity and there were some fantastic skills on show!

Although this week has been incredibly busy, it has been wonderful to see so many children active and happy whilst participating in sport. I hope you have all heard about the fun activities in which the children have participated and who knows, maybe we have inspired some of them to go on to train to be the next generation of Olympic athletes!
Mrs Wakeman

Tennis tournaments

Over the last couple of weeks a selection of children have taken part in different tennis tournaments. The children from Years 2, 3&4 went to St Albans tennis club and played several matches. Well done to all who took part. A special mention should go to Max and Winston who were invited back to play in a further tournament where they came second. Well done to all of them for representing the school so well. *Mrs Wakeman*



Spare Tennis Balls

If anyone could spare some old/used tennis balls or soft balls/footballs (not leather type) for use on the KS1 playground, they would be so gratefully received.

Please do leave any in a bag by the Friend's notice board or hand to me in person, over the next week or so. Thank you. *Mrs Pring*

HSOA: Fundraiser

On Friday 7th July the School Council are asking children to come to school wearing their own shorts and t-shirts for a suggested donation of £2. This is to raise money for Harpenden Spotlight on Africa, a local charity which we supported last year. This year the charity are focusing on helping to provide clean water through the drilling of boreholes in strategic locations, maximising the supply of clean water in a community. Thank you in advance for your support with this. *Mrs Cirillo*



Play Equipment

Please ensure your children do not play on any of the play equipment either before or after school - this includes pre school children waiting for siblings in nursery or reception. The children are reminded regularly of this in assemblies and we ask for your support in helping us to enforce this.

Autumn term clubs

In a response to parental requests, we are trying to finalise the after school activity clubs which will be on offer in the autumn term before the end of this term to enable parents to know in advance what their child might wish to take part in, thus allowing other arrangements to be made. Please note this will not include clubs run within the school day, just those provided by school staff or outside providers before and after school. We are hoping to publish this towards the end of next week.

Community News

The Harpenden Sandwich Company

If your KS2 child prefers a packed lunch to hot dinners, or is in KS1, then please have a look at my website (www.theharpendensandwich.co.uk). I offer a service where you can choose from a wide range of breads, fillings and 'choices' to create a bespoke lunch for your child, and allowing you to control the amount of sugar! My lunches can provide most of your child's 5 a day as there are lots of fruit and vegetable options and I can cater for the fussiest of eaters as well as dietary requirements such as Vegetarian, Dairy Free, Gluten Free, no butter and crusts off! Prices are from just £2 a day and can be any number of days a week from 1 to 5. If you would like my lunches in September then please complete the online form or contact Sally on 01582 833281/07877674704 or by email sallypiercy@hotmail.co.uk. I also cater for children's parties, again from just £2 a head (see the website to order) Thank you.

Key Dates for this term:

Event	Date
Summer School Fair	1 st July
Music Concert	5th July
Open Sessions	6th July 2.45-3.15pm, 7th July 8.15-8.45am
Secondary Transfer Day / Meet the Teacher	13th July
New to KS1 and New to LKS2 and UKS2 Meetings	14 th July – 8.50am to 9.15
Year 6 Play	19th July 7pm
Leaver's Assembly	20th July 10.30am



Top Bananas

These children received Bananas Awards last week for 'Following Rules and Routines in a an Exemplary Way'

C1	Luis	C12	Joseph, Harry A	C2	Nicole, Jacob
C3	Jemima, Chloe	C34	Rosa, Zaira	C4	Harry, Alex
C5	Eddie, Alex	C56	Sara, Robert	C6	(Away on residential)

This week's top bananas certificate will be awarded on Monday as the children were all busy with various activities

E-Safety Tip: A parents' guide to being Share Aware - Helping you to keep your child safe online
<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/globalassets/documents/advice-and-info/share-aware.pdf>

