

Newsletter – Friday 18th November 2022

Dear Families,

In just four short weeks we'll be breaking up for Christmas and the busy run of upcoming events will be a distant memory. It's been really lovely going into classrooms seeing the children articulate their learning this week. Maple's class assembly on Wednesday was excellent – a real highlight for me was the sharing of some beautiful poems about woodland animals.

Bad weather

The rain this week reminded us about planning for the unexpected and the potential for 'snow days' in the coming months. The government have recently updated their guidance on emergency closure of schools. This paragraph summarises the approach we will take:

"During severe weather conditions, such as extreme heat, flooding, storms, or snow, you should keep your setting open for as many children, pupils or students as possible. However, it might be necessary to close temporarily due to inaccessibility or risk of injury."

From 'Emergency planning and response for education, childcare, and children's social care settings - October 2022'

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1114577/Emergency_planning_and_response_for_education_childcare_and_children_s_social_care_settings.pdf

We would use text messages, emails and also update our Facebook page were we to make the decision to close or partially close school in these circumstances. **If you believe that you or any appropriate family members' mobile numbers and email addresses are not up to date, please contact the office.**

Your Harrogate – Carols

"How would you like to hear your child singing Christmas carols on the radio?"

We've teamed up with O'Connor Chiropractic to give FIVE schools the chance to sing their hearts out to our listeners. Simply nominate your child's school and we could be coming to along to record them singing their favourite Christmas carol – plus we'll be filming a video for all of our social media followers!"

https://yourharrogate.co.uk/win/nominate-your-school-to-sing-christmas-carols-on-the-radio/?fbclid=IwAR0XwFZsXzGpJcGCc90C4N6xCcJfN-S0v0_1m4xvJuh9xC9UM4PDeCpsnhQ

Super Pupil Trip

A Super Pupil trip organised by Sporting Influence went out on Tuesday to Surge Padel in Harrogate. Children in Year 5/6 had a brilliant time learning this exciting new sport:

"I really liked it because normal tennis is quite hard. It's a lot easier to have the strap around your wrist"

"Padel tennis was really fun and I really enjoyed it"

"It was quite hard but it was also fun"

"I think it showed one of our values, being together"

<https://www.facebook.com/HookstoneChasePrimarySchool/posts/130901396426398>

Online Safety

We held a meeting for all Year 5/6 parents earlier this week following a Safeguarding concern around the misuse of TikTok and WhatsApp by pupils. It is really important that we work together to safeguard pupils so they apply their learning in online safety in a home context and ensure they are developing into responsible citizens who make informed choices about their activity.

Our local police officer, Paul Robinson-Ripley, will be holding an event for pupils at 2.45pm on 29th November which parents and carers throughout the school are welcome to attend.

Message from your fabulous PTA...

We will be holding a second-hand toy and games stall in the playground on 8th/9th December 2.30 - 3.30.
Donations needed if having clear out for Christmas.
Details about how to donate and class Christmas hampers will be sent out early next week.

Quick reminders:

- **Medical/dental appointments** – we understand the difficulties involved but please try wherever possible to arrange appointments out of school hours where possible.
- **Years 3 – 6: Design a Christmas Card Competition (Andrew Jones, MP)** - Please see attachment for more competition details. We will collate entries at school on **Wednesday November 30th** to take up to his constituency office together.
- **'This May Help'** - Mental Health Support for parents/carers: <https://thismayhelp.me/>

Dates

- November 22nd (4.30 – 5.00pm) – Hookstone Chase Community Forum (focus: reports/parents' evenings) – ALL WELCOME TO ATTEND
- November 23rd (9.10 – 9.40am) – Class assembly: Oak **(all parents and carers of Oak class are invited to come into school)**
- November 24th – Big Space Launch (details tbc)
- November 29th – Online Safety talk: 2.45pm
- December 3rd – Choir Concert at Harrogate International Centre
- December 7th - 2.15pm – Nativity play for Reception and Year 1 (ticket details and allocations coming next week)
- December 8th– 2.15pm – Nativity play for Reception and Year 1 (ticket details and allocations coming next week)
- December 9th – NSAT trust meeting (12 - 5pm) in Oak class (Next Gen board needed)
- December 12th: Harrogate High Band in school– 2.15pm
- December 13th– 9.30 am – 10.00am - Y2's Christmas production (Pine and Willow - ticket details and allocations coming next week)
- December 14th – Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day (details to follow)
- December 15th– 2.30pm – 3.00pm - Y2's Christmas Story (Pine and Willow - ticket details and allocations coming next week)

Best wishes,

Mr Cooper