



Huntington Community Primary School Newsletter

October 25th, 2019

Diary Dates

November

- 4th School re-opens
- 7th Book Reading
- 11th Anti-Bullying week
- 15th Children in Need
- 18th British Art/Values wk
- 30th PTA Christmas Fair

December

- 4th NSPCC assemblies
- 10/11th YR Xmas shows
- 11/12th Y1/2 Xmas shows
- 13th Nursery Xmas show
Xmas Jumper Day
- 17th Christmas Dinner
- 19th Junior Xmas Carols
- 21st Christmas break

January

- 6th INSET (pupils not in)
- 7th School re-opens
- 8/9th *Peter Pan*
- 22nd YR/Y6 class photos
- 31st *Young Voices*

February

- 5-7th Y3 Birch residential
- 11th Safer Internet Day
- 12-14th Y3Hazel residential
- 15th Half-term break
- 24th School re-opens

March

- 2nd Book Week
- 5th World Book Day
- 9-13th Sport Relief
- 10-12th Parents' Evenings

April

- 3rd INSET (pupils not in)
- 4th Spring break
- 20th School re-opens
- 23rd *The Reluctant Dragon*

May

- 4-7th VE Day activities
- 8th Bank Holiday
- 11th Y6 SATs week
- 20-22nd Y4 residential
- 23rd Half-term break

June

- 1st School re-opens
- 3rd Class photos (N,1-5)
- 5th World Environment Day
- 8-12th Y5/6 residential
- 8th Y1 phonics week
- 15th Y4 Tables check
- 19th Refugee Day
- 22nd Olympics Week
- 25th Infant Sports (am)
- 26th Junior Sports (am)

July

- 7th Class swaps day
- 7-10th Parents' Evenings
- 15th Y6 Leavers' Show
- 17th INSET (pupils not in)
- 18th Summer break

First Birthday at Aldford Road

It seems much longer than twelve months, but exactly a year ago we were packing up the old school and heading off to the new over the autumn half-term break. It is a credit to everyone, staff, pupils, governors and parents, that the move went so well and we were up and running within a week and a half. Most of our new procedures worked well from day one, others continue to be refined, and our outdoor areas are now the focus for continued development, with the Forest Schools area in particular proving a great attraction for the Reception children who are using it weekly.



PTA

A great evening of family bingo was recently held, with the Hellam Boys (dad and son) calling the numbers and dishing out the prizes. This was very well attended, despite the poor weather, and raised valuable funds as well as being a super night out. Many thanks to the PTA team for arranging this event.

Anti-Bullying Week

The theme for this year's national Anti-Bullying Week (November 11-15th) is *Change Starts With Us*. The goal is to further foster collective responsibility to stop bullying, which is aligned perfectly with our Anti-Bullying Code, devised by the School Council. This will be revisited via activities and assemblies during the week, and the children reminded once more of the various ways that they can get a message to staff if they do not feel comfortable doing so directly (via class Chatterboxes, the corridor Worry Box and the online Whisper tool, in the *Keeping Safe* section of the website). The school's Anti-Bullying Policy is also available on the website (*Parents, Policies* section). Communication is key in this area – please do get in touch at an early stage if you feel your child is having difficulties with fellow pupils that go beyond the occasional fallout.

A Bully-Free School is a Happy School!



**Our
Anti-Bullying
Code**



It's every child's right to be happy at Huntington

What to do if you feel you are being bullied

- ✓ Tell an adult you trust or
- ✓ Tell a sensible friend who will take you to a trusted adult for help

What NOT to do if you feel you are being bullied

(or if you see somebody being bullied)

- ✗ DON'T try to deal with it yourself.
- ✗ DON'T keep it a secret.
- ✗ DON'T just stand there – tell a trusted adult!

Children in Need

This popular fundraiser follows on at the end of Anti-Bullying Week, on November 15th. This year we will not be running a cake sale, but asking everyone to come in wild and wacky costumes for a donation on the day.



SPORT

Tag Rugby

The first major events of the sporting year have taken place recently, with Tag Rugby squads from Year 4 and Year 6 competing against other schools on the pitches of Chester Rugby club. Many thanks to the parents who assisted with transporting considerable numbers of children to the events – without them we could not offer these opportunities to so many pupils.

Y4 squad:

Nathaniel Amolegbe, Ewan Cole, Sam Cole, Max Ellis, Omar Ghatwary, Jack Green, Tom Hennessy, Sam Holloway, Abbie Hope, Adi Jagan, Oliver Jennings, Julia Kotlinska, Jay Marwaha, Cody Mercer, Luca Padilla, Holly Prior, Imogen Pugh, Harry Roberts, George Rogers, Freya Saunders, Charlie Shelton, Aiden Siddall, Olivia Slater, Molly Welsh, Ben Whittaker, Isaac Williams



Y6 Tag Rugby squad:

Lewis Brocklehurst, Zach Coleridge-Hughes, Amelia Dixon, Holly Goodwin, Bailey Mansfield Green, Amelia Hill, Eleanor Lea, Lylia Lea, Sophie Lee, Luca Low, Shri Madhankumar, Freddie Mayer, Chloe Rogers, Kaylan Thompson, Amber Williams, Ethan Willis, Mariam Ziar

Girls' Football

The girls' football season got off to an enjoyable start on the astroturf at the Catholic High School. Closely fought matches against Acresfield and Tarvin resulted in two 0-0 draws against quality opposition, and it was a pleasure to see a good passing game developing as the girls grew in confidence. Several of this year's squad were part of our cup final team last year, with younger players joining the group, and we look forward to more success this year.

Girls' football squad

Holly Goodwin, Eleanor Lea, Lylia Lea, Eliana Leyden, Fariha Peer, Imogen Pugh, Louise Wentel

KS2 Behaviour Awards

The winning house for the first half of the autumn term was **Bridgegate**, who were rewarded with a non-uniform day today. The winners of the KS2 individual prizes are as below – and very well done to the other children whose behaviour has been exemplary.

Y6 Alder: Hope Donnelly
Y5 Larch: Eva Malthouse
Y5 Rowan: Heath Batkin
Y4 Hawthorn: Sam Holloway
Y4 Lime: George Sutton
Y3 Birch: Lucas Owen
Y3 Hazel: Harriet Buckley

Winter Weather

Guidance in case of extreme weather is available on the school website (*Parents* page). The map below indicates the paths that will be gritted if conditions are icy – if this is the case, please stay on the marked paths only.



Health, Safety and Wellbeing

School Travel Survey

Governors will be meeting with Parish Council members soon after the half-term break to discuss the parking situation in the area as a whole. If you have not yet completed the online travel survey can I urge you to do so before November 6th.

You can find the questionnaire at the following link: <https://bit.ly/2FFfunQ>
Or alternatively scan the QR code at right with a mobile device:



Vehicle Access and Pedestrian Safety

Parking up the kerb, thereby endangering pedestrians, is now prevented as best we can by a series of chained bollards, and access to the staff car park is controlled at both the start and end of the day by staff member Mrs Brown, to reduce the number of vehicles onsite (and the dangers posed by the driving previously observed in this area at the end of the day). Blue Badge holders are the only drivers automatically allowed access here – other drivers may seek permission from the headteacher due to specific circumstances (but distance from home to school is not one of these). Such permission may be granted on a temporary or permanent basis.

Respecting the Staff

Many thanks to the very large majority of parents (almost everyone, in fact) who understand the safety reasons behind the parking control measures that have been introduced. Any drivers who disagree with the procedures introduced are welcome to contact the headteacher, but are certainly not welcome to argue with the staff on duty for right of access, as a small number of individuals have done quite aggressively on occasion. Such staff perform a difficult job, sometimes in poor weather, to keep the children safe, and aggressive or abusive behaviour towards them will not be tolerated.

Similarly, our hard-working teaching and admin staff are entitled to dignity at work, and freedom from harassment or bullying. Physical aggression or verbal abuse, including undermining comments aimed at staff directly or indirectly, will not be tolerated, and the school reserves the right to implement sanctions in such circumstances.

Online Safety

The school was visited this week by Kristy Mesham from the NSPCC, to deliver an online safety workshop for parents. This was well received by those able to attend, and will be followed by online distribution of support materials for all, and pupil assemblies and workshops in early December. Kristy spoke of the need for parents to begin age-appropriate online safety discussions early with children, from the time at which they begin using internet-capable devices. This gets the children used to such discussions, which makes trickier conversations at a later age much easier to initiate. She also highlighted the value of an online resource jointly developed by the NSPCC and O2, which provides useful advice to parents about the many apps children may come to use. This is found at www.net-aware.org.uk/, and is available as a website but also as an app for both Apple and Android devices. I encourage all parents to visit this site as soon as possible, to become more familiar with this increasing part of the children's world.



Pupil Training



Year 6 pupils recently completed a week-long programme of *Bikeability* training with *Cycle Experience* tutors, learning how to keep themselves safe on the roads (from cycle maintenance to helmet use and practical road skills). The class engaged very well with the programme, and shared some of their learning in our assembly this morning.

Best wishes for a lovely half-term and a safe Halloween.

Mr Rose