



Huntington Community Primary School Newsletter

February 16th, 2018

Diary Dates

February

- 17th Half-term break
- 26th School re-opens
- 27th Y1 Tatton visit

March

- 1st World Book Day
- 5th Book Week
- 16th PTA Ladies' Night
- 19th – 23rd Book Fair
- 20-21st Parents' Evenings
- 23rd Sport Relief
- 27th KS2 Easter event
(St Luke's church)
- YR Farm visit
- 29th INSET day
- 30th Spring break begins

April

- 16th School re-opens
- 19th Robin Hood play
- 20th Y5/6 Maths Roadshow

May

- 2-4th Y4 Residential
- 7th Bank Holiday
- 14-18th Y6 SATs tests
- 26th Half-term break

June

- 4th School re-opens
- 11-15th Y1 phonics week
- 14th Class photos
- 18-22nd Y5/6 Residential
- 29th Sports Day

July

- 3rd Class swap day
- 18th Y6 Leavers' show
- 21st Summer break

It has been an exceptionally busy start to the calendar year, with feet barely touching the ground since Christmas, and much to report – as you will read.

Ofsted Inspection

As you will know, the school was inspected by Ofsted last week. The Inspector made some very complimentary comments and observations, the staff and governors found the experience a most positive one and all of the children made great contributions to the visit. Whilst we must wait for the official report after the half-term holiday, we look forward to sharing the key messages when we can. Thank you everyone who found the time to share their views of the school via the Parent View website and to pass on messages of support to staff – these were very much appreciated.



Deputy Headteacher

Following a recruitment process involving governors, pupil councillors and staff, we are pleased to announce that we will be joined after the summer half-term break by a new Deputy Headteacher. Mrs Lisa Nicholson is currently an Assistant Head at a Wirral school and will bring particular expertise in English; we look forward to welcoming her to our team at Huntington.

Twitter

Thanks to all who are following us on Twitter (117 and counting) and Liking/Commenting On the Tweets - although we can't promise we'll reply to the comments, it's lovely reading them! Twitter is a great way to keep abreast of activities within the school, and the staff are enjoying sharing the children's work and experiences with you. Even if you don't wish to receive updates to your Twitter account by 'Following' us, the Twitter feed is available on the homepage of the school website (scroll down just a little) and is updated every day with several photos/videos from across the school, so you can just view this when you wish. The Twitter feed was particularly welcomed by Year 3 parents recently, since they were able to see what their children were doing throughout the day while away at Burwardsley (prior to the evening photo uploads onto the website). All future residential and educational visits will benefit from this facility.



Year 3 Burwardsley Residential

The Burwardsley visit, for two classes this time, was again a great success, with a range of enjoyable history-themed activities provided in addition to nature walks, orienteering, den-building and, of course, an ice cream to finish (appropriate given the temperatures!). Many thanks to all the children, who were a credit to the school, and to the teachers and teaching assistants who gave up their evenings to ensure the children had a safe and happy time.



Burwardsley website galleries



Twitter updates from Burwardsley

New School Building

Rising now with certainty from the Cheshire Plain, our new school is taking shape at last. Meetings continue with governors and staff to finalise décor and facilities on an ongoing basis, trials of new dining furniture are taking place, and the excitement is definitely building (pun intended!).



Young Voices

After weeks of preparation in the autumn term, ably supported by Mr Jones and Mrs Ward, our choir participated for the first time in a Young Voices concert. Held at the Manchester Arena in January, this was a wonderful experience for the children and parents who attended, and one we are keen to repeat in years to come. Videos from the evening are still available to view on our Twitter feed, which was christened that evening in a quite spectacular manner. Well done to every member of the choir – you were amazing.

SPORT

Sportshall Athletics

A squad from Year 5 and 6 enjoyed competing against other schools at a recent indoor athletics event, following training throughout the autumn term with Martin Jones, PE tutor. The children took part in a wide range of indoor track and field events at the Ellesmere Port Sport Village, with the girls winning the relay event. Well done to all who competed, and thanks to the parents who were able to help transport and support them.

Girls' squad: Emily Bedford, Lottie Broady, Grace Crerand, Isobel Evans, Jasmine Johns, Poppy Slater, Tia Turner, Jess Walker, Tilly Wedderburn, Nyah Williams

Boys' Squad: Sol Curran, Kieran Handley, Cole Hodgson, Charlie Hughes, Mason Hughes, Liam Malone, Harrison Pugh, Noah Taylor, Tom Willis

Girls' Football

A strong Huntington squad performed with credit at the Cheshire County Finals earlier this term, competing at the Alexandra Soccer Centre near Crewe: this followed a stunning play-off victory against Tarvin, winning 3-2 having been 2-0 down at half-time. Impressive performances all round were much appreciated by Mr Jones, coaching, and the girls were an absolute credit to the school – well done to all of them.

Squad: Molly Bedford, Lottie Broady, Olivia Davis, Jasmine Johns, Hannah Pocock, Poppy Slater, Tia Turner

Basketball, Y4 Football

The school's commitment to wider sporting opportunities also enabled squads to compete in further inter-school competition, with the following pupils representing the school with enthusiasm and commitment:

Basketball Squad: Zafir Ahsan, Lottie Broady, Kieran Handley, Mason Hughes, Louis Lister, Poppy Slater, Tia Turner, Tom Willis

Y4 Football Squad: Holly Goodwin, Nathan Gorle, Amelia Hill, Baily Mansfield McKenna, Freddie Mayer, Laurence Nield, Kaylan Thompson, Ethan Willis

Behaviour Awards

Bridgegate were the winners of this half-term's House Point competition, securing a non-uniform day and much credit. The winners of the KS2 prize for the first half of the spring term are as below – and very well done to the other children whose behaviour has been exemplary.

Y6 – Oliver Maclaren

Y5 – Ava Scholes

Y4 – Amber Williams

Y3 Hazel – Millie Rees

Y3 Birch – Sophie Holland

HEALTH & SAFETY

Safer Internet Day 2018

Following training with Governor (and CEOP Ambassador) Gaynor Hudson, our new E-Safety team presented an assembly to the whole school on Safer Internet Day (Feb 6th). A short film about the effect that online comments can have was explored, with valuable lessons learned about online etiquette and how to respond to unkind messages.



E-Safety Assembly, presented by the E-Safety team

Driving – Hazards, Parking, Speed

The recent icy conditions posed particular challenges to all on the school run, but one resident contacted the school to express particular concern about a car being driven with two wheels on the pavement, forcing pedestrians against the hedge. This followed the observation of illegal dropping-off in the yellow zigzag zone by the entrances, despite the school having a dedicated drop-off zone within the car park. While the icy conditions may have played a part in some drivers' reluctance to deviate into the car park that day, illegal parking/dropping off is likely to be reported to the police.

Residents of Meadow Close have also contacted the school to complain, once again, about the behaviour of drivers parking in that road – this includes parking across driveways (preventing the owners exiting), parking too far out into the road, or on the grass verge (causing damage), and parking too close to the junction (causing difficulty for drivers leaving or entering the close). I would actually discourage parking in this road altogether, since residents are becoming extremely frustrated with the situation.

Finally, we should all note that **Butterbache Road is now designated a 20 mile an hour zone** – as are several other roads in the area.

WORLD BOOK DAY and BOOK WEEK

World Book Day falls during the first week back and, in a (possibly welcome) break from tradition, we will not be asking pupils to dress up as book characters. Instead, we would like to encourage everyone to create a book character from a potato, with book-themed prizes available for the best design in each class. The competition will be judged on World Book Day itself, Thursday March 1st, so all entries must be brought in on or before that day.

During the following week we will be holding a full week of book-related activities, with children working together across the age range on a variety of literacy projects. Following author Andrew Glennon's recent visit to Y5/6, and linked to our increased focus on text-based work within the English curriculum this year, this event promises to provide an exciting start to the next half-term.

Mr Rose



Example: Harry Potter characters, conjured up from potatoes