

Harewood C of E Primary School

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“Educating for Life In All Its Fullness”

11th March 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

This afternoon I would like to say a very well done to the following children for making the extra effort to impress this week.

<u>Class 1</u>
Excellent Early Learners Henry R Joshua D
<u>Class 2</u>
Wonderful Work: Hatima H Brilliant Behaviour: Sienna F
<u>Class 3</u>
Wonderful Work: Ottilie M Brilliant Behaviour: Isa I
<u>Class 4</u>
Wonderful Work: Isaac H Brilliant Behaviour: Joe B

Attendance

Maintaining high levels of attendance in school has been a struggle for some families, especially because things like COVID and Chicken Pox have been affecting our school. The local targets for attendance pre COVID were 97% and in the past Harewood had attained or been very close to this figure.

We are now just beyond the halfway point for the school year and audits of attendance have shown that whilst attendance has improved this term, some children are falling a long way behind the target figure. Attendance of less than 90% is classed as ‘Persistently Absent’. At the moment we have a number of children who this would apply to, some due to COVID but others due to a number of other reasons. COVID cannot be used to excuse absence and still counts as days of school missed in attendance figures the same as any other illness.

To maintain good progress and avoid gaps in learning it is important that children are in school whenever possible. Families should try to avoid appointments in school time and family holidays cannot be authorised in term time.

For those children who have been identified as having low attendance, we will be contacting families and sending out copies of the attendance records for this year. If you receive an attendance record for your child, and would like to discuss this with school, please get in touch. The main aim of this is to keep families informed so we can work to improve attendance through the rest of the year.



PTA Events

Tonight was the Class 1 and 2 Movie Night. The children have had a great time watching Babe. Class 3 and 4 Movie Night is Friday 25th March.

The PTA would also like me to remind families about donating Mother's Day gifts. The event is on Monday 21st March so donations need to be received by Thurs 17th at the latest.

If you have any new unused and unwanted gifts, toiletries (bubble bath, bath bombs, unopened nail polish etc.) nice trinkets, ornaments, scarves, candles, boxes of chocolates (you get the idea) then it would be very much appreciated. Please just make sure the donation is new, unused and in perfect condition to be re-gifted. Any donations of wrapping items, nice paper, ribbons and gift bags would also be welcome. Remember - one person's unwanted gift is another person's treasure!



The next PTA Bags2School collection is Friday 18th March. Please bring any bags first thing on Friday morning as the van usually arrives mid-morning.

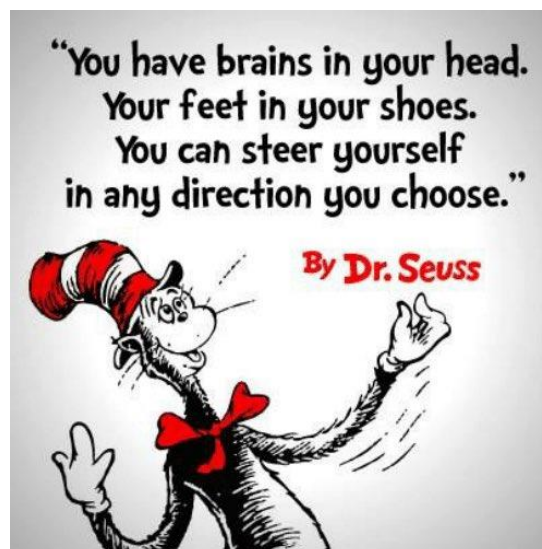
Music In Worship - Giant of Faith – Cheeky Pandas

The lyrics for this song start by reminding us we are all unique and special but one thing we all have in common is that Jesus is there for all of us, if we want him to be. This week as we think about 'wiping the slate clean and beginning again', we can think about these giants of faith from the Bible. We can think about the remarkable story of Noah from the beginning of the Bible, which shows that God promises to wipe things clean.

Here is the YouTube link for the song: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hsFDv6I0tbY>

'Wellbeing Statement of the Month'

This month our quote to reflect on is from Dr Seuss and is all about the choices we make each day.



Events and Dates for this half term – More details of each will be in future newsletters or by separate communications.

Date	Event
Friday 18 th March	Bag2School collection for PTA
Wednesday 23 rd March	Class 3 Football Match
Friday 25 th March	Wear a Hat Day (Brain Tumor Awareness)
Friday 25 th March	Class 3 and 4 Movie Night
Thursday 31 st March	PTA Bun Sale
Friday 1 st April	Last Day of School before Easter
Friday 1 st April	PTA Easter Activity Day

Have a good weekend.

Mr A. Ratcliffe

