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Educating For 'Life In All Its Fullness'

6th September 2024

Dear Families,

It has been lovely to welcome everyone back after the summer break and to hear about the many things families have been doing. The children have come back with such enthusiasm and made this week such a positive one round school.

As we usually do, we celebrated successes in school and at home in our family celebration assembly this afternoon. Below are the names of the first children to be awarded a Wonderful Work or Brilliant Behaviour this year. Well done to you all.

<u>Class 2</u>
Wonderful Work: Year 1 Brilliant Behaviour: Year 2
<u>Class 3</u>
Wonderful Work: Noori A Brilliant Behaviour: Francesca W
<u>Class 4</u>
Wonderful Work: Joseph A Brilliant Behaviour: Eli S

Welcomes

Firstly I would like to welcome our new families to Harewood. We have had some new children starting with us through school but also our new Reception Class. It has good being able to get to know you all this week and to welcome you to our community.

I would also like to formally welcome Mrs Miller to Harewood. Mrs Miller is teaching in Class 3 with Mr Sturgess and spending Wednesday afternoons with Class 2.

Open Evening

On Tuesday 10th September we will be holding an informal open evening for parents to come and say hello to class teachers, have a tour of the classroom and have the chance to ask questions about the year ahead. Like in previous years, this is an informal event starting straight after school and running for about 45 minutes. It is a great opportunity for you to meet the class teachers and the children to show you their new classes.

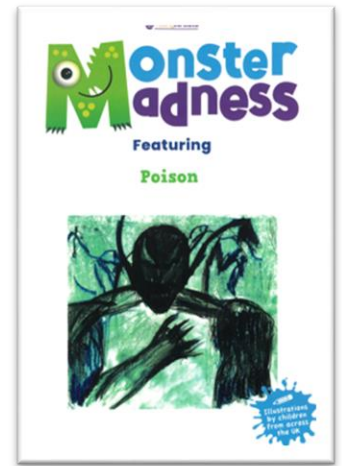
In addition to this, the children will be bringing home a welcome pack which contains a lot of the information you will need for the year ahead for your child. This will include routines, expectations, give you an idea of the things the children will be learning and ways you can help at home. Please look out for these in a blue folder next week.



Monster Madness

During the spring term of this year, children from Sunrise and Sunset Club entered a very exciting art project entitled Monster Madness. They were tasked with designing their own Monster and giving them a name with a view to having their artwork published in a book. All the children who entered the competition were chosen to feature in the book. Not only this, but Isa, from Year 6, was the overall winner out of all the Breakfast and After school clubs around the country. His design features on the front cover of the book and he also won an arts and craft set.

Well done to you all for producing such wonderful Mad Monsters. If you would like to view the book there will be a copy in the library for you to look at.



School Rewards

We are keen that the children of Harewood are recognised for the hard work and good manners that they show day in and day out. To do this, we have a range of rewards to praise the efforts made and say well done. These include our weekly certificates in assembly, class rewards and team points.



Last year we introduced a new method of recording team points in classes and a non-uniform reward for the team which attained the most team points in a half term. The feedback from the children was that they really liked this. This week, you will have seen that the children have all been given a coloured team badge to wear (suggested on their school ties to avoid having to remove it to change jumpers and for regular washing). This is to raise the profile of the teams in school and help the children know who is in their team in other year groups. Since their introduction the children have been proudly wearing them, which is great.

We have a stock of spare badges in the school office for those who would like replacements. These cost 50p to cover our costs, but also hopefully, help the children to look after the ones they have.

During the year the School Council and other pupil groups are going to be spending some time discussing other ways in which we can use our teams and other rewards to promote the values of the school. Watch this space.

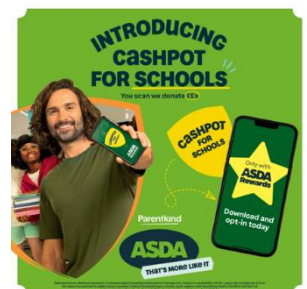
Newsletters and Class Updates

In an effort to avoid duplication of information and bombarding families in communication from school we are going to trial a change to the routines for whole school newsletters and the class updates. Today you will receive this newsletter from myself and a class update from your class teacher, as it is the first week back, but from next week we will be alternating newsletters and class updates. This means you will receive one or the other but not both each week.

Asda Cashpot for schools (<https://www.asda.com/cashpotforschools>)

Earlier this week it was brought to my attention that Asda is running a school fund raising initiative linked to their reward card. If any families shop at Asda and link Harewood to their Asda App, we will receive a cash donation to school. I have registered Harewood for the scheme and hope that this may raise us a bit of money to support our work with the children.

Full details can be found at the web link above or on the letter I have attached with the newsletter.



Collective Worship Music - Everything is Possible – Philippa Hanna

Our first song this year is called 'Everything is Possible' by Philippa Hanna. I chose this song as our first song of the new academic year to remind us all that 'everything is possible'. As we begin to think about all the new challenges we are going to be facing this year – new classes, new teachers, new experiences, it is time to believe in ourselves and listen to the song that 'everything is possible' if we approach every day with a positive attitude and treat each day as a new day. Christians believe that God is with us and that he will be there to strengthen us in the times we feel a bit unsure and he will help us rise to any challenges we face. Remember though, that challenges are more easily faced when we join together and help each other. So, as we begin our new school year, let's all work together and make this year full of wonderful achievements, so we can be really proud of ourselves.

Here is the YouTube link for the song: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=793-SZ5elNo>

Dates for this Half Term

Date	Event
Monday 9 th September	Class 3 swimming starts
Tuesday 10 th September	Informal open evening for classes (3.20pm start – Come and say hello to the teachers and your child can give you a tour of their class)
Tuesday 17 th September	Flu Immunisations
Friday 20 th September	Year 1 Audiology Screening
Thursday 26 th September	Class 1 Phonics Meeting – 6pm (Option 1)
Friday 27 th September	Class 1 Phonics Meeting – 3.20pm (Option 2)
Wednesday 2 nd October	Individual Pupil Photographs
Friday 11 th October	Class 4 Trip to Leeds City Museum
Thursday 24 th October	Final day for pupils
Friday 25 th October	Training Day
Monday 4 th November	Children return today after the half term break

Have a lovely weekend.

Mr Ratcliffe

