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# Educating For 'Life In All Its Fullness'

24<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Dear Families,

Last week in our celebration assembly, we said well done to the following children, for making the extra effort to impress with their work, or their behaviour and attitude.

<b><u>Class 1</u></b>
<b><u>Excellent Early Learners</u></b> Milli L and Sebastian L
<b><u>Class 2</u></b>
Wonderful Work: Luna L Brilliant Behaviour: Bob W
<b><u>Class 3</u></b>
Wonderful Work: Hatima H Brilliant Behaviour: Joshua D
<b><u>Class 4</u></b>
Wonderful Work: Emily C Brilliant Behaviour: Kailan P

As we come to the end of the first half term of the year it is great to be able to celebrate some of the amazing things the children have been doing. There has been so much hard work and great learning this term with children learning new routines for classes, having new teachers, trying new thing and welcoming new classmates. School has been an amazingly busy and positive place to be. All classes have been out on School Trips to the Harewood Estate and other locations to support their learning, with others planned after half term. We have welcomed visitors to school and held a number of charity events including our Harvest Festival collection for the Wetherby Food Bank.

We maybe a small school, but together we are a great community of friendship, support and learning. This is evident day after day in school, but it is always good for this to be recognised externally as well. Last year we were able to announce that we were in the **top 1% attaining schools in the country** by the DfE. Harewood has recently been named in the **top 5 schools in West Yorkshire** for attainment in their list of [best performing state schools](#) and this year we are **provisionally the best attaining school in Leeds** for combined Reading, Writing and Maths at Key Stage 2.

This only happens with a lot of hard work, consistency and a team effort with staff, children and families all working together over many years, from the children starting with us in Reception, right until the children leave at the end of Year 6. Well done everyone at Harewood.



## Pumpkin Party

Today saw our PTA Pumpkin Party in school. Thank you to everyone who contributed to making this a big success and such fun for the children. The costumes and pumpkin designs were all amazing. Families always surpass



themselves with their inspiration for things like this. I am hoping to be able to put photographs for you to look at on the school website on the gallery page in the next few days.

Please look out for other PTA events coming up next half term. If you are able to help, please get in touch with any of the committee or use the class WhatsApp groups to volunteer.

### School Council Frosty Fest!

Harewood School Council have come up with an excellent suggestion to celebrate, recycle and raise funds for the school. We will be holding our first Frosty Fest on **Friday 6th December**.

In order to prepare for this we will be having a **non-uniform day on Friday 8th November**. We are asking that the children pay **£1** to be allowed to come to school dressed as they like for the day. **We would also gratefully accept donations of sweets and party bag toys** (Christmas themed would be awesome if you can) to make into Lucky Bags for the Frosty Fest. Please bring these in on 8/11/24 to allow time for wrapping and sorting before the main event.

If you are having a clear out over half term, **please keep hold of any used books, toys, Christmas jumpers, pyjamas and decorations. We will be collecting second hand items for stalls at the event throughout the week beginning 25/11/24**. We will be spending the proceeds of the non-uniform day on additional items for a secret Santa stall and some themed games. With your kind support, it will be a wonderful seasonal event for us all to enjoy.

*Mrs Dodd and the School Council*



### Poppy Sales

Remembrance Sunday falls on the weekend after we return to school. During the second week of the half term classes will be spending some time reflecting on remembrance and promoting peace.

Our Church School Ambassadors will be coming round school in the first week selling the traditional poppies and other items in aid of the Royal British Legion. If you would like your child to make a purchase please send them with a donation during the first week back after the holiday.



### After School Club Bookings

In recent weeks both Sunrise and Sunset Clubs have had a number of children turning up without booking a place. Whilst we have been able to accommodate them, this can cause problems, especially with having the right amount of food prepared. When children are not booked in we have no idea if they are needing tea and there were a few times last week where food was wasted as a result of this and other days where not enough was prepared.

Bookings are very flexible, can be made up to midnight the night before the club you would like and in emergencies children can be booked in by ringing the school office. Please don't just leave the children with us without letting us know first.

### Names in Clothing

Please, Please, Please can families check that names are added to school uniform. It is only a couple of weeks since we last cleared out lost property and it is full again with unnamed items (mainly jumpers and hoodies). When items have names it is easy to return them but without we end up asking endlessly and children do not claim them.

One way to help with this is to purchase name labels. Our PTA have an agreement with a company who donate a percentage of any sale to our PTA if you make the purchase through a specific



link or use our school code. The link you need is <https://www.mynametags.com/affiliate?id=64284> and our school ID code is **64284** if you are asked.

Anything that helps us return items will help. Thank you.

### **Parking**

I know I have said this before, but it is important that everyone parks in a way which is safe, legal and does not cause problems for our local community. We are not alone in not having enough parking round school at key times of the day. The majority of schools are the same. When you are finding somewhere to park, please do not use the bus stop (you may get fined for this), block driveways or park on footpaths in a way which means it is difficult for pedestrians to pass. Recently it has been noted that families have started parking on the pavement between the main school gates and the traffic lights. Please avoid this, as it is blocking the footpath and hindering traffic turning left at the lights.

We have been informed that a Traffic Warden is likely to be doing spot visits next half term and I wanted to avoid families being fined by warning you first.

### **Updating Contact Details Reminder**

We have recently sent out a number of communications to families which have not got through to everyone. This has been a combination of us having old email addresses or family email addresses not working as they should. Please ensure that school has email addresses which are up to date and working.

The best way of notifying school of changes is via email to [office@harewood.leeds.sch.uk](mailto:office@harewood.leeds.sch.uk).

### **A Few Requests for Help**

Reception are still looking for a couple of balance bikes and Sunset Club are after board games or construction sets if you have spares or ones that your children have grown out of.

We are also in need of things like leggings, tracksuit bottoms and underwear as spares. Mainly smaller sizes but a few larger ones are also useful. Again, if you have any this would help.

### **Wellbeing Quote for the Month**

The weather outside has turned distinctly autumnal but there is a lot to look forward to at this time of the year. Change can sometimes be worrying but can also be refreshing and exciting.



*Autumn is the season that teaches us change can be beautiful.*

### **Collective Worship Music - Come, Now is the Time to Worship – Brian Doerksen**

This week's song is 'Come, Now is the Time to Worship'. It is a well-known Christian worship song written by Brian Doerksen in 1998. The song encourages believers to come just as they are, without needing to be perfect or ready, and to take a moment to focus on God and worship Him.

'Come, Now is the Time to Worship' is a special song that reminds us how important it is to set aside time for God, no matter what else we have going on in our day. The words encourage us to come just as we are, whether we feel happy, sad, or busy and take a moment to focus on God. When we sing this song, we're reminded that worship isn't just something we do at church on Sundays, but something we can do anytime, anywhere. By giving our time to God in worship, even if it's just a few minutes, we show Him that He is important in our lives.

This week we are thinking about giving our time. As well as giving our time to God, we can think about the time we spend with our friends or family. Time is one of the most precious things we have to



give and spending time with people shows them we care. Just like the song, we come 'just as we are' and we can be our wonderful selves with our family and friends. It can be really hard sometimes in our busy lives to remember to slow down and to just spend time being with someone special. So, over the holidays, slow down and think about spending some quality time with the special people in your lives.

YouTube link for the song: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5LO1K58Io54>

### Dates for this Half Term

Date	Event
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> October	Training Day
Half Term Break	
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	Children return today after the half term break
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> November	Y5/6 Football tournament at Boston Spa
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> and Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> November	Parents Evenings
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	School Council Non-uniform Day
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	D:Side Workshops (Internet Safety)
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	Class 2 trip to Lotherton Hall
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> November	Class 3 Trip – Murton Park
WB 25 <sup>th</sup> November	Collecting items for the School Council Frosty Fest.
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	Whole school Nativity Trip
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	MindMate Workshops
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	School Council 'Frosty Fest'
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	Class 2 Productions (2pm and 6pm)
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Whole School Nativity Performances (AM and PM)
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Dinner Day
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day of school before the Christmas break

Have a good weekend and half term.

Mr Ratcliffe

