



HARTLEY PRIMARY ACADEMY
NEWSLETTER 9 – JUNE

Academic Year 2015 - 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are racing through the Summer term and finally the sun is beginning to shine (or it was until today!) We have had such a busy time since the last newsletter including all the events listed below. The Holland Trip was a huge success both children and adults came back exhausted but full of stories about all the experiences they had shared. I must take this opportunity to thank the adults who planned and supported this trip: Mrs Lambourne, Mr Dutton, Mrs Mead, Mrs Skinner and Mr Goldsmith - they did not stop working 24/7 and provided the very best care and provision for your children. I would particularly like to thank Mrs Hollingworth who gave up her time as a volunteer to go with the group, I know the children and adults were glad she was there.

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The latest calendar is enclosed

Pupil Events

The Suffolk Trip followed the Holland excursion and despite nerves on the part of the children (and some parents) everyone had a fantastic time - the highlight I think was the street party/indoor camp 'fire' celebrating the Queen's 90th Birthday. Our team of adults were fantastic – led by Mrs Adams, Miss Grundy, Mrs King, Mr Goldsmith, Mrs Bruce and Mr Adams – all of whom managed on very little sleep and kept the children on their toes! Year 4s have been busy – they enjoyed the K'nex Summer Challenge this week and also had another fun day out yesterday visiting Horton Kirby, a great way to learn about science and environments in a real and relevant way.

Our Year 3 children took part in the Chicken-Wire Workshops after half-term – trying out new craft skills. They have now moved on to developing their swimming skills over the next few weeks. Thank you so much to our parent helpers who have offered their time to supervise the children.

The diary of events for the remainder of the term and beyond can be found at the end of this newsletter.

Sports Days

Please make a note of the Sports Day dates later in the term – KS2's is on Wednesday 29th June and Reception/Year 1 and 2's is on Monday 4th July. The children will be taking part in field events as well as the track races. As in previous years, parents will be able to follow their children around the various activities. Both Sports Days will finish in time for the children's lunchbreak (12:00 for Reception/KS1 and 12:30 for KS2).

School Council

Our penny collection is going well; please remember to drop in any unwanted pennies (sterling only) via your child. The Mrs Creed and the School Council is focused on raising funds for table tops and will also be holding a stall at this weekend's Summer Fair.

Reception Classes 2016 and In-Year Admissions

We are completely full for Reception in September this year – in fact, we have a waiting list. Over 180 applications were received for 60 places. We are full in most other year groups across the school.

Summer Uniform

Please respect our school uniform policy particularly with regard to shoes. Sling-backed, high heels and 'flip-flop' type shoes are not practical for school. From time to time parents have unexpected, short-term problems with children's footwear or uniform and in such circumstances, we request you send a note in or speak to the teacher. We appreciate that so close to the summer holidays, when children's feet will no doubt grow – that you may not wish to purchase expensive leather shoes until closer to September. We suggest for the short number of weeks left that in such circumstances black canvas plimsolls might be worn. These are easy to obtain from nearby shops and can be as inexpensive as £5.00 a pair. **Trainers are NOT allowed at any point in the year.** Girls may choose to wear summer dresses at this time of the year. Red-check dresses are allowed. Boys' shorts should be plain black or grey.

Uniform Orders for New Academic Year

Please be aware that orders in time for September must be with Brigade by **1st August 2016** (website: www.brigade.uk.com). Thank you.

And still on uniform and appearance...

We ask that parents respect our code of appearance when children return to school in September. Summer holidays are the perfect time for children to experiment with different hairstyles, nail varnish and fashion accessories. Please allow time for 'extreme' hairstyles with colours, Mohican-type styles, tramlines and other patterns shaved into hair, to grow out before returning to school.

Reducing Our Costs

Small things like the cone cups we use and boxes of tissues mount up over the year and we will have to stick to our allocated budget for these. When the money runs out, so will the cups and tissues, so please could you ensure that if your child has hay fever or a cold you provide them with their own pack of tissues. Similarly, children can fill up their water-bottles from the coolers – a cone cup is not an essential.

After School Clubs

The last week for our clubs is week commencing Monday 27th June – Year 1 and 2's Take Pride Club will not be taking place (owing to the Buckingham Palace trip) and the last session of Mrs Smitherman's Art Club will be on Wednesday 22nd June.

Parking Around School: Complaint from a Hartley Resident

Sadly, we have had a complaint from a resident regarding inconsiderate parking and unacceptable behaviour from some parents when approached by residents. We are privileged to have our school in such a beautiful setting and our access road is home for many people. Please set a good model for your children by respecting our residents and their usual tolerance of the very busy times at the start and end of the school day. Please remember the one-way system, do not park over people's drives

and where possible, park further away and walk the children part if not all the way to school. Walking in the morning actually benefits the children's ability to learn during the day!



Macmillan Coffee Morning

This will take place on Friday 30th September and once again, Mrs Skinner has offered to organise this. More details will follow when we start back in the new academic year, but Mrs Skinner asks that you put this in your diary! Last year, lots of parents joined us for coffee and a catch up. Many contributed either cakes, gifts for a Macmillan raffle or both! I know that Mrs Skinner has been approaching some of last year's volunteers. Please let the School Office have your name if you will be happy to support this year's event. Thank you.



PTA Events

Tomorrow we have our Summer Fair and really look forward to welcoming you all for a fun and relaxing time in our beautiful school. The PTA have worked hard to prepare for this and I know they would still welcome additional hands on the day to help with the setting up and clearing away at the end of the afternoon. All the funds raised go back into school. This year the focus is on improving resources for outside learning such as a new outside classroom and store boxes for wellies.

School Meals

As part of the Leigh Academies Trust, the school underwent a tender process for the provision of the catering service. The catering contract has been awarded to Olive Dining and the current service provider's contract, TCS Independent Limited, ceases at the end of July. On that basis, please ensure there are no outstanding monies owed on your child's account. Olive Dining's website is <http://www.olive-catering.com/> - we will continue to have the same staff providing for our children – but are excited by the menus and options currently under discussion. More information to follow!

Continuing from last year, all children in Years R, 1 and 2 are entitled to Free School Meals. However, parents with children currently in Year 2 will need to take the decision about whether to carry on with School Meals when their children move into Year 3 and the funding stops.

IMPORTANT: Families who would have been eligible for Free School Meals under the 'old' system should still apply. Additional funding is made available to schools based on the numbers of children eligible for Free School Meals and this helps us provide intervention groups and additional adult support. I cannot emphasise how important this is – if you are in any doubt about your eligibility, which is based on income, please contact the School Office in confidence. They will be happy to support and advise – and are able to make a claim on your behalf.

Breakfast Club

We are fully booked Monday through to Friday and have a waiting list in place for September 2016. In addition, can we please ask that we have prior notice of changes to regular schedules. Owing to the fact we are completely full, we cannot accommodate adhoc requests for places. Our financial year runs from 1st September to 31st August. Mrs King will be issuing June's invoices on 30th June and July's sessions on 1st July (initially a guestimate of sessions to be attended).

Please pay immediately upon receipt. Adjustments will be made later in the month. All balances must be paid by Wednesday 20th July. Please can our Year 6 parents ensure they have paid all outstanding monies as we might not be seeing you again in September!

Goodbyes

We say goodbye to Miss Turk at the end of this term. Following her hard work and commitment to Hartley, Miss Turk has decided to take a break from teaching to go travelling and explore the world - an experience that we look forward to hearing about on her return. We will miss her but wish her well on her new adventure.

Another person we will greatly miss is Mrs Smitherman who retires at the end of the term. I have only known Mrs Smitherman for a short time but have learnt about and seen, the wonderful contribution she has and still makes to the school over the many years that she has worked here. Mrs Smitherman is

responsible for the coordination of our wonderful displays and the art and craft the children enjoy so much. She has also been a wise and effective leader and coach to many teachers. I know that you will all want to wish her well in the next chapter of her life.

So, for tomorrow I hope the rain stops, the sun emerges and we can enjoy our Summer Fair. Gates open at midday and the fair will be opened by our Year 3's performing a dance from 'Bugsy Malone'. I look forward to seeing many of you there!

Yours sincerely



Mrs S Goosani
Principal

Please see below for Forthcoming Events...

JUNE	
Friday 17 th June	Year 3 Swimming Session 2 (pm)
Saturday 18 th June	PTA Summer Fair (12 – 4pm)
Friday 24 th June	Year 1 Class Assembly to Parents. Year 3 Swimming Session 3 (pm)
Monday 27 th June	Last Week of Clubs (No Take Pride Club on Tues/No Art Club on Wed)
Tuesday 28 th June	Year 1 Trip to Buckingham Palace
Wednesday 29 th June	KS2 Sports Day (am)
Thursday 30 th June	Year 2 Class Assembly to Parents
JULY	
Friday 1 st July	Year 3 Swimming Session 4 (pm). Deadline for applications for the Kent Test.
Monday 4 th July	Foundation & KS1 Sports Day (am)
Tuesday 5 th July	Transition Morning. Longfield Music Festival (Rehearsals am, with an evening performance).
Thursday 7 th July	Transition Morning
Friday 8 th July	Year 3 Swimming Session 5 (pm). Year 6 Safety in Action. Reports to Parents.
Monday 11 th July	Year 6 Dress Rehearsal
Tuesday 12 th July	Year 2 Trip to Botany Bay. Year 6 Production Evening (7.00 – 8.00pm)
Wednesday 13 th July	Year 6 Production Evening (7.00 - 8.00pm)
Thursday 14 th July	Report Discussion Afternoon
Friday 15 th July	Year 3 Swimming Session 6 (pm). Last Hannah May session.
Wednesday 20 th July	Year 6 Leavers Service at Fawkham Church
	PTA School Disco - Foundation/KS1: 5.00-6.00pm, KS2: 6.15-7.15pm Yr6: 7.15-8.15pm
Thursday 21st July	Last Day of Term 6
Friday 22nd July	STAFF TRAINING DAY school closed for children
	Summer Break to Friday 2nd September (Monday 5th September will be a Staff Training Day - school will be closed to pupils).

September	
Thursday 1 st September	Secondary Common Application – online application available
Tuesday 6th September	Term 1 of New Academic Year 2016/17 Begins
Thursday 8 th September	Kent Test held in school