



HARTLEY PRIMARY ACADEMY
NEWSLETTER 6

Academic Year – 2015 – 2016
February



Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy Leap Year and welcome to the 29th day of February!
What short terms these are! It was such a long run up to Christmas and before we know it Easter will be upon us.

Appointment of a New Principal

The Governors along with senior Trust personnel were successful in appointing a new Principal, Mrs Sarah Goosani, from the beginning of Term 5. Mrs Goosani has worked within the Kent Advisory Service and most recently as a Deputy Head in a large primary school in Essex. There were no internal applicants. Please be assured that we will conduct an efficient handover in order that it is 'business as usual' when the children return in April and I am sure Mrs Goosani will make lots of visits beforehand so that the children will already be familiar with her.

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Latest News:

Assessment Information Evening

Mrs Lambourne ran a presentation to parents on the Wednesday before we broke for half term which was well attended. Lots of questions were asked and we hope that the answers we were able to give parents was helpful. Thank you to Mrs Lambourne who heads-up assessment in school for all the work she did in preparation for this evening and for the work with PupilAsset in setting up the system and ensuring it works for all stakeholders.

Parent Consultation Evenings

Thank you to all our parents who attended their appointments last week and as always, I would like to thank our staff for their preparation and commitment. Without their dedication to putting in the groundwork for these evenings they wouldn't be as beneficial as I believe they are. Our Year 6 pupils do a fantastic job of receiving parents – my thanks to those parents who 'released' their children for both nights. Teachers have also accommodated a large number of parents who were unable to attend on either evening. My thanks to them for working additional hours to see these parents - who I'm sure appreciated the extra time made available for them. We publish Parents' Consultation Evening dates well in advance and we ask that parents put these on their calendars and try to ensure that they are able to attend. It is unfair to ask teachers to continue to give up their time to fit in extra appointments unless there has been, perhaps an emergency which has meant an alternative is a necessity.

Dodgeball

Some of our Year 3 children took part in an inter-school Dodgeball competition last week. They performed well and their behaviour was praised – Hartley children always behave impeccably when representing the school! Thank you to Mrs Fewell for organising, Miss Shorter for supervising on the day and for the children in Years 3 who took part.

Kent Messenger – My Mum 2016

For parents of children in Years R, 1 and 2 you might be interested in purchasing the Kent Messenger published this week. Our children have submitted pictures of their mummies which will be printed for your delight! Please refer to their website for further details:

<http://www.kentonline.co.uk/whats-on/news/my-mum-90661>

Information Notices:

On Friday 11th March, Jeremy Kite, MBE, Leader of Dartford Borough Council will be coming into school to talk to our School Council. He is a very busy man, formally Chair of the Longfield Governing Body and still a member of the Leigh Trust – so we are grateful to him for lending us some of his time and we look forward to asking him lots of questions.

Reminders:

Dance Workshops – Our PTA kindly subsidise West End in Schools and over a 2 day period next week our children will enjoy dance workshops in school. If you haven't already done so, please send in a £1 donation to cover (in part) the cost of this event, thank you.

World Book Day – is being celebrated on Friday 4th March, we will be joining in with many other schools in dressing up for World Book Day. Once again, I will miss the early arrival of the children in their costumes as I have a Trust Principals' Meeting – apologies. As a parent whose sewing capabilities rely on 'Wonderweb', safety pins and double sided sellotape, I sympathise with those whose blood runs cold every time 'dressing up' is mentioned! Please do not think that you have to run to huge expense in sourcing wonderful costumes. Some of the very best are the home-made variety with cardboard, paint and glue! Could we please ask that parents send in their children with a £1 donation. We are supporting **Book Aid International** on this day. Book Aid International sends up to **1 million** brand new, carefully selected books to libraries in Africa where they are read and enjoyed by children. Please may I take this opportunity to ask that children still come with appropriate outdoor wear for playtimes.

Year 1 – A visit from 'Dino Man' is happening on **Thursday 10th March**. We wait with trepidation since we are hoping to have a T-Rex on site!! The Travelling Natural History Museum will be bringing all things dinosaur into school next week. You have been warned!



Year 2 - Freshwater Theatre will be visiting Beech and Sycamore classes also on **Thursday 10th March**, when children will learn more about the Great Fire of London.

Forthcoming Events:

PTA Quiz Night

Come and pit your musical wits against the Quizmaster (Mr Seager) who we are told has some fiendishly challenging musical rounds for us. We begin at 7.30pm. Bring your own refreshments.

Mothers' Day Stall – on Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th March our PTA will be managing a stall for all gifts with mummy theme!

Year 5 – Greek Day - our Year 5 children will be enjoying a Greek Day on **Tuesday 22nd March** and we have invited the children to dress according to the fashions of Ancient Greece on that day. The children will be sampling Greek food on the same day. Please can they also bring in suitable outdoor clothing for breaktime and lunchtime.

PTA Easter Bunny Hunt

For Reception, Year 1 and Year 2: **Monday 21st March** and for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6: **Tuesday 22nd March**. Letters will be coming home very shortly providing details and the entry form. Please can entries be back in school (via your child's Class teacher or PTA box in Reception) by Monday 14th March to give the bunny plenty of time to prepare – we cannot accept late entries. **Please also remember that all children must be accompanied by an adult who will remain responsible for them during the event.** Thank you!

Yours sincerely

Handwritten signature of Mrs Hollingworth

Mrs Hollingworth
Principal