



Horwood and Newton Tracey Community Primary School Newsletter

Friday, 24th September 2021

Dear parents, carers and children

This week was very exciting as we had our first trip "out" since Covid. Class 2 went on a wonderful day visit to Westward Ho! The children enjoyed the new, interactive visitor centre (which is definitely worth visiting again if you have time), went on a mini beast scavenger hunt and looked at the coastal geography features. The children discussed man-made and natural coastal features, as well as learning about the negative impact of littering. Thank you to the staff and parent volunteers for organising such a lovely day out of learning for the class.

In Family Groups this week, the children have learnt about British Values – the aspects which make the UK distinctive. These are: democracy, the rule of law, tolerance of others, mutual respect and individual liberty. We have launched a poster competition for the children to complete at home and winning entries will be used around the school to promote this important aspect of living in the UK. Entries via the class teachers please or through the front door.

Mrs Lisa Eadie
Headteacher
head@hntps.org

School improvement and staff training

Our vision, as a school, is to enable children "to be the best that they can be". This happens through the hard work and dedication of our staffing team who regularly attend training courses to keep them up to date with the curriculum and develops good practice for teaching and learning. This week Mrs Dixon has attended an early years' phonics course "**Letters and Sounds**", Mrs Hopkins has attended part 2 of a "**Drawing and Talking Therapy course**", Mrs Simpson and Mrs Hopkins have learnt about **writing teaching sequences**, using recommended high quality texts with the Local Authority literacy team and Miss Wooddisse has attended the **PE Co-ordinators' briefing** at GTS with all the primary feeder schools. This is part of her ongoing professional development and has also provided a calendar of team sporting events which our children will attend throughout the year.

We also had a School Improvement visit from the Local Authority advisor Jo Dymond who met with the Headteacher and discussed our positive return to school; the expectations and preparations needed for OFSTED; curriculum leads and pupils and she met with Governors. Her recommendations will form part of the school's ongoing school improvement and development plan.

How to contact us

We realise that issues arise with your child through the week which you would like to discuss with your child's teacher. We are working hard to make sure we can help you speak with us, whilst still keeping the school safe for Covid. Please could you email your child's teacher, in the first instance with any queries, concerns or positive feedback. Email details were sent out previously, are on the class pages on the website and are also on the noticeboard outside the school.



Tea @ 3 with Mrs Eadie

Tea @ 3 is awarded to those children who have kept the school "Golden Rules" and is a Friday afternoon reward of tea/hot chocolate, cake and biscuits with Mrs Eadie. To keep mixing of children to a minimum, Tea @ 3 will be held with 4 children from each class, each week. Today's pupils from Class 2 are: Isaac, Anais, Imogen and William. Well done!

School Council – today the School Council are meeting with Miss Wooddisse to discuss how to re-launch the school's Citizenship Award through the Family Groups.

Family Group Points

Each week the children's individual reward "Dojo" points are being added together so a celebration cup can be awarded the winning Family Group. Last week the winners were Torridge. The cup is being displayed with the winning group's colours on the Meeting Room window sill for everyone to see and celebrate with us. Dojo points are awarded in line with our positive learning behaviours.

Class Trips

Class 3 and 4 Wednesday, 29th September to Heddon's Mouth

Class 2 Wednesday, 29th September to Newton Tracey church

Please send **consent forms back asap and make any payments via ParentPay** to help us finance the coach costs.

Wednesday 29th September – Class 1 picnic lunch

As Classes 2, 3 and 4 are out for trips on Wednesday, Class 1 will be offered a picnic lunch to have at the field instead of a roast dinner. If the weather is poor, the picnic will be held inside. There is no charge as the children are entitled to universal free school meals. Please could you let the school know, however, if you would prefer to provide your own lunch on this day. Thank you.

Personal, Health, Social and Economic Education (PHSEE): Class 1 and 2 will be learning next week about how they are special and unique. In Classes 3 and 4 the children will learn about resolving differences. Using the "We Eat Elephants" problem-solving "talk" solutions the children will be considering the scenario of "Adam needs to hurry up". The positive mental health focus is "eating well".

COMMUNITY NEWS

Parish Council - The Parish Council would like to remind parents and carers that the Parish Field is a dog free zone. Dogs may not be exercised in this area. The school is very grateful for this decision as we regularly use the field for sports events and learning and keeping it dog free makes it a safer environment for our pupils. Thank you everyone for your co-operation.

Secondary School Applications - The application process is now open for Year 6 parents/carers to apply for secondary school. More information is available on the Devon County Council website: <https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/apply-for-a-school-place/apply-for-a-secondary-school-place> **Secondary School Open Days** - All secondary schools are holding open day events – some of which have needed to be changed to virtual events, due to high cases of Covid. Visit the schools' websites for more information.

The British Values the children are learning about:

