



Horwood and Newton Tracey Community Primary School Newsletter

Friday, 4th March 2022

Dear parents, carers and children

This week the children came back from half term refreshed and ready to learn. The teachers have spent a great deal of time writing their school, annual reports which are being sent home today. The reason we write the annual report in the Spring Term (rather than at the end of the Summer Term) is to keep you informed of your child's progress half way during the school year and to give us, and you, a chance for any issues to be addressed.

Nursery and Reception reports will be sent out during the Summer Term as they have a separate, statutory reporting system.

Your parent/carer consultation details should now have been emailed to you. We would strongly encourage you to attend this meeting so that we can celebrate your child's success and also raise any concerns with you.

A reminder that children should not attend these appointments as teachers would like to be free to discuss the children with you. If you do not have childcare, then a telephone appointment will of course be available.

Mrs Lisa Eadie
Headteacher
head@hntps.org

Upcoming Trips and Dates

Mon, 7th March – Steve Manning (storyteller)
Tues, 8th March – Y3 Forest School
Tues, 8th and Wed, 9th March – **parent/carer consultations**
Wed, 9th March – C3 and 4 Tarka Tennis and Falcons Gymnastics
Thu, 10th March – Y3 and 4 Cricket Festival at GTS
Mon, 14th March – Civil War historian visitors
Tues, 15th March – Whole School Trip to Torrington
Tues, 15th March – Full Governors' meeting

After School Clubs

After School Clubs start back on **Tuesday, 15th March.**

Steve Manning – Storyteller

On Monday, 7th March our popular storyteller Steve Manning is visiting. Steve will be telling traditional tales to the nursery and reception children and Creation stories with the rest of the school. The school is paying for this event through our previous fundraising efforts.

English Civil War historian visit

We have visitors into school on Monday, 14th March who are bringing artefacts and exciting knowledge about the Battle of Torrington and the English Civil War.

Each class will enjoy dressing up in costumes and handling artefacts. The children will also have a demonstration of musket firing on the playground in the afternoon. Again, the school is going to fund this visit from the money raised at previous events.

Whole School Trip to Torrington

On Tuesday, 15th March all children will be visiting Torrington with a local history study focus. This links with the children studying about the English Civil War and the Battle of Torrington in 1646.

Enabling children to be the best that they can be!

Ukraine Fundraising

The children have understandably been asking questions about the events in Ukraine and this week we held special, joint class assemblies to discuss what they should do if they were worried about the things they hear on the news. We are also making sure that we sensitively discuss any questions the children ask in classes but have encouraged the children to be mindful of the things they discuss with their friends.

The children clearly wish to do something to help and so the school councillors have researched which charities will be supporting the people of Ukraine. We have agreed to donate to the DEC (Disasters Emergency Committee) as the UK Government will match fund donations up to £20million. From next week, the school councillors will be collecting cash donations every morning in their classes. If you would like to donate to this fund, please send in cash with your child/ren. There will be no pressure to donate.



Family Group Art Competition

The winning Family Group for our art competition was Yeo with their Van Gogh sunflower picture. Well done Yeo! The winning piece ...



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Staffing Update

We have been fortunate to have had Mr McKernan-Lewis teaching Class 4 temporarily on Fridays but, due to family situation, he has had to stop this commitment. In place we have Mrs Sharon Carter who we welcome to our teaching team. At the end of last year, we had to make a sudden, temporary appointment to cover staffing changes. I am pleased to report that Mrs Laura Wallace has now been successful in securing this post on a permanent basis. Congratulations.

Visit by Rev Gary Owen

We are very fortunate to have strong links with the local community and as part of this arrangement, Rev Gary attended our whole school assembly this week and talked about Pancake Day, Ash Wednesday and Lent as part of the Christian calendar counting down to Easter.

Family Group Easter Bake off Competition

This half term challenge is an Easter bake off which will be judged by Rev Gary Owen on the last day of term and include a cake sale and an Easter hat competition. More details to follow.



Personal, Health, Social and Economic Education (PHSEE): All classes continue to follow our PHSEE curriculum with a focus this term on Relationships. Classes 1 and 2 will learn that people's bodies and feelings can be hurt (including what makes them feel comfortable and uncomfortable). Classes 3 and 4 will learn to recognise and manage "dares".

Classes 1 and 2 are using the "**We Eat Elephants**" scenario of "Chloe is being bullied" and Classes 3 and 4 are using a scenario based on the character Deepak. The **positive mental health** focus is "ask for help".

COMMUNITY NEWS

Newton Tracey Parish Church – Youth club. Thursday, 10th March 6 – 7.30 pm. £2 per child for ages 8 and upwards. **Quiz Night** 26th March. Teams of 6 invited to take part. More information from Kate: 01271 858268.

Parish Council Meeting – Horwood, Lovacott and Newton Tracey meeting at 7 pm at the Village Hall on Wednesday, 9th March.

Devon Mobile Library – the mobile library van visits every week outside Lovacott Garage from 2.50 – 3.30 pm on Mondays. Whilst this is after school for our pupils, parents and pre-school children are warmly invited to visit and join up.

