

# Horwood and Newton Tracey Community Primary School Newsletter

Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Dear parents, carers and children

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a restful Christmas break. The children have come back rested and ready to learn.

Thankfully a lot of the sickness we experienced at the end of last term has subsided. We have had some updated advice about continuing to promote good hygiene in school plus more details of what to do if your child is unwell which is included later in this newsletter.

This week we have welcomed Mrs Northmore, Mrs French and Mrs McKenna to the teaching team. I am very grateful for their willingness to join us at such short notice and hope they will enjoy their time with us.

Finally, the office is not going to be covered Mon to Wed next week. Please email if possible rather than ring. Thank you.

**Mrs Lisa Eadie**  
**Headteacher**  
[head@hntps.org](mailto:head@hntps.org)

## Upcoming Trips and Dates

**Thu 12<sup>th</sup> Jan:** Year 2s Forest School, Year 1s yoga

Future dates:

**Wed, 18<sup>th</sup> Jan:** C3 and C4 Tarka Tennis and Falcons Gymnastics

**24<sup>th</sup> Jan:** Year 3 and 4 Bikeability

**30 and 31<sup>st</sup> Jan:** Year 5 Bikeability

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## **Tarka Tennis and Falcons Gymnastics**

We are very fortunate to get additional Sports Premium Funding from the Department for Education to enable us to offer high quality PE activities for our children. This is especially important for small schools who have limited facilities. Class 3 and 4 are going to be attending Falcons gymnastics and Tarka Tennis weekly from Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> January.

*Are there any parents/carers who would consider volunteering during these visits?* Any help would be much appreciated. Class 3 and 4 children should come dressed in their PE kits on these days. A separate letter will be going home next week as Falcons gymnastics have some specific health and safety guidance which must be followed.

## **Bikeability – Years 3, 4 and 5**

We are pleased to let you know that we have again booked the children to have Bikeability training. Details will be sent out separately.

## **Lunch Menu**

A new menu for this half term is attached with this menu.

## *Enabling children to be the best that they can be!*

### **Bags and back packs in school**

We have very limited space in school for children to bring in items. Please could Class 1 and Class 2 children only have book bags and not back packs. Class 2 children now have their own individual trays in the class which will only fit a bookbag and there is limited wall space for pegs.

Class 3 and 4 children can have backpacks but could we please ask that they are small. Over the Christmas holidays some buildings works have commenced to install a new hygiene room for our higher needs medical pupils and therefore we have lost cloakroom space. Smaller bags are therefore even more important! Thank you for your understanding.

### **Vacancy – MTA and TA Fridays**

We have a vacancy for a 1 hour Meal Time Assistant (MTA) and 2.25 hour Teaching Assistant (TA) position on Fridays, temporary until the end of the Summer Term. More details and an application form can be obtained from the office ([admin@hhttps.org](mailto:admin@hhttps.org)). The closing date is Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> January.

### **Height and weight measurements**

Each year in England, children in Reception and Year 6 have their height and weight measured at school as part of the National Child Measurement programme. The main purpose of the programme is to understand trends in children's weight over time and to help with planning services for families and children. The information is confidential and is not shared with the school staff but collected from school and held securely by Devon County Council. You have the right to withdraw your consent from this programme. An email will be sent out with details of how to do this shortly. You should respond by 15<sup>th</sup> January but can opt out on the day of the measurement (which we will advise you about in advance).

### **Government advice about illness in school**

Below is the information which has been provided to schools to share with you:

- It's important to minimise the spread of infection in schools and other education and childcare settings as much as possible. If your child is unwell and has a fever, they should stay home from school or nursery until they feel better and the fever has resolved.
- Helping children to learn about the importance of good hand hygiene is also key, so practice regular handwashing at home with soap and warm water. Catching coughs and sneezes in tissues then binning them is another simple way to help stop illness from spreading.
- Remember that flu vaccination is still available for all eligible groups and is the best protection against the virus. We have seen good uptake in older age groups but vaccination among young children remains low. Flu can be very unpleasant and in some cases can

## *Enabling children to be the best that they can be!*

lead to more serious illness. Getting your child vaccinated protects them and others they come into contact with, and it's still not too late.

### **Governor thanks**

Mrs Rose Marshall completed her final term as Governor last year and has now retired from the Governing Body. Rose was the Administrator at the school before kindly agreeing to serve as a Governor for many years. Her in depth knowledge of the school has been invaluable to help the Governors with their strategic duties and she will be greatly missed. Thank you Rose for your hard work, commitment and service.

### **Team Academy Management Partnership update**

Details of the next stage regarding consultation on our partnership will be shared with you all shortly.

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## **PUPIL SUCCESS**

Congratulations to Isabel (C3) for completing 5 days of ski school and graduating to the next skiing level over the holidays.

