

**HARBY CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL - LINK LETTER***Expanding horizons, exploring potential, embracing faith*

*"Start children off on the way they should go,  
and even when they are old they will not turn from it."*  
Proverbs 22:6

*This Link Letter contains news,  
forthcoming events and information,  
helping you to keep in touch with school.*



Telephone: **01949 860553** Email: [office.school@harby.leics.sch.uk](mailto:office.school@harby.leics.sch.uk) Website: [www.harbyprimary.org](http://www.harbyprimary.org)

*Peace, Endurance, Friendship, Compassion, Thoughtfulness, Koinonia*

**Assembly Focus**

This week we have been thinking about being EMPATHETIC. Empathy is the ability to stand in someone else's shoes and to understand how they may feel. We may empathise with someone's situation - their difficulties, their challenges and what they are experiencing or feeling. To truly empathise is to look at something from another's perspective - to consider how it impacts them - even if we disagree. The ability to empathise is so important in developing and maintaining relationships and personal and social aspects of life. It can help us to reach agreements and to show compassion for others. A super character strength to focus on during Anti-Bullying week!

Well done to **AIR** who was the winning team this week!

Cumulative Total – Autumn Term 2023			
Earth	Air	Fire	Water
83	93	85	79

**Friends of the School Meeting**

There will be a Friends of the School meeting held in school on Tuesday 21st November.

The meeting will start at 7pm and everyone is welcome!

We hope to see you there to discuss the plans for the next Belvoir Challenge and also ways to support Christmas in school.

Thank you to the Friends of the School for their continued support – it makes a big difference to us all at school.

**Belvoir Challenge**

15 or 26 mile routes  
Run it, walk it,  
certain to enjoy it!

2nd March 2024  
Harby Village Hall, LE14 4BZ

Register at [belvoirchallenge.com](http://belvoirchallenge.com)



## Learning about Diwali in Class 1



Children in Class 1 have enjoyed learning about Diwali this week. They have enjoyed a range of activities including stories, Rangoli patterns mindfulness colouring, powder paint Rangoli patterns and 'henna' designs!





## Anti-Bullying Week – starting with Odd Socks Day!

On Monday 13th November we kick started our Anti-bullying week with Odd Socks day! The children enjoyed this and throughout the week there have been different activities in class to raise awareness and support understanding. Well done everyone!



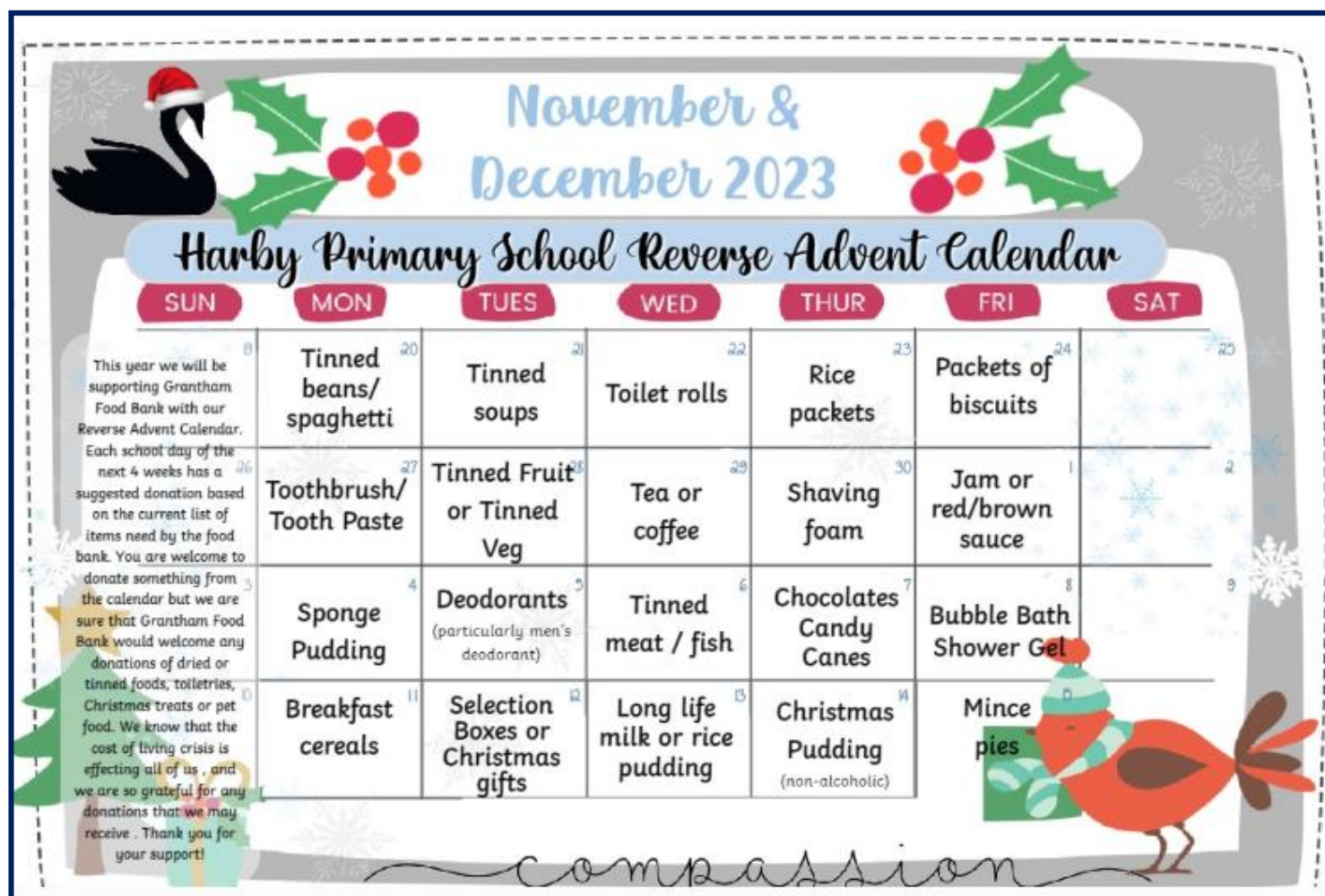
## Learning about the Egyptians in Class 2





## Reverse Advent Calendar

We are launching our annual Reverse Advent Calendar Grantham Food Bank Collection a little earlier than usual this year to support the food bank in organising its hampers for families in need this festive season. Each school day of the next 4 weeks has a suggested donation based on the current list of items need by the food bank. You are welcome to donate something from the calendar (see attached photo) but we are sure that Grantham Food Bank would welcome any donations of dried or tinned foods, toiletries, Christmas treats or pet food. We know that the cost of living crisis is impacting all of us, and we are so grateful for any donations that we may receive. The Reverse Advent Calendar is on display outside the school gate, but if you would like a paper copy please ask or feel free to collect one from the office! If you have any questions about our Reverse Advent Calendar, please feel free to ask and I will do my best to answer them. Thank you for your support! Becky Lewis





## **New Reception Starters 2024 – Open Afternoon on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2023**

Parents of pupils due to start school in September 2024 will need to complete an application to the local authority in which they live. If you live in Leicestershire information can be gained and applications can be made online at

<https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/popular-now/apply-for-a-primary-school-place>

The deadline for completed applications is 15th January 2024. Please do ask if you have any questions or would like any support with this and we will be happy to help. In order to support parents and children we will be having an Open Afternoon from 1.30pm – 3.00pm on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November. This will provide an opportunity for you to visit school with your child, spend time in the Reception classroom area and talk to staff. If you already have a child at school please do still come along – it will be a lovely opportunity for your younger children to meet staff and see the classrooms and school in action. We are sure you will enjoy the experience. Please do contact the school office to let us know you will be attending and spread the word if you know of any families that may be interested. Thank you for your continued support.

## **Children in Need 2023**

We were excited to have a ‘Bake Off’ to raise funds for Children in Need this year. There were many entries and we look forward to reports about the event in next week’s Link Letter!





## Maths drop-in session – addition and subtraction

Thank you to parents who attended the second maths drop-in session about addition and subtraction. ***Next week we will be looking at multiplication and division*** across all year groups. If you would like to find out more and have a go at some of our maths tasks and reasoning problems, or work through some with your child, then come along!



***We hope you enjoyed the session and found it useful. We are looking forward to next week when we focus on multiplication and division!***



## Talented Children

Well done to Sophie, Hope and Charlotte who have all achieved dancing awards and trophies.

Well done to Bella who was awarded 3 medals for her dancing too!



## Swimming Scouts!

Last Saturday several Harby school children (and Lucy!) represented 1st Long Clawson Scout Group Cub section at the annual Melton and District Cubs Swimming gala. Our team came in second place, only one point behind the winners. They all swam fantastically, were supportive team members and we are very proud of them! Well done everyone!



## Talented Staff

Last Saturday, I had a go at firewalking and I've got a lovely wooden medal to prove it. Not a normal Saturday night outing. A bit scary perhaps, but then, as I sat through the training session I felt empowered to have a go. This wasn't just about walking over hot coals. It was all about being focused, having a positive mindset and concentrating on the thing you want to achieve. My mantra for the firewalk was 'I can!' and I did! I did it twice in the end... along with a crowd of others. So, a massive thank you to Dora Walls for organising it on behalf of Dove Hospice. If anyone wants to donate to Dove the link [here](#) is active for the next couple of weeks. They do a fabulous job in our local area for respite day care for people with terminal or long term illness. Thank you, Mrs. Ford.



## Next week in school: Road Safety Week in School!

Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> November:	Year 4, 5, 6 Dance Club after school
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> November:	Recorder Club at lunchtime Violin / Cello Lessons in school with Mrs. Cocker Cross Country after school for children in Years 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 Friends of the School meeting at 7pm – everyone welcome!
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November:	Prospective Reception New Starters 2024 Open Afternoon Recorder club after school Lexia and Times Tables Rockstars after school
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> November:	Maths drop in 3.20pm–4.00pm for parents: <i>Multiplication and division focus</i>
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> November:	Library Club at lunchtime



***Dates for the diary for the next half term. For further dates and events please see the calendar on the school website.***

**New / updated dates in red**

20<sup>th</sup> November – Road Safety Week

**21<sup>st</sup> November - Friends of the School Meeting 7pm at school – everyone welcome!**

22<sup>nd</sup> November – Prospective Reception New Starters 2024 Open Afternoon

23<sup>rd</sup> November – Maths drop in 3.20pm–4.00pm for parents: multiplication and division

30<sup>th</sup> November – Maths drop in 3.20pm–4.00pm for parents: fun with fractions

1<sup>st</sup> December – Christingle making morning and Christingle Service in church 1.30pm

19<sup>th</sup> December – Nativity at the church – 1.30pm and 6pm

21<sup>st</sup> December – Christmas parties and end of term – school closes for the holiday

***We hope you all have a great weekend!***

**Festive Family and carol service**

**SUNDAY 3RD DECEMBER**  
**12 - 4 PM**

**@ DOVE COTTAGE DAY HOSPICE, LE14 4EX**

FOR MORE INFO VISIT:  
**WWW.DOVECOTTAGE.ORG**

CAROL SINGING  
STALLS  
HOT CHOCOLATE  
CHRISTMAS CRAFTS  
REFRESHMENTS  
MULLED WINE

**Santa's grotto**  
£8.50 per child

**Salvation Army**  
2-3pm Carol Service

**FAMILY CAROL SERVICE LED BY THE  
SALVATION ARMY BAND (2-3PM)**

**FREE ENTRY**  
(ADDITIONAL COST FOR GROTTTO AND CRAFT ACTIVITIES)

PRE-BOOKING PREFERRED FOR GROTTTO  
TO ENSURE SANTA BRINGS ENOUGH  
GIFTS! SCAN THE QR CODE TO BOOK

**DOVECOTTAGEDAYHOSPICE**