

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 Website: www.harbyprimary.org

Peace, Endurance, Friendship, Compassion, Thoughtfulness, Koinonia

Assembly Focus

This week we have been thinking about the Christian Value of PEACE. Peace is sometimes used to express quiet and tranquility or it can be used to express a state where there is no conflict or disagreement. It can be used to express friendship, harmony and unity. In our busy lives, taking the time to reflect and find peace - whether or not we do this through our religious beliefs, prayer, meditation or just by giving ourselves a little time - can have a big impact. Peace is important to us, as it allows us time to reflect and creates a state of well-being. What does peace mean to you?

Well done to **AIR** and **WATER** who were the winning teams this week. Well done to **AIR** who was the winning team this term! We look forward to seeing how we get on next term!

Donations for Grantham Foodbank

We were so grateful for all your donations to the Grantham Foodbank.

Mrs. Lewis loaded up her car and delivered the items that you have given and the Grantham Foodbank were very grateful for your generous donations.

Thank you for your kindness and generosity.



Nativity

We hope that you enjoyed our Nativity this week – we enjoyed performing for you! We finished with a Christmas prayer and blessing led by Rev Paul and it felt like a very special start to Christmas! A big thank you to children and staff for working so hard, thank you to Mrs. Coats and Mrs. Lewis for linking all the elements together so well, thank you to the Friends of the School for providing mince pies and mulled wine after the evening performance and thank you to you all for your continued support. We hope you enjoyed it!

Christmas Dinner!



Christmas Eve Day in school on 21st December!



Swimming

Swimming will begin on Monday 15th January for pupils in Year 5 and 6 with an initial block of assessment and development activities. A letter has been shared with parents of pupils in Year 5 and 6 this week with full details. The cost for swimming is expensive to small schools as we have to cover the cost of the coach as well as the cost of the pool and tuition. We are very grateful that this has been ***heavily funded by the Friends of the School who have covered just over 50% of the cost***, reducing the price to £4 per session, per pupil. Voluntary contribution payments for this can be made on ParentMail – please do not hesitate to contact the school office if you have any questions in relation to payment and we will be happy to help. Thank you for your continued support.

Parking

Please remember to consider where you are parking at collection and drop off times. Many children walk to school, with parents or alone if they are older, and learning to navigate and cross the road safely is an important skill.



Please consider where you park, use alternative Parking areas and walk to school where you can and please don't park opposite on even on the yellow zig zags. The yellow zig zags are directly opposite the gate and school exit and this is not a safe place to park. We would be grateful if you would please pass this information on to other relatives or friends that you have notified us are collecting your children so they are aware too. I am sure you will agree that the last thing anyone wants to happen is an accident. ***Thank you for your continued support – it really is very much appreciated.***

Dinner Money and Planet Play Fees

As we reach the end of the first half term in school year please can you ensure that all outstanding balances for dinner money and Breakfast Club / Planet Play fees are settled. Please do not hesitate to contact the school office if you need any help with this and we will be happy to help. Thank you to those parents who have already paid or been in contact with the office about payments. Thank you for your continued support.

Payments for Aylmerton – Year 5 and 6 Residential

We are looking forward to the Year 5 and 6 residential visit to Aylmerton in the new year! A reminder that we are collecting your payments for this visit via ParentMail. Please do not hesitate to contact the school office if you need any assistance with using ParentMail and we will be happy to help. ***Thank you to those parents who have already made payments or have been in contact with school about payments.*** Unless otherwise discussed and agreed with school, payment in full is needed by the end of January 2024. We are always happy to discuss individual circumstances in confidence so that we can help. Thank you for your continued support.

Spiritual Discovery Club in the New Year

Rev Paul would like to offer a 'Spiritual Discovery Club' for Year 5 and 6 children in the new year. This will be an opportunity to engage in discussion about Christian belief and, if desired, there will be an opportunity for baptism / confirmation to be arranged at the end. This will be for 3 weeks in January after school – Monday 15th, Monday 22nd and Monday 29th January from 3.20 – 4pm. The children who took part in this last year thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to discuss and debate with Rev Paul and a cup of tea! If your child would like to take part please contact the school office to let us know. Please do not hesitate to ask if you have any questions and we will be happy to help.

Crib Service at St. Mary's Church in Harby

Rev Paul will be leading a Crib Service in church on Christmas Eve at 4pm.

Families are very welcome to attend and if any younger children would like to come along dressed as a character from the Nativity then they will be very welcome!



Merry Christmas and update from the Chair of Governors

On behalf of the governors, I'd like to wish all the school community a very happy Christmas. Thank you to Mrs. Bye and all the staff for their hard work over this long term. We hope you all have a very well-deserved break over the festive period.

A quick update on changes to the governing body. Mrs. Julie Hopkins has joined as Foundation Governor. Mrs. Hopkins recently retired as Exec Head of a group of local schools so brings a lot of very relevant experience to the governing body. Mrs. Trimmer is our newly appointed Staff Governor. Mrs. Trimmer replaced Mrs. Ford when her term as Governor ended. Thank you to Mrs. Ford for her support to the Governing Body over the past four years and welcome to Mrs. Trimmer. We have two Parent Governor vacancies and we will be advertising to fill those in the new year. If you are interested in becoming a Governor and helping to support and shape the development of our school, then please consider applying when applications open.

First week back in school:

Monday 8th January:

Tuesday 9th January:

Beginners Recorder Club at Lunchtime

Friends of the School Meeting – 7pm - all welcome!

Wednesday 10th January:

Recorder Club after school

Thursday 11th January:

Friday 12th January:

Further details about more after school clubs will be shared in the new year!

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

21st December – Christmas Eve Day in school and end of term – school closes for the holiday

8th January – School Opens after the Christmas Holidays

9th January – Friends of the School Meeting – 7pm at school – all welcome!

25th January – Class 2 and 3 visit to a Mosque and the St. Philips Faith Centre

16th February – School Closes for the Half Term Holiday

THANK YOU for all the kind Christmas wishes, cards and gifts that have been shared. We are grateful to all children, staff, families and governors for working so hard and supporting each other throughout the year. Your continued support is very much appreciated. We hope you all have a wonderful, relaxing and enjoyable Christmas holiday!

***We wish you all a very Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year***

