

# 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.*



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

**Happy New Year! Welcome back to school.**

**We hope you all had a relaxing and enjoyable Christmas holiday.**

## Assembly Focus

This week we have been thinking about the character strength of OPTIMISM. To show optimism is to look to the future with hope and belief - this is not always easy and sometimes, when we have experienced setbacks, can be a challenge. How we view things and our attitudes towards elements such as change, learning or new ideas matters. Approaching these with a positive view and optimism of a favourable outcome is important. Is the glass half full or half empty? Can we have an optimistic approach - even if cautiously optimistic? Where we are less certain can we ask for help to support how we feel and improve the likelihood of a positive outcome? Lots of super discussion this week as we start the new year!

Well done to **AIR** who was the winning teams this week.

Cumulative Total – Spring Term 2024			
Earth	Air	Fire	Water
9	11	8	3

## Swimming

Swimming will begin on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January for pupils in Year 5 and 6 with an initial block of assessment and development activities. 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.

## Friends of the School Meeting

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend the Friends of the School Meeting this week. We spent the time discussing the plans and preparations for the Belvoir Challenge. A letter has gone home this week so that you can see how you can help and support this and our next meeting is on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January at 7pm at school. Everyone is welcome and we hope to see you there.

## Nativity Collection

We were delighted to receive a letter of thanks from St. Mary's Church, Harby when we returned to school. This was thanking all parents and friends for their generous donations towards the bell restoration project which totaled £260.



Thank you for your support and generosity.

## Census Dinner Menu – Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2024

On Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January it is census day at school and so there is a special menu! The dinner will be pepperoni pasta or cheese and tomato pasta with garlic bread and sweetcorn. The desert is a sugar doughnut with strawberry sauce. Jacket potatoes **will** still be an available option on this day. Orders can be placed on the day, please do not hesitate to ask if you have any questions and we will be happy to help.

## Class 2 and 3 visit to Oadby Central Mosque

A letter has gone out to parents this week. Please contact the school office if you have not received one and we will be happy to help.

## 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 or 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.**



## 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.

## Household Support Fund

The Household Support Fund is provided by the Government to local authorities to support families with children and individuals most in need. For more details about what Leicestershire County Council can offer please click [here](#) or speak to Mrs. Bye in confidence if you would support with an application. Thank you.

## Talented Children

Well done to William and Sam for their skiing success over the holiday – William achieved his 1.5 star and Sam his 1 star. Super job!





## **Cold Weather**

The weather has been cold this week and it is forecast to continue. Please remember to bring warm coats, hats, scarves and gloves so we can keep warm at playtime!

## **New Reception Starters 2024 – applications close on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January**

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 **15<sup>th</sup> January 2024**. Please do ask if you have any questions or would like any support with this and we will be happy to help.

## **Next week in school:**

Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> January:	Dance Club after school starts again!
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> January:	Violins / Cello with Mrs. Cocker at lunchtime
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> January:	Times Table Rockstars and Lexia club after school
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> January:	School Census Day – special menu Cross Country Club after school
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> January:	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**

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

**25<sup>th</sup> January – Friends of the School meeting at 7pm – everyone welcome!**

**5<sup>th</sup> February – Year 5 and 6 on Residential to Aylmerton this week**

**5<sup>th</sup> February – Children's Mental Health week**

16<sup>th</sup> February – School Closes for the Half Term Holiday

**26<sup>th</sup> February – School Opens after the Half Term Holiday**

**28<sup>th</sup> February – Class 1 RE visit to Leicester Synagogue**

**2<sup>nd</sup> March- Belvoir Challenge!**

**4<sup>th</sup> March – Reception and Year 6 National Child Measurement Programme**

**7<sup>th</sup> March – Sky Dance Event at Melton Theatre**

**8<sup>th</sup> March – World Book Day celebrations in school**

**11<sup>th</sup> March – Parents' Evenings this week**

**11<sup>th</sup> March – Science Week**

**22<sup>nd</sup> March – School Closes for the Easter Holiday**

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