



Hardwick Community Primary School Newsletter

16th January 2009

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to all of you and happy new year. We hope you had a great Christmas, your children certainly seem to from what we've been told. As the new term starts afresh we are glad to say that the new reception play area is nearly finished and is now in use. The giant sand pit is, as expected, enormously popular. Finishing touches including sails and planting will be done soon. We would also like to congratulate Miss Williams on her engagement. As a bit of advance warning we will be having our book week just before half term from the 9th to the 13th February. This will have a poetry theme and will involve a visiting poet and an opportunity to dress up as a favourite character from a poem or book (they might need to start thinking now). There will also be the book fair in the school hall after school from the 9th to the 12th of February.

Andy Matthews & Ruth French (Co-Headteachers)

Reception news

Dear Reception Parents, a warm welcome back to a cold Spring Term! The children have now been in for two weeks and have found their stride quickly, enjoying our new topic of Light and Dark, especially keeping a keen eye out in the lighthouse! The children are also enjoying our new outdoor areas, with digging areas, water play and a sand pit big enough to lose some children in (!), we are all eager to show this off to all parents and carers, and hopefully will be having a grand opening sometime nearer half term, when we've had a chance to decorate it and the people with the plants have been in. More info to come! Finally, a few notes- please can you ensure your child has their P.E. kit in school, and also if there are any parents out there with old spare clothes that don't fit their own children anymore, but may fit our Reception children, then please could we have those, as we are starting to run a bit low. Also if you have a pair of wellies that you don't mind leaving in school for your child, so they can play in the sand pit without getting their shoes completely covered, both children and teachers would appreciate that! Lastly, some parents have enquired about possibly coming in and helping out for a morning or so, and you would be very welcome indeed. We will organise a parent help rota for you to sign up to in the near future. Many thanks, the Foundation Stage Team.



Life in the sandpit



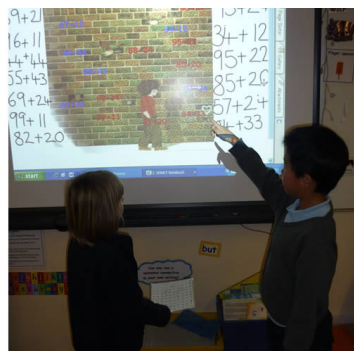
Learning with water

Year 1/2 news

Happy new year to all of you. We are back off and running with our new topic of Children's TV and books. So far the children have focussed on the work of several authors from A.A. Milne to Anthony Browne. They have also consoled Mr Matthews by designing a new TV character to replace Pingu. Storylines and episodes will be developed soon and perhaps the BBC will be interested! If you want some ideas on how to complement what we are doing at school you could talk to your child about the TV programmes you enjoyed as a child, and your favourite children's books. In the coming weeks we will also be looking at the writer and illustrator John Burningham, and the Horrid Henry stories by Francesca Simon, so any visits to the library could include searching for stories by these authors. The Lighthouse Keeper series of books by David Armitage are the basis of our science work on forces, and we are doing lots of work on improving our drawing skills in art. We also still have copies of the Nativity DVD for parents to collect, just go to the school office.



Favourite stories shared



Maths based on Anthony Browne



*KS1 learning Spanish
(in Golden Morning)*

Year 3/4 news

We hope you all enjoyed the snowy day last week which we planned specially to get our winter topic off to a good start! We will be doing our topic until half term and will be looking at various winter stories and poems as well as potentially building a ski resort and carrying out mountain rescues! If you have any resources that you think might be helpful we'd be most grateful for them.

Mrs Sanders' class started swimming this week and will be going every Tuesday finishing on 24th March. We will only be doing indoor P.E. this half term so please ensure your child has a complete indoor kit including shorts rather than jogging bottoms.



The perfect weather to start our winter topic!!

Year 5/6 news

We're finishing with our topic on the Victorians, and topic books should be arriving home soon! Our new topic this term is called "Living in a Material World", a science topic that will focus on materials and their properties. We had a visit this week from Ruth Bond of the WI, who talked to us about her work with recycling and reducing waste. Be warned: your children may come home full of ideas on how to save the planet! On Monday, January 26th the "SEEK Science" group from the University of Cambridge will be running an all-day workshop, giving children the opportunity to do lots of experiments and investigations.

Over the next few weeks, all children will be doing a PowerPoint presentation to their class. They will be bringing home photocopies of slides to make notes, and should be practising this at home, along with the time they will have in school. They have their date written in their diaries.

P.E. this term will all be indoors, as we will be covering gymnastics and basketball. Kit will be shorts and plain t-shirt. They may also need trainers for the basketball sessions on a Friday afternoon.

Yamaha keyboard lessons

Lots of parents come and ask about piano lessons and free keyboard taster sessions are being offered to any child over 9yrs as part of a partnership between Yamaha and CVC. Steve Gaze will be the tutor and the fees for the subsequent sessions will be around £8-£9 for a one hour session. Please look out for the letter from school which contains a reply slip to register interest. We also have a few old keyboards in school which we would be very happy to donate to anyone interested. Do come and ask if you would like one.

Disability and Gender Questionnaire

As part of a range of documents that the government want schools to have about how accessible schools are to people with disabilities and the equal opportunities offered, we need to collect data from all people who use the school, not just parents, and children but community users too. To this end we have devised a range of questionnaires and will be distributing them next week. If you are an E-Newsletter families and would rather have a paper copy so you don't have to print it out, email us via the hotmail address!

School Breakfast club

We are now actively looking to start a school-run breakfast club for between 8am and 9am. We are anticipating a cost of somewhere between £2 and £3 a day depending on interest, but will need enough people interested to make it financially viable. We are looking to provide toast, cereal, etc and a range of activities (and a chance to finish off homework if necessary!) If you would be interested in using such a facility, could you please fill in the slip below. It doesn't commit you in any way, but will help us plan ahead.

Breakfast club reply slip

I would be interested in using a breakfast club at the school on the following days (please circle as appropriate).

Mon Tues Wed Thur Fri

Signed _____ Parent of _____

PTA news

Just a reminder that if you received a new mobile phone for Christmas, the PTA will happily take your old one off your hands as part of their recycling mobile phones scheme.

There will be a PTA meeting on **Wednesday the 21st January at 7.30pm** in the staff room. Anyone is welcome to join. We will be discussing this years carnival arrangements at the meeting, so if you are interested in getting involved in that then also please come along.

Also don't forget to join,



we have had five new winners already this year.

Absence after sickness

If children have a stomach bug which means they have been vomiting and/or diarrhoea they need to have clear 48 hours before returning to school. This is following clear guidance from the Health Protection Agency.

Get the enhanced E-Newsletter

If you would like the e-newsletter emailed to you please email hardwickprimary@hotmail.co.uk. This will be an enhanced newsletter containing colour pictures of curriculum experiences and events. The paper newsletter will continue, however it will not contain the photographs due to high printing costs.

Diary Dates for the rest of this term

January

19th 5/6 Girls football tournament at CVC

February

2nd 5/6 Boys football tournament at CVC

9th –13th — Book week

12th— Opportunity to look at learning Journals

23rd—26th — Parent consultations

Half term 16th to 20th February

March

25th 5/6 Rugby tournament at CVC

End of term 3rd April

More dates will be added during the term.

Travel to school

Every term we have to send the government a range of data about our school, including for example how children travel to school. 76 children came by car last week, not including the 30 or so on the school bus, so it's not surprising the car park and roads around the school are congested. We know some of you have no choice but to drive, because you live outside the village, but if you live in Hardwick do please consider walking to and from school if you possibly can.

Dinner Money

The cost of school dinners for the this half term is as follows: (please note since September the daily cost has gone up to £1.90

<u>Daily</u>	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Half Term</u>
£1.90	£9.50	£55.10

