



HARDWICK SCHOOL NEWS

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4th December 2020

Our Value of the Month:

Appreciation

*recognition and enjoyment of the
good qualities of someone or
something*



HOW CAN YOU HELP?



Equalities Task Group

We are still on the look out for a parent representative on our Equalities Task Group. You will have received a letter regarding our aims for this group, so we would love for you to join us as we embark on this ambitious and important project.

Parent Forum

We still have a number of spaces for different year groups on our parent forum. This provides you with an opportunity to work closely with the leadership team on different areas of the school.

If you would like more information on any of the above, please contact the school office via
info@hardwickschool.org

Our Learning this Week

Nursery.

This week the Christmas celebrations have definitely begun in nursery with lots of decorations being made. Our maths focus has been the number 9 so we have been practising counting out 9 decorations and have played lots of maths games to help us recognise our numerals too. We have also enjoyed decorating our little Christmas tree each day and have thought about celebrations we take part in at home.



Reception

Another great week in reception. We are all working really hard on our phonics and becoming more confident to orally blend CVC words. We continued our focus on Little Red Riding Hood by reading some more alternative versions and thinking about how the different characters feel throughout the story. In maths, we have been looking at one less and thinking about counting backwards. We were able to use different images to help us work out one less. The festival we focused on this week was Hannukah. We made collages of the star of David. We also made our own menorah, which is the candle that is lit during the festival.



Year 1

Year 1 have been looking at the story Whatever Next. They have been looking at the nouns and putting them into simple sentences. In Maths they have continued to look at addends and the sum in equations. This week Year 1 started using the computers, they logged on using their usernames and password and started to develop their typing skills.



Year 2

Year 2 have had a very busy week! The children have written a non-chronological report all about 'The Great Fire of London.' They have learnt to separate their ideas under sub-headings and use the conjunction 'because'. In maths, we have been working on subtraction as a difference. The children have used practical equipment and the bar model to help them work out the difference between two numbers. In foundation lessons this week, the children have been creating some artwork around 'The Great Fire of London'. We learnt to sketch pictures of Tudor houses, and we have created a background of fire using tissue paper, before the children worked to create the houses using black paper over the top. It was very effective!



Year 3

What a fantastic week we have had this week in Year 3. The children have started to turn the story 'Stone Age Boy' into a playscript and have really thought about character dialogue for the illustrations. In Maths, we have been gaining confidence in bridging 100 by adding a single-digit number to develop our knowledge of addition strategies. Our week started with our new Art project where we practised sketching Stone Age illustrations under our tables with the lights off as though we were in caves. We also had another fantastic lesson where we tested out different implements to use for our final piece.

On Wednesday the 16th of December we will be having a special Christmas celebration day at school. I have sent out group specific letters in their book bags outlining what they will need to come dressed in for the day.



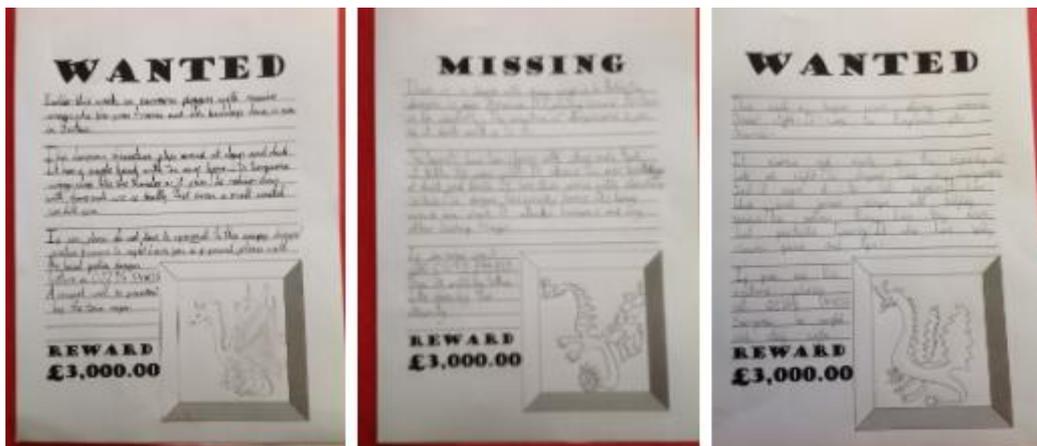


Year 4

In Science this week we have been looking at the impact of environmental changes on living things and what we could do to try and help protect the environment, both globally and locally.

In Maths, we have been applying the column method of addition to four-digit numbers and we have just started regrouping, when necessary, from one column to the next if the total is a ten or more.

As you will likely have heard, Year 4 were asked to produce Wanted or Missing posters for a dragon which was said to have been spotted earlier in the week. The class met this task with great enthusiasm. I have never had so many questions about dragons – most of which I couldn't answer in all honesty. The work that they produced was lovely and I will hold on to some copies, just in case we are exposed to a dragon invasion in the near future.



Year 5

Another great week in year 5. Children have been working hard on their DT work, sewing a winter scene using running stitch. We have also been practising threading our own needles and tying a knot at the end of our thread. There has been some great team work and children have been supporting each other with this too. In maths, we have been trying to apply the bar model as a representation to different problems to help us visualise the steps we are taking to find an answer. Year 5 have also written a diary entry in role as Edmund from The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe using informal writing features.

Thinking ahead to our Christmas activities, it is Christmas jumper day in school next Friday (11th). Can we ask that as well as their Christmassy attire, can children also bring a black top in. This can be either long or short sleeved. Thank you in advance.



Year 6

Year 6 have worked hard on their learning this week. In Maths, we have learned how to use long division to divide three- and four-digit numbers by a two-digit number. We have also explored short division and the partitioning method. In English, we have completed our narrative extract from the Firework Maker's daughter. We have worked on our editing skills as well as our presentation skills. In Design and Technology, we have finished our firework packaging unit and are pleased with the results! We were able to combine our artistic skills with our mathematical understanding to create beautifully designed 3D packaging.



This week's stars: Congratulations to the following children who have wow'd the staff this week – keep up the hard work!

Star Writers



YR: Karolina
Y1: Emilia M
Y2: Blake
Y3: Iyla
Y4: Jupe
Y5: Konnor

Stars of the Week



YR: Eli
Y1: Harmonie
Y2: Tariq
Y3: Oscar
Y4: Antoni
Y5: Madison

Star Readers



YR: Summer
Y1: Scarlett
Y2: Anna
Y3: Isla
Y4: Zach
Y5: Filip

Climate Change Day:

We are very excited to share that our second Climate Change Day will take place next Friday 11th December across our schools! Our first Climate Change Day was a huge success and we are looking forward to another day of inspirational learning. This term, we will be studying the question '**What has been the impact of the lockdowns on the environment?**' and the learning will focus on environmental changes that have arisen over the course of this year. We will learn about the impact of reduced travel on the atmosphere and the resilience shown in the natural world when pollution and human activity decrease. We will then think about single-use plastic - the role it has had in keeping everyone safe during the pandemic, and whether it has contributed to environmental issues. We will consider the lifestyle changes many have had to make this year and which ones we particularly liked; we will then complete a piece of Art to showcase our learning for the day. We are all looking forward to a day of exciting learning and a chance to reflect on this unusual year, and we can't wait to share the results with you!



MAKE THE WORLD BETTER WITH A SWEATER

On Friday 11th December we will be taking part in Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day. All you need to do is get your silliest jumper out and give £2 to Save the Children. You can now donate via ParentPay so if you are able, please donate to this very worthy cause.

Christmas Cards

Due to the current coronavirus situation, children will be unable to bring Christmas cards into school to give to their friends. We understand this is something they love to do at this time of year but unfortunately, we cannot allow cards to be passed from one to another, in case of cross contamination.

End of Term Gifts for Staff

Following on from a number of parental enquiries, we would like to clarify the situation regarding end of term gifts. There is no expectation on families to give gifts, however if you are intending on doing so, then please can you bring these in no later than the end of the school day on Tuesday so that there can be a 72 hour quarantine period before they are taken home by staff.

Christmas Dinner Wednesday 16th December

Due to the problems, we have been experiencing with meal bookings through ParentPay, we are allowing bookings to be extended for Christmas dinner up until the end of Wednesday 9th December. We must apologise for any inconvenience caused. We are here if you need any further help.

Christmas Celebration Day Wednesday 16th December

On this day in school, alongside the Christmas Dinner, we will be having a special day in school where we will complete our alternative to the yearly 'Christmas production'! We always look forward to the wonderful performances from the children, but this year that will look slightly different. We will be dressing up in costumes for this day.

Please see below: -

Reception Letter sent to parents – individual costumes

Year 2	Letter home to parents today – individual costumes
Year 3	Letter sent home with children's groups and costumes Group 1 and 2 need – brown top and black trousers (leggings, jeans or joggers). Group 3 and 4 – black top and black trousers (leggings, jeans or joggers). Group 5 and 6 – sparkly item and black trousers (leggings, jeans or joggers).
Year 4	White or dark t-shirt with leggings or joggers
Year 5	Christmas attire and a black t-shirt long or short sleeved.
Year 6	All children to wear black trousers, jeans, leggings or skirt and a white top to school. Christmas jumper, gloves, scarf and hat in a bag to wear later in the day



The staff and children of Hardwick would like to say a huge thank you to Hillier Garden Centre in Banbury for their very kind donation of a Christmas tree.

Attendance/Absences

A reminder that you must call the school office by 8.30am to report your child's absence. Our registers must be completed by 9.15am and to safeguard the children, we must account for all absent children no later than 9.30am. If your child has a school dinner booked and they are absent we must inform the kitchen, no later than 9.30am or there will be a charge to the school and yourselves for the meal.

What to do if your child is unwell: If your child is unwell, please phone the office at your earliest convenience to let us know the reason for their absence. We have recently received some updated guidance from the government around the management of coronavirus symptoms which we will be following. Your child, and the rest of the household, must self-isolate immediately and arrange to have a test should your child display any one of the following symptoms:

- a new, continuous cough;
- a high temperature; or
- a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell.

If we observe any of these symptoms in school, we will call you to collect all of your children and take them home. You must then follow the government's '[Stay at Home Guidance](#)'. You will need to organise a swab for the child displaying symptoms. The **swab must be done within 5 days of onset of symptoms**. If this is not possible, the child

will need to complete **10 days of isolation**, and all **household members will need to complete 14 days isolation**. The household will only need to be swabbed if the develop symptoms themselves, of which they will need to isolate for a further 10 days.

Even if the child is feeling better but unable to have a test, they will need to **still complete their 10 days of isolation**.

They do not need to self-isolate if their **swab is negative** and:

- everyone you live with who has symptoms tests negative
- everyone in your support bubble who has symptoms tests negative

- you were not told to self-isolate for 14 days by NHS Test and Trace – if you were, see [what to do if you've been told you've been in contact with someone who has coronavirus](#)
- you feel well – if you feel unwell, stay at home until you're feeling better

Contacting us: The office is now manned 5 days a week between the hours of 8.30am-4.30pm but will be closed to parents unless by prior appointment. The best way to communicate with the office is through the info@hardwickschool.org email account or the telephone 01295 285355.

Dates for your Diary:

Friday 11 th December	Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day
Wednesday 16 th December	Christmas Celebration Day and Christmas Dinner
Friday 18 th December	End of term 1 finish at 1pm
Monday 4 th January	Retrun to school (term 2)

Have a lovely weekend!



Graeme Page and the school team