

Hutton Henry CE Primary November/December 2013 Newsletter

Diary Dates

Open Homework Project is due in on Friday 13th December.

We are keen to hear your opinions on the open homework project the children have just had. We are aware that it was the first time, it may have been difficult to decide what to do with your child. We will produce a list of ideas when the homework is handed in so that you can see a wide range of ideas other had, this may help with the next project.

KS1 Party - letters to follow

17th December during the afternoon

KS2 Party-letters to follow

18th December during the afternoon

Movie Day & school will close for Christmas

19th December

Children return to school on Monday 6th January 2014, breakfast club and school will start at usual times.

We have had an extremely busy term so far with lots of exciting events to enjoy before the end of term. We have the Panto, film day, parties and Christmas dinner all to look forward to.

We wish everyone an extremely Happy Christmas and we are looking

forward to the changes in the new term. Mrs Davis will start her maternity leave over the Christmas holidays and I am sure you will join us in wishing her a wonderful break with a new baby!

I look forward to officially becoming the head teacher in January and will continue to have an open door policy. Please contact school to discuss any concerns or to let us know if something has gone well.

We appreciate your feedback!

Safeguarding

As you are aware, we take the safety and wellbeing of the children very seriously. We must ask that if alternative arrangements are being made for your children at home time (eg they are to go home with another parent) that you let school know. This will ensure we only allow children to go home with the correct people but it also prevents us having to question you at the school gate. In the event that a member of staff asks for clarification about home time arrangements please remember that they have done so to keep the safety of the children in school a priority. In the event that a member of staff is unsure about home time arrangements, you may be asked to wait while a phone call is made to clarify the situation.

Fairy Tale Open Day



We enjoyed another successful Open Afternoon earlier this term. It was very well attended by families and it means a lot to the children and staff to have the opportunity for parents and other family members to share their success. The school looked fantastic once again. We will be hosting another Open Afternoon next term alongside our new topic which will start after Christmas.



Parents Evening

Parents Evening was, again very well attended and it was a positive experience for staff, as I hope it was for parents. It was an opportunity to share successes as well as targets. We hope the pupil feedback forms gave you an insight into what your child's view of learning is. These forms will be updated throughout the year and give children some valuable time for reflection.



RE

The whole school enjoyed an afternoon of workshops all about The Christmas Story from 'Tillytoo Tales'. We hope to have her visit school again.

International Committee

The International Committee have been extremely busy during the past couple of weeks. They were keen to raise funds for the Typhoon appeal in the Philippines. The response was very good, the children managed to raise £51.95 by doing a tuck shop. Our fundraising was kicked off with a kind donation from a parent. Thank you. As well as this we have again, been taken part in the European Christmas Exchange. We have received decorations from school children all over Europe. Take a look at them on the Christmas Tree in the entrance. We have extended the project to include schools in the Peterlee area, and two members of the International Committee represented school last week at a Christmas Decoration Swap. Well done Aaron H and Eleanor.

Governors

In recent weeks we have welcomed Mrs Wood and Mrs Bailey onto the governing body. We anticipate a vacancy for a parent governor coming up soon. Please contact Mrs Gibbins if you would like to be considered as a firm candidate and we will make suitable arrangements to elect a new parent governor.

The winner of the summer ducky competition was Samuel Smith and Ellie Rowell.

The winner in the Christmas card design completion were William Bailey, Abigail Bloomfield, Charlie Horn and Eleanor O'Reilly. Mrs Davis won the staff card completion. Thank you for the support you gave your children to complete this. We hope you enjoyed it!

Reminders:

All of your child's clothing including PE Kit needs to be clearly named. This reduces the risk of items becoming lost or accidentally taken home by another child.

If your child is unwell please can you telephone on their first day of absence and then send a letter on their return to school. Good attendance is an important part of your child's education. The EWO regularly monitors attendance in School.

On the grounds of health and safety jewellery, make up, nail varnish should not be worn in school. The use of lipbalm in school is discouraged. If your child needs lipbalm for medical reasons, please see a member of staff.

Winter Weather

As you will remember from last year, school did not close due to the snow. We will keep you informed via text message on the position for the school if the weather is bad. We will endeavour to keep the building open and have all relevant risk assessments in place to support us to make this decision. The safety of the children and the staffing levels are our priority in the event of adverse weather. There may be some days where we cancel breakfast club in order to assess the weather conditions fully before making a decision on opening or closing the school for the rest of the day. It is important that school has your mobile phone details in order to keep you informed.

In the wintery weather we continue to encourage the children to access the outdoors at playtime. Children must come to school on snowy days with wellies (infants usually have wellies already in school) in order to access the school grounds on such days. In the event that your child doesn't have suitable outdoor footwear with a dry pair of shoes/slippers for indoors, their play will be limited. Please ensure that children bring hats, scarves and gloves as the playground can be very cold.

Creativity Fund

Thank you to those of you who have contributed to Creativity Fund. If you would like to make a contribution, it is 50p per week £3.50 per half term or £7.50 per term, please adjust half termly and termly payment depending on the number of weeks that are between holidays. Creativity Fund benefits all of the children in the school as it enables staff do more creative activities in school.

Visit our school Website:
www.huttonhenry.durham.sch.uk

