



Howden le Wear Primary School Weekly Newsletter

Friday 17 March 2017

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Headteacher's Notices

Thank you to all parents/ carers who have attended and purchased books from our school book fair this week. Children have been very enthusiastic about the book fair and have been using playtimes and lunchtimes to read some of the many books available. As yet we don't have a grand total raised, but I will let you know this in next week's newsletter.

I hope those who attended parents evening on Wednesday/ Thursday felt that from speaking to staff and looking at work, that your child or children are continuing to make good progress in school. I hope also that the consultation improved your understanding of where your child is currently working at in line with age related expectation for their year group and how you are able to support them further in the next stage of their learning. We are having a big drive in school at the moment on improving children's handwriting and presentation; encouraging all children to form their letters in a way that promotes a fluent handwriting style where letters are consistently joined when writing words and sentences. So far, results have been positive across school; however it is only to be expected that some children's handwriting may regress slightly in the initial stages as they get used to writing in this way. Should you wish to have a further look in your child's books in the coming months to get some further feedback on handwriting or the progress your child is making, please get in touch with your child's class teacher who will be only too happy to discuss this with you. If you were unable to make this week's parents meetings, please contact me in school and I will be able to organise an appointment with your child's teacher at a mutually convenient time. Thank you also to all those who took the time to complete the parents questionnaire. Your feedback is most valuable to us as we aim to never be complacent and all feedback is shared with school staff and actions taken to address issues that arise.

We are really looking forward to Mother's Day Lunch which will be served to children and families on Thursday next week. To ensure the service is as smooth as possible and we have enough seats to meet demand, we have organised **three sittings** for the day. We will however, make sure that all family groups with children in different year groups can eat together. The sitting organisation will be as follows:

11.30am - Parents of all children in Nursery, along with their brothers/sisters from other year groups. Also for this sitting we invite Reception parents/children without brothers and sisters in other year groups.

12 noon - Parents of all children in Reception with brothers and sisters, along with all Year 1 and Year 2 children.

12.30pm - Parents of children in Key Stage 2 (Years 3/4/5/6)

It would be greatly appreciated if families could arrive at the stated time and we look forward to a successful event next Thursday to celebrate Mother's Day 2017!

Friday next week is Comic Relief Day and we are planning some fundraising events in school to raise money for this worthwhile cause. Children can come to school in non uniform for the day at a cost of £1.00 per child. The theme we have chosen for the day is 'Do something funny for money' so how children dress is very much up to them. A few ideas could be to dress all in red for the day; or dress like one of the 9 different official Red Noses that are on sale or you may even wish to dress like your teacher/Headteacher! Whatever you choose it is very much up to you. Coupled with this we are holding a Comic Relief Breakfast Club in school from 8am. Please see the attached flyer for this. Finally, we will be selling cakes at playtime for 50p each.

We look forward to a really busy week in school next week and thank you for your continued support.

Mr C Baines,
Headteacher



For the most up to date information about what is going on in our school including dates for your diaries, parental information and school performance information, please visit our website at:

<http://www.howden-le-wear.durham.sch.uk>

Please scan your smartphone device over the QR code to the right to be taken straight to our school web-



Adam Bushnell Visit to School

On Wednesday and Thursday this week we welcomed author, storyteller and creative writer Adam Bushnell into school. We have had Adam booked to visit school this week for over 18 months as his work is in demand on a local, national and international scale; so it was great to welcome him into school. Over the two days Adam spent time with each class focusing on developing children's storytelling and imaginative skills to promote creative writing, with some fantastic results across all age ranges. Thank you to Adam for his work in school, for sharing his passion for reading and writing and for inspiring our children. We look forward to welcoming him back into school in the future. Finally, a huge thanks also to the Friends of the School who helped to fund Adam's visit.



Wolsingham School Opening Ceremony

On Thursday afternoon, myself and four Year 6 children visited Wolsingham School for their official school opening following a recent extensive school refurbishment. HRH The Duke of Gloucester was the guest of honour who completed the official opening ceremony, had chance to look around the new buildings and talk to guests. I was delighted to be able to take our four Year 6 children who will all be transferring to Wolsingham School in September and they all represented our school perfectly. So a huge well done and thank you to **Max Pomfret, Brodie Anne Luke, Ella Cooke and Connor Driscoll.**

Football Success

Our footballers were on terrific form on Wednesday as part of the Parkside Football League. We played Stanhope Barrington Primary and put in an excellent performance to win the match 6 - 0! Well done to our goal scorers **Matthew Smith (hat-trick), Charlie Latcham (1), Brandon Lee McGuinness (2)** and the rest of the team; **Kieran Prest, Kian Fairest, Kian Pigg and Seth Beasley** for their fantastic efforts!



Children's Achievements In School

Every Friday teachers choose a child from their class to be recognised for something special they have achieved that week. This week's chosen children are:

Mrs Wheatley's Nursery



Mrs Wheatley in Nursery would like to congratulate **Finley Stewart** for his enthusiasm and contribution to the story telling with Adam Bushnell. Well done Finley!

Mrs Craig's Reception Class



Mrs Craig has this week nominated **Bobbi J Clark** for her fantastic seed investigation work. Well done Bobbi J!

Miss Knaggs' Year 1 Class



Miss Knaggs would like to say a huge well done to **Aaron Plews** for designing and making a fabulous Easter garden in school this week. Well done Aaron!

Miss Hutchinson's Year 2 Class



Miss Hutchinson would like a special mention for **Indie Ash** for his beautiful handwriting and always trying his best in all his lessons. Well done Indie!

Mrs Salkeld's Year 3/4 Class



Mrs Salkeld is delighted this week with **Charlie Gilloway** for a huge effort in improving his handwriting. Great work Charlie - well done!

Mrs Clark's Year 5 Class



Mrs Clark is really pleased with **Grace Genner** for amazing contributions during Adam Bushnell's session this week. Well done Grace!

Mr Clarke's Year 6 Class



Mr Clarke would like a special mention this week for **Kc Palmer** for planning a great space story during Adam Bushnell's session on Thursday. Great work Kc!



Well done to all our children this week for their fabulous effort and hard work in school.

