



Howden le Wear Primary School Weekly Newsletter

Friday 1 October 2021

In this week's newsletter:

- ◆ Harvest festival and Harvest food collection;
- ◆ Year 4/5/6 Beamish Online Lessons;
- ◆ Parents' Evening arrangements.

Important dates / information for next week:

- ◆ School closed to pupils on Monday for staff PD Day;
- ◆ Harvest Festival food collection begins next week;
- ◆ Sign up for Parents' Evening via your School Cloud account.

As we start October today, the weather seems to have turned and it feels much more autumnal, resulting in Mr Sparks firing our central heating back into life for the first time in six months. We have noticed this week a large number of children who haven't brought a coat to school to wear at playtimes and lunchtimes and, understandably, they are complaining of being cold. As we move into autumn, please ensure your child has a coat in school every day as we all know that the weather conditions can change quickly.

My whole school assembly on Monday morning focused on the theme of Harvest and the importance of knowing where the food we eat every day comes from. In the coming weeks, children will be looking in more detail at the celebration of Harvest Festival in their own classes and to support this, we would like to ask our children and families to donate to our Harvest Food collection in aid of The Salvation Army. We kindly ask for donations of long life food items such as tins, pasta, rice, cereals etc that we will take up to The Salvation Army in Crook just before half term, for them to distribute to those most in need in our area. Please send any donations into school with your child/ren from Monday.

Thank you to the parents who attended the consultation meeting on Monday to find out more about our proposal to join the Advance Learning Partnership Multi Academy Trust. I hope as a result of attending, you feel more informed and I would encourage as many parents as possible, to complete the consultation form that is available online at <https://forms.gle/wvyA6rqiRiLkzFUN7>

Parents' Evening for the Autumn term is planned for **Monday 11 October and Tuesday 12 October**. At this time, we still remain cautious around hosting large events in school and therefore for children in Reception to Year 6 we will be using the **School Cloud** video conferencing system, of which many of you will be familiar. The beauty of School Cloud is that it is accessible from any device - phone, laptop, PC, tablet etc and the only requirements are an internet connection and a camera on the device. Also, School Cloud operates an easy to use booking system where you can choose your appointment time from the selection available without having to communicate with school at all. The booking system is open from **4pm today until 12pm on Monday 11th October**, so the sooner you access the site, the wider the selection of appointments there will be available. **Please note:** If your child is in Nursery, we can't use School Cloud so Miss Atkinson will book appointments with you directly. I would like to take you through some brief instructions of how to get onto School Cloud to make your booking/s.

1. Visit this link for our school specific booking site: <https://howdenlewear.schoolcloud.co.uk/>
2. Fill in the details that are asked of both yourself and your child - please ensure the details you enter are the same as you have provided school - particularly your title (Miss/Mr/Mrs/Ms). Information that does not match our system records exactly will mean you cannot get logged in to the system.
3. When you enter the site you will see the two days of parents' evening. Click on the day that best suits you.
4. Choose a time and confirm the booking. You are then all sorted and your booking confirmation will be emailed to you.
5. Repeat the log in and booking process for each child in your family.
6. On the day of parents' evening, log in to the same address (<https://howdenlewear.schoolcloud.co.uk/>) 5/10 minutes before your allocated time to ensure your sound and camera are working. At your meeting time, the session will start and you can start to chat with the teacher. Each meeting is strictly scheduled for **8 minutes per child and cannot run over**. Once the 8 minutes are up, the session will stop automatically and the teacher will be moved on to the next appointment.

If you have issues with any of the above, please get in touch and we will be happy to support you with this. Finally as a reminder, **school is closed to all pupils on Monday next week** due to a staff Professional Development Day and will reopen on Tuesday.

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 website!



Beamish Online Lesson
by Grace and Darcy, Year 6

This Tuesday, Year 4/5 and 5/6 had a tremendous visit from Beamish worker, Mr Woolley. However, he didn't come to school - we did a remote lesson with him, live from Beamish! We were finding out about young John and his little sister Mabel, who are both evacuees. They are both terribly homesick and miss their mother badly. Sadly, they were even separated - against their mother's wishes. Mr Woolley gave us a virtual tour around Mrs Armstrong's house in the pit village. She is the loving housewife of an old fashioned cottage, who adopted young John temporarily for the war. The two classes were allowed to look around the ancient house to see if any clues were left unattended such as letters or property belonging to John or his mother.

After the Zoom meeting, we received a letter from John stating that he had run away to Newcastle where his mother lives and had found the police who took him to him to his loving mother.

To sum it up, we had an amazing time and wish to know more about John and his sibling Mabel - hopefully we will when we visit Beamish next week. Mr Woolley was an excellent teacher and taught us a lot about evacuees and how it would have felt to be one. It was a thrilling event for the children and a big thanks to Mr Woolley and our teachers for organising it. We look forward to our Beamish visit in person next week!

By Grace W and Darcy S in Year 6

Tempest Individual Photographs

Next **Friday 8 October** we have **Tempest Photography** visiting school to take children's individual photographs. Many of you will be pleased to note it is Tempest returning to take the photos after an absence of two years.

All children will have their individual photographs taken in school and also be paired with siblings for family photos. This year we are happy for parents to bring siblings who do not attend our school in for the family photos. This will be run on an appointment basis to avoid congestion. If you would like to do this, please complete the Google Form (by 12pm Wednesday next week) at <https://forms.gle/RqBozSQ1fk2nf9QB6> and we will be in touch later next week to let you know of your appointment time for next Friday.

TEMPEST
PHOTOGRAPHY

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:

Miss Atkinson's
Nursery



Miss Atkinson would like to congratulate **Grace** for super turn taking when playing small group games. Well done, Grace!

Mrs Craig's
Reception Class



Mrs Craig has nominated **Aisla** for her excellent attitude towards learning and being super helpful in the classroom. Great effort, Aisla!

Mrs Sheard's
Year 1 Class



Mrs Sheard would like to say a huge congratulations to **Rosie** for making excellent contributions and showing lots of enthusiasm in English lessons this week. Congratulations, Rosie!

Mrs Gray's
Year 2/3 Class



Mrs Gray would like a special mention for **Indiana** for her fantastic writing this week, which included excellent conjunctions. Wonderful work,

diana!

Mrs Salkeld's
Year 3/4 Class



Mrs Salkeld is really pleased with **Thomas** for always working hard and for producing some lovely work this week in class. Keep up the hard work, Thomas!

Miss Nattrass'
Year 4/5 Class



Miss Nattrass is delighted with **Rachael** for always challenging herself in all her learning and for producing a beautiful diary entry this week. Super work, Rachael!

In-

Mrs Clark's
Year 5/6 Class



Congratulations to **Abi-Rose** for her consistently positive attitude towards all her learning; always doing her very best and always having a smile on her face! What a superstar, Abi!



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

