



Hardingstone Academy Newsletter 5

Friday 9th October 2020

Happy Friday! I am so proud of the way in which the children have been learning again this week. It is so lovely to visit classrooms and chat to the children. By now, routines such as hand washing, learning as a class 'bubble' and eating in our classrooms are firmly established. We are constantly learning and reflecting on the decisions we make. Please may I remind you that all of our decisions are based on keeping us all safe and this is our priority. Sit back and read the newsletter and find out about our week and important information that you need to know.



#HelloYellow

Today we have been showing our support to the Young Minds Charity by celebrating and saying #HelloYellow and raising awareness for children and young people's mental health. Each class will have taken part in activities or discussions around positive mental health messages to give and receive.

By wearing yellow today, we wanted to show young people that they're not alone when it comes to their mental health. This is also embedded throughout the curriculum but today was raising the awareness.



Safety Snippet

Instagram: Parental guidance

Instagram is a social media app used by more than one billion people around the world to share photos, videos and messages. Instagram lets you follow people and be followed by them, but unlike Facebook it is not necessarily a two-way street. You can follow someone even if they do not follow you and vice versa. Users with a private account can control who can follow them. Unless you change the default to private, anyone can see what you post.

When posting think about:

Respect other people's privacy. If someone else is in a photo you post, make sure that person's OK with your sharing or tagging them in it.

Your posts have impact. Think about how media you post affects others. Sometimes it is the friends who are not in the photo or video who can be hurt, because they feel excluded.



Road Safety

In the twenty-first century the numbers of cars and other vehicles on our roads is increasing all the time and it is ever more important for all young people to understand the potential risks and dangers. Learning to stay safe on our busy roads is a complex task. At Hardingstone Academy we believe it is vital to teach our pupils how to be safe passengers, pedestrians & cyclists. Working together with parents, pupils and the school community is the only way we can ensure that we are safe when we are out and about. We have had two reports about children not safely crossing roads. Please discuss road safety with your child at home. Many thanks for your support.



Try cooking at home with your child

Here is a marvellous muffin recipe that you can make with your children. This is a great weekend activity to make into a family routine in a warm kitchen as the autumn days close in. It is easy to store in an airtight container and will keep for an entire week of snacks. Please send us pictures to share in the newsletter next week.

<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/basic-muffin-recipe>



Covid Safety Update

Reminders to keep us all safe:

- Your child must stay with you when walking around the school building, this is for their safety.
- If you or your child feel unwell with COVID-19 symptoms, do not come to school but inform the office, take a test and wait for the results .
- Do not gather in groups in the playground and maintain the 1m+ distance when talking with others, do not allow your children to play on the playground equipment at the end of the day.
- Come at your allocated start and finish times.
- Leave the premises as soon as you have picked up your child.

As always, thank you for your understanding and support with keeping everyone safe.



Harvest

What a year 2020 has turned out to be! A year of uncertainty, isolation, changes, and challenges. This year's Harvest Celebration will be very different to the celebration that took place last year as the world has had to adapt to a new way of living. We will be posting our video for you to share the celebrations on our website. We have made links with our local community and have developed a way of delivering in a Covid safe way to local residents. If you feel that you are able to donate, then we are asking that food donations are non- perishable. Donations can be in the form of tinned goods, dried food (pasta, toiletries (toothpaste, shower gel and shampoo etc) or other non-perishable items e.g. biscuits, crisps and squash. To ensure that we keep everyone's safety at the forefront of what we do, please place harvest donations in the box on the playground near the hand sanitising stations. Please remember to social distance when dropping off items into the box. The donations will

remain untouched until they are collected. We kindly ask that donations are brought into school up to and including **19th October 2020**. Every donation given is extremely valuable and we thank-you in anticipation of your kind generosity



Aspens

Please make sure that you order your child's food by 9am. We have noticed in the last couple of weeks that there have been an increasing number of children coming to school with no packed lunch and no lunch ordered. Please make sure that you go through the list with your child so they are happy with the choice. Thank you for your support with this matter.

Aspens



Collection Times



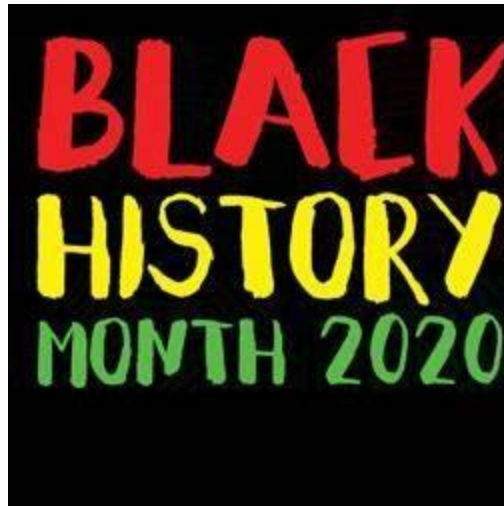
Please can you ensure that you collect your child on time. Recently we have had many children waiting to be collected up to 30 minutes after the end of school. Staff often have meetings after school and the lateness impacts on these. We completely understand that things may arise but we ask you to kindly phone the office and let us know.

Black History Month

Black History Month is once again a key focus for October. This is a special time where we promote knowledge of black history, culture and heritage. Our value this month is courage. Alongside our core British Values, we will encourage the children to reflect on previous work, and explore ideas that promote respect and understanding of one another. We will also consider important historical events as we learn about Black History whilst taking the opportunity to celebrate the lives of positive black role models and the positive contribution they have made and continue to make. As always, this will be undertaken in an age appropriate and considerate way.

We know our children are keen readers. Further ideas of books for a range of ages that link with Black History Month can be found here

<https://www.readingrockets.org/booklists/favorite-books-black-history-month>



Behaviour



We are kindly asking all parents to talk through our behaviour expectation that we sent out at the beginning of term. We are having a few children that are forgetting about our expectations. If your child is in Year 5/6 and waits with us on the small playground before school then please can you have a little chat with them about how they wait for the start of school. We are increasingly having to remind children not to play 'tag style' games. Unfortunately, if children are unable to wait in a calm manner we will need you to drop them off at the allocated time of 8:55am.

Parking

Please be mindful of all pedestrians when moving your car - we have been informed of two incidents this week where accidents could have occurred but luckily didn't! If you are using the local roads to park during drop off and collection times, please remember to park considerately. It is important, for the safety of our pupils and residents that you park in a safe manner. Thank you for your cooperation.



Have a child yourself or the child of a family friend or neighbour wanting to join Hardingstone Academy in September 2021?



Do you have a child who is the right age to start in Reception next September? Do you have a family friend or neighbour whose child is ready to start Reception next year? At present due to Coronavirus, schools are not able to offer parent tours of the site. This is the same for secondary schools who have a Year 7 intake next September. We have already had a few phone calls from prospective parents who would like to see the school. In order to give new parents the best chance in the present circumstances to get an idea about Hardingstone Academy and a feel for our school, we are creating virtual tours with lots of key information. They will be on our website very soon!

Virtual Parent Events

Normally we would be sharing an exciting dates list for the term ahead including residential details, harvest festival, class assemblies (which will now be Trail of Knowledge Events) nativity and more. We can confirm that we are currently putting plans in place for virtual events and details will be in next weeks newsletter. We will have to wait to see what the guidance will allow in the near future. Dates so far: **w/b 12th October - Meet the Teacher Presentations w/b 19th October - Harvest Festival 22nd-23rd October - Year 6 team building event 24th - 1st November - Half term 2nd**

November - Training Day 24th November - Photo Day These will all be virtual events and put on the website, more dates to follow. We are currently organising virtual parents evening sessions as we know how important these are - dates will follow after half term.



Illnesses



Whilst we encourage good attendance at school so that our children access a full education, we would ask you to be mindful in this current time and consider carefully if your child is well enough to attend school. Please reinforce NHS information - 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it'

We have had an increased number of phone calls this week asking us to make decisions about illnesses. We hope this will help you to make informed decisions:

- If your child has had an upset stomach, sickness or diarrhoea they must be kept off school for 48 hours.
- If your child has a sore throat, runny nose or ear-ache, you must judge whether their health is affected and whether they are well enough to attend school or not.
- If your child has a high temperature, a new persistent cough and/or loses their sense of taste or smell, you must keep them off school and arrange a Covid-19 test. Only after a negative

test result can your child return to school. Bear in mind that children who have received a negative test result may return to school still displaying a cough.

Celebrations of the Week

Well done to all the 'Stars of the Week' we are so proud of your achievements. Keep up the great attitudes and I can't wait to see all your work when I visit your bubble.

















Super Learners Across Our School

This week children have been really busy with their learning. Have a look at the lovely classroom environments and some work from around the school.







Let's hope the weather improves next week. Have a lovely weekend. Julie Stevens Head of School