

# NEWSLETTER

## NOVEMBER 2020

Dear Parents and Friends

**Welcome to the November Newsletter.** After an unusual half term break, here we are back continuing with our catch up programme as we move towards the Christmas period. Who knows what that will look like, but Christmas is about family and at least spending time with people in our own households is allowed!



### Safety in relation to COVID 19

In order to open school in September, we had to put in place rigorous risk assessments which had to be approved by trade unions and the local authority health and safety team. These continue to be reviewed and are working well to date. You have played your part in adhering to these too, in the most part, so thank you. I do however need to remind people that only one adult should be bringing children to and from school.

### Sporting updates

Unfortunately, restrictions have prevented our usual sporting programme taking place within the Blyth and Bedlington partnership however, children have remained active in school and staff are leading active play at lunchtimes as the children learn to play games in a more socially distanced way within their “bubbles”. Fingers crossed the sporting programmes will begin again in the future.

### PSQM Gilt Award

After successfully achieving the Primary Science Quality Mark (PSQM) Award we have continued our drive to improve the quality of science education in our school. In doing this, we hope to achieve PSQM Gilt Award early in the New Year.



Although school closure did impact, we made best use of the time that we had, developing a whole school Science Shed, the KS1 outdoor planting area and the KS1 Bug Hotel. So far, we have grown organic beans and tomatoes. We also planted flowers to attract bees which the children have loved watching. Thank you to the science team for continuing this work.

## Celebrating learning from Autumn 1

### 2 Year Olds



Two year olds have had a great start to the term, welcoming the new starters, who have all settled really well.

They have enjoyed lots of sensory activities, using their senses to explore and introducing language of texture. Two year olds have also been cooking too, making choices based on their preferences.

They have spent lots of time outdoors, talking about the environment, listening and looking around them and building their confidence on the climbing equipment. They collected natural resources which were explored in two year olds and used to make collage pictures.



Tapestry is being used to share your child's experiences at school; it has been lovely to see what your children have been doing at home, please continue to share this with us.

### Nursery

Starting Nursery is such an exciting time for both parents and children! We understand that in the current circumstances, this new transition can seem quite daunting but the Nursery children have settled into Horton Grange brilliantly! We are so proud of them! During the first few weeks of term they were

learning the Nursery routines, meeting new friends and exploring the classroom environment.

Developing vocabulary is always a very important focus in Nursery and last term the children were naming new objects and toys around the Nursery and also naming the parts of their body and what they use them for; they have also been using their senses to explore which has been tremendous fun! The knowledge organisers have supported the children to learn lots of new vocabulary.



As the leaves started to fall and the weather became colder, the children in Nursery were learning about the changes in the seasons and exploring the natural environment around them in autumn!

The children thoroughly enjoyed finding autumn objects and using the leaves to make comparisons and colour match. On their autumn walk, the children talked about the changes they could see and collected leaves to observe and use in a variety of ways back in Nursery.

This term the children in Nursery will be continuing to explore autumn through their topic book Fletcher and the Falling Leaves. As we draw nearer to the end of 2020, the Nursery children will begin to observe the seasons change from autumn to winter and engage in lots of festive fun.



## Reception

Last half-term Reception was full of the joys of autumn! Making the most of our outdoor spaces, every class was able to explore the seasonal changes each week. The children collected leaves for art projects, maths tasks and also talked about how they could tell the seasons were changing. It was a very creative half-term, with the children painting self-portraits and making salt dough faces to decorate their classrooms. They really focused on the details of their facial features, observing how every child is unique. “Learning to read and reading to learn” is a school priority and Reception have made an excellent start to their journey, learning their first sounds and writing their first words.

Reading remains a big focus and last half term the children began voting for which book they would like to read later in the day. When the books were introduced, the children began to predict what might happen in the story, based on the title and front cover illustrations. This is a skill that they will continue to develop this half-term.



This term the children will be building on their seasonal knowledge as they learn about winter. They will be exploring the nature of water and ice in their Understanding the World lessons, making observations both outside and inside. As Christmas approaches, Reception will be learning some Christmas songs and poems as well as talking about the Christmas story.

Reading and writing will continue to be a strong focus as the children begin to more confidently and independently blend sounds to read and then write words and maybe even some simple sentences! The children will continue to consolidate their counting skills, ensuring that they count accurately and say the total amount after they have counted.

Reception will continue to focus on learning The Three Billy Goats Gruff by Mara Alperin, deepening their understanding of the story through role play as well as representing the events through story mountains and story maps.

Thank you for your contributions to Tapestry! It has been fantastic to see the children sharing their learning at home and it is clear that the children are making good progress, particularly with their reading!

## Year 1

Last half term Year 1 became bakers when they studied The Gingerbread Man. The children were challenged to bake their own gingerbread men and write instructions to tell their friends how they had made them. The children loved decorating and eating their biscuits, and fortunately, these ones didn’t run away and get gobbled up by a sly fox! The children have been learning how to write in full sentences and have been working really hard to remember capital letters, full stops and finger spaces as they write.

In science lessons, the children took on the role of zoologists and learned how to classify animals into different groups, such as fish, birds and mammals. They had to look really closely at the characteristics of different animals and use their observations as they sorted. The children have also been exploring seasonal changes in science lessons and are now skilled in spotting signs of autumn; they went on a conker hunt in the forest and sketched different coloured autumnal leaves that they had observed. They all had a lovely time getting outside and exploring the world around them.





Maths lessons last half term have covered a range of different skills including sorting, counting accurately, matching quantities to numerals and identifying which amounts were greater than or less than others. The children also used different equipment to represent

numbers within 10. They have been working really hard in their

TT Rockstars lessons which challenge them to add and take away numbers to 10 and 20 against the clock. They are getting faster and improving their scores every week!



In geography last half term, the children focused on their local environment and learning about Blyth, moving on to making a representation of Blyth with blocks and taking an aerial photograph from above!

This term there will be a lot of lighthouse themed work going on in Year 1. The children will be reading lots of books about people who live in lighthouses and about the seaside and comparing it to the coast near to Blyth.

The children will be doing some time traveling when they step back to the year 1838 and learn all about Grace Darling and the famous shipwreck at the Farne Islands. They will take over the hall and recreate the fateful night that Grace and her father rowed out from their lighthouse in a storm to rescue the survivors of the Forfarshire wreck from the rocks.

In science lessons the children will be looking at different materials and testing which material will make the best roof for a Lego house. It will need to be strong and waterproof. They will need to think hard about properties of different materials for this investigation to ensure that their roof stays up and doesn't leak on the poor Lego people inside.

In maths this term the children will continue to develop their number skills and will be investigating how they can solve addition and subtraction problems, using equipment. This will include using a part whole model to find out how numbers can be made - ask them to explain it to you and draw you a picture of one. The children are going to get online NumBot assignments in the next few weeks so they can practise their number skills at home. We will let you know when to look out for them!

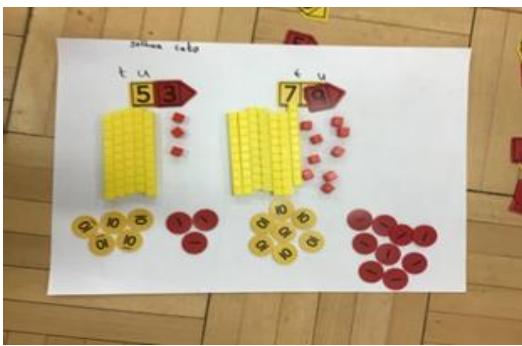
The class texts this term will focus on the seaside and lighthouses. In the book Gracie the Lighthouse Cat by Ruth Brown the children will learn all about Gracie who goes looking for her lost kitten in the same storm that sees Grace Darling and her father venturing out to rescue shipwreck survivors. They will also find out about how poor Mr Grinling kept his sandwiches safe from the cheeky seagulls in The Lighthouse Keepers Lunch by David and Ronda Armitage.

In literacy lessons Year 1 will study Sally and the Limpet by Simon James which is about a little girl who has a memorable visit to the seaside.

## Year 2

What a very busy but fantastic first half term Year 2 had. In all areas of the curriculum there was a big focus on basic skills – letter formation, handwriting, reading, phonics, spelling of high frequency words and basic number facts. In addition to all of this, in maths, the children developed their understanding of place value. They used an assortment of practical maths resources in a variety of different ways, to explore partitioning of 2 digit numbers.





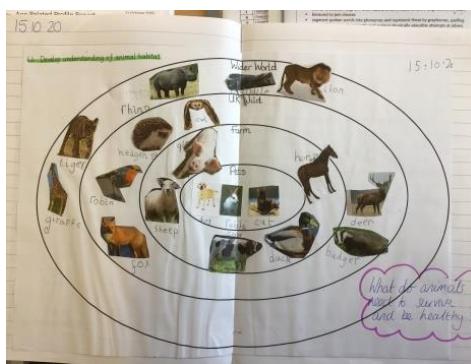
In literacy, the children enjoyed reading Little Red Riding Hood. They looked closely at character, setting and plot. The children particularly liked using adjectives to describe some of the characters. They wrote some brilliant character descriptions and planned some simple changes to the story.

In geography, the children developed their understanding of their wider world, using singing to help them

remember the seven continents. They developed art skills within geography, using watercolours to paint a map of the continents and oceans.

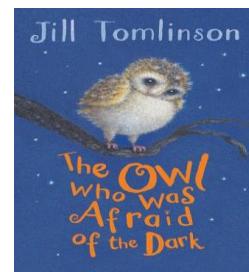


In science the children further developed their understanding of animal classification and revised animal diet. Using the brilliant book Variety of Life by Nichola Davies and Lorna Scotie they investigated what animals need to survive and developed their understanding of UK wild animals and animals from the wider world.



During Autumn 2 in English, the children will read information texts and picture books about the Great Fire of London. They will write instructions, make fact files and develop non-chronological reports. The children will explore some poetry by reading The Great Fire poem by Pie Corbett. The children will then write their own fiery poems.

This half term Year 2 class text is The Owl who was Afraid of the Dark by Jill Tomlinson.



In maths the children will continue to work on basic skills such as number bonds and times tables. The expectation is that by the end of Year 2 children know all related multiplication and division facts for the 2, 5 and 10 times tables. They will further develop addition and subtraction skills and then begin to look at multiplication, division and fractions.

This term, Year 2 will begin their Horrible History topic. The children will learn all about The Great Fire of London, The Plague and The Gunpowder Plot.

In science the children will explore everyday materials including wood, metal, plastic, glass, brick, rock, paper and cardboard and look at their suitability for different purposes. Additionally the children will investigate how the shape of solid objects can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting and stretching. The text The Great Paper Caper by Oliver Jeffers will be used to support learning in science.

Please continue to support children at home with their learning. In Year 2, all children have been given personalised spellings to practise. Please continue to work on these as children will be assessed again during this half term. Phonics packs were sent home during the last holidays, in preparation for the phonics test which the children will sit this half term. Please continue to read those regular words and alien words to give them an additional boost at home. We want all of the children to be successful. In maths, you can support your child by encouraging them to use TT Rockstars online. All children have been given passwords to access this and we will be setting regular inter-class battles. Get TT rocking!

### Year 3

Year 3 staff would like to start by saying how incredibly proud they are of the children in Year 3. They have all adapted to moving from Key Stage 1 to Key Stage 2 seamlessly and although they didn't get the transition days and preparation we wanted, they have taken it all in their stride!

Last half term, in literacy, Year 3 learned about fables and stories with a moral teaching. Of course the children read the classic The Hare and the Tortoise, learning how sometimes slow and steady wins the race, a lesson we are all learning now we are back at school. They focussed on the basics of getting each sentence structured correctly then moved on to adding noun phrases including adjectives. The children applied their knowledge, re-telling the fable,

The Mouse and the Lion with the message "kindness is more powerful than strength"- an important message for all.

Place value has been the hot topic in maths. The children have enjoyed using practical resources to make different numbers and partition them in different ways. This has included understanding how many hundreds, tens and ones are in a number and really developing their understanding of the number system up to 1000.

The thigh bone's connected to the...what was it again? Well Year 3 will be able to tell you! Last half term in science they learned all

about their brilliant bodies focussing on the skeleton. Learning about the different types of skeletons animals and humans have, the children can tell you the difference between an endoskeleton, exoskeleton and a hydrostatic skeleton! They also investigated how the skeleton moves, using their biggest resource - their own bodies!

Travelling back 2.6 million years ago to the earliest humans, Year 3 really enjoyed learning about the Stone Age in history. After addressing the misconception that the dinosaurs lived at the same time as people, (spoiler alert- they didn't) the children enjoyed discovering how people throughout the Stone Age lived including; Stone Age diet, what homes they lived in and about the animals which were around at that time, comparing these to their life today.

This term, in literacy, Year 3 will be reading a favourite classic story The Iron Man. Focussing on the introduction, the children will learn how to create suspense and give just the right amount of description to hook in the reader. As always to help your child please read with them every night - the more they read, the better writers they become!

Addition and subtraction will be the focus of Year 3 maths, beginning to use more formal methods to calculate, add and subtract 2 and 3 digit numbers. To aid with this the children need to be confident with their number facts - especially those crossing over the 10 boundary. For example  $6 + 7 = 13$  so any quick fire practice they can do at home on adding and subtracting single digit numbers would be very helpful.

In science this half term the children will be learning about rocks and fossils. They will be investigating how fossils are formed and delving deep into the different types of rocks which are on our Earth.

This half term, in geography, Year 3 will be learning about settlements and land use in the UK. The children will look at early settlements and why people settled where they did to current settlements, including trade links (a very current topic at the moment).



Year 3 will also be creating their very own bookmarks in design and technology using their sewing skills and focussing on gymnastics in PE- please ensure your child has the correct PE kit with them on a Monday.

As well as looking at the introduction of this wonderful classic in our literacy lessons, we will be reading the full story at the end of the day. Melding science fiction with fairy tale, The Iron Man, by Ted Hughes, tells the story of a gigantic metal robot who appears out of nowhere, crashing onto the beach and shattering into many parts. He is discovered by Hogarth, a young boy. The Iron Man proceeds to devour farm machinery, until the farmers rise up against him.



#### Year 4

Last half term, Year 4 thoroughly enjoyed learning about their water topic. In literacy, the children read The Secret of Black Rock by Joe Todd-Stanton. After reading the gripping story and appreciating the beautiful illustrations, the children wrote descriptions of the underwater world which Black Rock inhabited. Later on in the unit, the children wrote their own dilemma paragraph based on a problem which the main character in the story faced. Some of the issues in the story linked to Year 4's geography learning about the importance of water in the environment. The children took part in a "Philosophy for Children" session discussing the impact of water pollution on rivers and oceans, thinking particularly about what society can do to reduce their impact on the environment. The children linked this learning to their knowledge of the local area, identifying the importance of Blyth's port and how the local river system impacts upon our region.



In science, Year 4 learned about different animal food chains. The topic was introduced to the children through the use of the VR headsets to view different animal habitats. Year 4 enjoyed their virtual reality experience and it really helped to bring the topic to life. After this, the children found out several interesting facts about animals and their role in a food chain. In addition, the children researched different food webs to further understand the position of animals within different ecosystems. After this, the children used their reading skills to identify facts about animals in a range of non-fiction books to create their own fact files about animal food chains. The children found out several interesting facts about animals and their role in a food chain.

This term, Year 4 will be learning about the Ancient Greeks in history. The children will find out about what life was like for children in ancient Greece and compare this to the lives of children today. Furthermore, the children will read a range of Greek myths as part of their reading lessons too. In science, the children will focus their learning on states of matter, which will link to an exciting DT project of designing and making an ice lolly product.

This half term, Year 4 will be reading The Firework Maker's Daughter by Philip Pullman, which is a story set in Asia. This will link to their literacy learning about stories from other cultures.

#### Year 5

Last half term, in geography, Year 5 have explored the continent of South America through maps, aerial photos and wildlife documentaries. The children have learned about different climate zones and biomes, discovering the animals and plants that inhabit them and the challenges that face the environment.

In science, the topic of Earth and Space has really gripped the children's imaginations. The children have learned all about the planets in our solar system; they were shocked to learn that Jupiter has 69 moons, and how the Moon and the Earth move around the Sun. Additionally, they have broadened their scientific vocabulary extensively.

The children have loved designing and making their own pizza linking to their PSHE learning around healthy lifestyles in DT. The children researched seasonal vegetables to include on their pizza and designed them with this in mind. Finally, the children enjoyed being chefs for the day as they made, ate and evaluated their pizzas – delicious!



This half term, the children will be learning all about the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings in history. They will learn all about the fall of the Roman occupation of Britain and how Alfred the Great protected the Kingdom of Wessex from the Viking raiders. The children will link their literacy work through their class text Beowulf by Michael Morpurgo and examine the morality of the legendary hero, Beowulf, killing the vile beast, Grendel. In science, the learning will focus on chemistry as the children investigate the properties and changes of materials through a range of scientific enquiries.

## Year 6

It was fantastic to welcome the children back in September and they have made a great start to Year 6. Staff have been pleased with their hard work, their behaviour as role models for the rest of the school and their increased pace of learning. In literacy lessons, they created some very imaginative writing, producing stories based on our class texts of The Last Wild and Just So Stories by Rudyard Kipling, where the language was challenging but meant lots of new vocabulary was learnt. These stories tell how animals developed certain characteristics and some of the titles which the children came up with were: 'How the Wolf got its Howl' and 'How the Cat got her Whiskers', all very enjoyable reads!

Reading is a huge focus as always and the children are gradually getting back on track with the Reading Plus system which helps to build fluency and speed with reading. They can also access this on computers at home – well done to all who are already doing this! Please encourage your child to use this programme at home as we have seen amazing progress achieved by those who go that extra mile! This also goes for Spelling Shed and TT Rockstars.

In science, Year 6 studied the digestive systems of humans and animals, discovering that cows have four stomachs and regurgitate their food! The geographical learning last term focussed on the Lake District even though, sadly, we were unable to have our usual visit this year. We have made up for this by watching lots of clips so that the children could see the landscape and discuss how it is so different to Blyth. The children learnt how the landscape was formed by glaciers in the Ice Age and studied how the land is used now, mainly for farming and tourism. A very engaging session was when they studied Ordnance Survey maps to identify human and physical features of the area then used 4 and 6 figure co-ordinates to locate those features and specific places.

As part of Year 6, children would normally carry out jobs across school. As we are unable to do this at the moment, children all have jobs within the classroom and they are taking these very seriously, keeping everything in order!



This half term, Year 6 will be studying both world wars and the impact which these conflicts had on Blyth. This will link to our text of The Machine Gunners by Robert Westall which is set locally and (just like during the war!) we will listen to radio broadcasts of the story as well as creating our own historical fiction set during wartime. We also plan to share the biography of Noor-Un-Nissa Inayat-Khan, who was a French woman working for Winston Churchill's SOE (Special Operations Executive) during the Second World War. We will learn about the importance of

Blyth during both world wars as a submarine base and as a national centre for shipbuilding. We will look at how the people of Blyth were affected by rationing and by children having to evacuate to the countryside. In science, we will study evolution and inheritance, looking at fossils and the work of Mary Anning. As Christmas approaches, we will be setting to work to create lots of Christmas craft and learning about The Christmas Truce which took place in 1914.

This half term, Year 6 staff and senior leaders will be making decisions about Sports Leaders and Prefects. Watch this space for more information to follow!

Further information on the curriculum can be found on our website.

### **Christmas 2020**

Now of course we're on the run up to Christmas. Unfortunately with restrictions we are not able to have our usual performances and events but please trust we will do our best to have some form of celebrations in school.

Before then we have the Autumn term Parents' Evening. As mentioned in my end of half term letter these will be telephone appointments during the week of 16<sup>th</sup> November. You will receive a separate letter on this.

### **Supporting learning at home**

Supporting your child's learning really makes a difference. Here are some of the ways you can do this.

#### **Reading**

Read regularly with your child-10-15 minutes every night, school reading book or bedtime story. Reading Plus is an online programme for KS2 and all children in Years 4/5/6 have a login. There are hundreds of texts to choose from. A lesson - reading the text and answering questions takes about 20 mins.

#### **Maths and Times Tables**

TT rockstars - a real favourite! An online times tables programme where children can practice their skills and battle other people. All children have logins.

Hit the button <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/mathsgames/hit-the-button> Great for practising quick retrieval of lots of number facts including times tables.

#### **Developing responsibility**

As you know, being responsible is one of our Horton Grange values and we support children to develop this in many different ways. In Year 6, we develop this further by children taking on specific roles and by them all having jobs within school. These roles will be decided this half term. In the meantime all classrooms have roles of responsibility within them.

#### **School Council and Eco Council updates**

At Horton Grange we believe in children having a voice and are truthful in their opinions on how effective school is and can be. The School Council and Eco Council play a crucial role in this. This year, due to not being able to mix bubbles, we are looking at ways to run this differently and hope to have them up and running under the new normal regime soon.

## **Attendance**

Attendance has always been a priority at Horton Grange, with the recognition that good attendance has a hugely positive impact on the attainment and progress of our pupils. It has been the focus for many of the rewards we have in school and the children (and staff) are very competitive about winning the weekly attendance trophy!

This year, like so many other aspects of our lives, the emphasis is slightly different. However, we still place the same importance on good attendance. Many children missed a significant period of school and now, more than ever, being here every day is crucial for that necessary catch up.

Absences linked to COVID 19 are graded differently on the register and we thank parents for continuing to work with us at keeping us well informed. Mrs Hewes continues to work to support parents with attendance and works closely with our Education Welfare Officer to ensure children attend school whenever possible.

The brilliant news regarding attendance is that our attendance for this half term is 95.9%. This is an unbelievable achievement, especially during these times. Well done to all of our families for continuing to ensure every opportunity is taken to support their child and maximise the opportunities school gives them.

## **Holidays in term time**

Restrictions upon us have reduced term time holidays, however just a few reminders - taking holidays in term time will affect a child's schooling as much as any other absence and we expect parents to help us by not taking children away in school time. There is **no** automatic entitlement in law to time off in school time to go on holiday.

Amendments to the 2006 regulations make clear that the Headteacher may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Should, despite this, you choose to take your child out of school for a holiday then this will be an unauthorised absence. Additionally, in current times quarantine rules must be followed.

## **Points to remember**

If your child is absent you must phone school or inform the office on the first morning of their absence. Failing to do so will mean their absence is recorded as unauthorised, which can trigger involvement from the Education Welfare Officer.

- Holidays should be avoided in school time. If they are unavoidable a holiday form must be submitted
- Children falling below 90% attendance are classed as persistent absentees and will be monitored by school and in some cases by the Educational Welfare Officer
- Covid related absences are coded differently

## **Statutory Assessments**

It is our understanding that statutory assessments will go ahead this year therefore children must be in school at this time.

### **Key dates when holidays must not be taken:**

- **Month of May: Year 2 end of Key Stage assessments**
- **Week commencing 7 June: Year 1 phonic check**
- **Week commencing 7 June: for 3 weeks Y4 multiplication check**
- **Week commencing 10 May: Year 6 SATs**

**These dates are set by the Government and school does not have flexibility to change the dates.**

## Safeguarding

### Anti-Bullying Week 2020: United Against Bullying

The theme for Anti-Bullying Week 2020 is: United Against Bullying.

Anti-Bullying Week will happen from **Monday 16 - Friday 20**

**November** and will start with Odd Socks Day to mark the first day of Anti-Bullying week. This year, more than ever, we've witnessed the positive power that society can have when we come together to tackle a common challenge. Anti-Bullying Week is no different. Bullying has a long lasting effect on those who experience and witness it. But by channelling our collective power, through shared efforts and shared ambitions, we can reduce bullying together. From parents and carers, to teachers and politicians, to children and young people, we all have a part to play in coming together to make a difference. We're all a piece in the puzzle, and together, we're united against bullying. During the week of the 16 November we will be supporting Anti-Bullying Week in school. It will link to our school value of **Respect**. Mrs Brownrigg is leading work on this in school alongside Miss Hewson who runs the School Council. Thankfully bullying is rare but on the occasions it happens in schools it is taken very seriously. We will be revisiting the acronym we use in school - STOP (Several Times On Purpose and Start Telling Other People). This helps children identify whether an incident is bullying and what they should do about it.

Following on from the survey findings from children last year, before we closed for COVID 19, the School Council will be working with the teachers to collate the ideas and come up with a flowchart to show how bullying is dealt with at Horton Grange. This way everyone can talk clearly about bullying and its consequences for all involved.

### Scooters and Bikes

Can I please remind you to remind your children to park their bikes and scooters in the designated area behind the KS1 hall. Children must not ride bikes and scooters once on school site.

### Uniform

I know parents try very hard to follow our uniform guidance and we appreciate your on-going support with this. However, we have a large number of children not bringing PE kit for PE lessons. Under current restrictions, we cannot issue children with our shared school kits. PE is part of the curriculum and children need to be prepared to take part. It may be easier to send PE kit on Monday, leave in school until Friday and then take home to be washed. If you are unclear of which day your child needs PE kit please contact school. Also for safety reasons, even stud earrings, which are allowed as part of uniform code, cannot be worn for PE. Therefore it is advisable that children do not get their ears pierced unless there is sufficient time to allow them to be removed for PE, ie at the start of the 6 week break in the summer. Can I also give a polite reminder that extreme hair-cuts are not allowed and that plain black shoes should be worn. If you have any queries around uniform please contact Mrs Hewes to discuss.

### Horton Heroes

Whilst we can't have parents into school for assemblies, please be assured children are still receiving Horton Hero certificates and our school value post cards. Each week I go into classrooms and deliver these in a socially distanced way. Well done to all the children who have received them so far. We do however look forward to a future when we can once again have you back in school for these events.

### Children in Need Day - Friday 13 November

To celebrate this year's Children in Need day children can come to school in non-school uniform. There is no charge for this but if you would like to donate small change to the appeal, children can bring this into school and we will ensure this is donated. Whilst in school we are having a fun afternoon of competitions, including the chance to win prizes in a duck race! Thank you for your support.



### **Thank You to Parents for On-going Support**

Finally, I would like to thank you for all your on-going support. Your children attend a **good and improving school**, they are well looked after, are provided with an engaging curriculum and we know that outcomes for our children by the time they leave are excellent – ensuring as our vision statement says – **Excellent outcomes for all!** As staff, we are striving to make this school **the best it can be** and we will always believe we can make it even better because we are a **learning community**. We are disappointed that restrictions are not allowing us to run our usual school visits and residential programme but we know those rules are there to keep us all safe. Can I please ask that if you have any concerns or suggestions on how we could improve, that you contact Mrs Hewes to discuss and she will share these with me.

Best wishes

Nichola Irving  
Headteacher

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

*Please note whilst we endeavour to stick to these dates, occasionally amendments have to be made in response to other events in school, which are often out of our control.*

Friday 13 November	Children in Need
Monday 16 November – Friday 20 November	Road Safety Week Parent consultation calls – Monday to Thursday
Friday 27 November	Nasal Flu Vaccinations
Week comm 14 December	Christmas Lunch (to be decided)
Friday 18 December	Virtual Panto Christmas Jumper Day School Closes 2.00pm