



Friday, 9 June 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back to what promises to be a very busy term. It got off to an exciting week with Eagles Class enjoying their residential. Some of the children travelled to France and some spent the week in the county on days out. All have had an amazing experience. Parents are to be congratulated. We do not underestimate how hard it can be to allow your child to 'spread their wings' and engage in different experiences away from the comfort and watchful eye of your own homes and family lives. I am sure that it has been a long week for you! We have all more than ever eagerly awaited the arrival of today. The children are keen to see everyone and share their stories, parents keen to have them home and staff to have a well earned rest. I extend my sincere and heartfelt thanks to Mrs Hunt, Mrs Burrows, Miss McCabe and Mrs Stanford who have this week planned and delivered amazing experiences. Above all they have ensured maximum enjoyment whilst keeping our children safe. Without the dedication and commitment of staff, we would not be able to facilitate such opportunities. Proud to be Hartlip! Enjoy your children this weekend.

Looking ahead this term..

The diary is attached for your convenience. It is very detailed for Term 6. An outline of your child's teaching and learning is also included (with the exception of Eagles Class). This will follow next week. Whilst the term is busy and indeed exciting, teaching and learning never stops and will indeed remain structured every morning (with the exception of Sports Day) for English and Maths. Homework also continues and staff will share what this is weekly via Dojo (Robins and Blackbirds). In addition, you will note from the diary that we have built a comprehensive package of transition in to this term, to allow your child to spend time with their new class and teacher before the new academic year

PTFA



As the diary indicates, our PTFA have a very busy term planned for the children's enjoyment and of course to raise funds to support and enhance their educational experience. A few bits to highlight and draw to your attention:

Fridays: After school, a selection of ice creams and lollies on sale.

Fathers Day Market: Please ensure that all orders have been submitted.

Wine and Wisdom: Friday 23rd June

BBQ: Please note the change in date. Now 7th July

Cinema Night: Friday 14th July

Dates for your



Reading with parents



All reading with parents dates are on the diary. There have been some changes.

As a general rule: **Monday:** Blackbirds, **Tuesday:** Robins, **Wednesday:** Eagles and **Friday:** Peacocks. However, due to other diary commitments there are occasions when this is subject to change. Please do come along and enjoy these sessions. They start at **3pm** and are invaluable in helping you understand how to support your child in their reading at home and install a love of reading

Lunchtimes



A new lunchtime system has been established. We have divided the field in to three allocated areas: two football pitches and one additional activity area. Children will have the opportunity to play football in age specific teams: Under 7s and under 11s. They will take it in turns to use the goalposts on a daily basis. The additional area will be assigned to the sport and class practising for a tournament. Therefore for the next few weeks, this is Peacocks for kwik cricket. The older children will be offered the opportunity to be specific sport coaches, so umpires currently for cricket. These children will set up the activity and support skills. The field is also available for mud kitchen etc. **On that note....a plea for any old pots, pans, wooden spoons, scoops etc that can be used for digging, would be gratefully received.** The playground will be assigned to other activities with opportunity for reading, drawing, skipping. Basically a box of treasures from which the children can choose.

The children have all been told about the new arrangements. A code of conduct has also been shared. Sadly, equipment is often abused and not respected. Any child reported abusing equipment, will be sent in and placed on lunch time report. Lunchtime report consists then of a card that has to be signed every day to report appropriate behaviour. If there are more than three reports in any five day period of inappropriate behaviour, this will result in a lunch time exclusion which means that arrangements will have to be made for a child to go off site for lunch in the care of parents. The new code of conduct together with the report slip is attached.



Thank you to those who have recently shared the idea of supporting Sals shoes. At Hartlip school, we shall indeed be pleased to support this charity on the last day of the academic year. Children can take off their old, grown out of school shoes and leave school barefoot. We will share more arrangements nearer the time. It is likely that our church worship will be focused on this theme and close the year on a reflective, thankful note. A whole school leaving barefoot is a powerful message that we want to help those fellow school children who have no choice and leave school barefoot every day. We will give the donated shoes to a child in Africa via the wonderful work of Sal's Shoes. There is no obligation to take part but we would love to support this charity and the work they carry out in finding new feet for pre-loved children's shoes.

To find out more about Sal's Shoes you can visit their website www.salsshoes.com or Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/salsshoes1>

Thank you everyone for bringing this charity to our attention and expressing your interest in running this as a whole school initiative.



Penalty Notices

At Hartlip School, we expect pupils to attend school every day when the school is open. Obviously there will be unfortunate times when your child is ill and so we set our attendance figures in line with National, which is 95% attendance, but inspirationally at 97% for our own school. Holidays in term time **are not authorised** and **can be** subject to a penalty notice. This **was** the case if your child's attendance fell **below 90%**.

I draw your attention to the new guidance which states that a penalty notice will be issued as follows:

- absent for 10 or more half-day sessions (five school days) without authorisation during any 100 possible school sessions or 50 school days – these do not need to be consecutive
- persistently late (coded U) for 10 or more sessions after the register has been closed
- unauthorised absence for any public examinations of which dates are published in advance
- unauthorised absence for any formal school assessments, tests or examinations where the dates have been published in advance.

The power of issuing a Penalty Notice provides an alternative to the prosecution of parents under Section 444 of the Education Act 1996 and enables parents to discharge the potential liability for conviction for that offence by paying a penalty of £60 per parent, per child, if paid within 21 days or £120 per parent, per child, if paid within 28 days.

Our school policy will be amended to detail this new guidance and enforced with immediate effect.

FREE SUMMER FUN FOR FAMILIES

The Summer Reading Challenge for children starts in all Kent's libraries on Saturday 15 July. The Challenge encourages children aged 4 – 11 to read 6 books during the long summer break. Children collect rewards along the way for reading whichever library books they choose. When they read 6 books they will receive a fantastic medal and certificate. This year's theme, Animal Agents, features a variety of clever creatures, specially trained to use their skills and natural instincts to solve mysteries. It is a great opportunity to have fun over the summer holidays.

Children can find competitions, challenges, author interviews, news and the Book Sorter which recommends what children might like to read next on the Summer Reading Challenge website throughout the year.

www.animal-agents.org.uk

On Tuesday 27th June, Sarah Denman from Kent Libraries will be coming to talk to the children about this reading challenge. Sarah will also be pleased to deliver this presentation to parents at 2.45pm on this day. Please do come along to find out how your child can get involved, how you can support them and maintain the love and enjoyment of reading, keeping skills refreshed over the long summer holiday.

Yours sincerely



Mrs. T. Jerome



Robins

In English we have been focusing on the following books:



- The Detective Dog
- Walking through the Jungle and
- Cinderella.

We have been using lots of drama and 'Talk for Writing', as this is beneficial for the communication and language skills as well as their literacy skills. Before a child can write they need to be confident to talk about it and the actions embed this information.

In Phonics we have been recapping Phase 2 sounds and are learning Phase 3 sounds. I have provided some phonic website addresses and there are lots of fun free games which will help your child to segment and blend the sounds. This can be recorded as reading time. We have also been focusing on learning letter names and next term this will continue so the children can recognise capital letters.

In numeracy we have been working on ordering numbers, sharing, doubling and estimating. We have also been adding and subtracting using Numicon. The children have also enjoyed exploring time when role playing Cinderella.

Please remember that on Tuesday we will be having our outside learning experience and can we please remind you to dress your child in long sleeves and long joggers or leggings. This is to provide protection from twigs and branches so unfortunately we cannot allow shorts and T-shirts even on a warm day.

Next Friday is fabulous 'Fun Friday' and the children have chosen to dress up on this day. So, it's a non-uniform day for the Robins children. We will also be having a Teddy Bear's picnic so the children can bring in a cuddly toy on Friday.

The Robins Team

Blackbirds



We would like to begin by congratulating the Year 2s on their mature and well-rounded approach to their tough week of SATs. Just one more maths paper on Monday... This term we have spent each week practising and reminding ourselves of each of the skills we have learnt over the course of the year.

In our English, we have been reading and learning about Ernest Shackleton. We used lots of words to describe his character and made a bank of adjectives. We have studied the features of biographies; third person, past tense, informative; and used these to help us write our own about Shackleton. We have practised the skills of drafting and editing, checking our work for correct punctuation, spellings and sentence structure. We have also learnt about different genres of writing including letters and diaries. You must come in and see our writing, it was pretty impressive and shows the progress we have made. These were all linked to the book 'Ice Trap' – a book about Ernest's expedition to cross the Antarctic continent.

For Maths, we have covered each of the different areas within the subject. We have worked hard on our mental and written strategies for solving calculations, addition and subtraction problems, multiplication and division by counting and sharing into sets of 2s, 5s and 10s. We have also practised measurement, including time, capacity, length and weight. We also revised 2D & 3D shape names, as well as learning and describing their properties. Year 2s have answered questions comparing capacities, finding the difference between lengths and reading scales. Year 1s have used clocks to make times to the hour and half hour and used jugs to fill containers to a given amount.

In RE we have begun to look at the important leaders in the Jewish faith. We worked in groups to discuss and share what we know about Moses, Abraham and Noah. We have learnt the story of Noah's Ark and played games for this. We will continue to learn about Abraham and Moses.

This term we have learnt about Plants as part of our Science. We walked around the village and identified plenty of spring plants. We picked some weeds and used these to draw and label the parts of a plant and understand the job of each part.

In PE we have been working on our physical ABC's (Agility, Balance & Coordination) as well as focussing on tennis skills. We have had great fun balancing beanbags then tennis balls on our racquets and learning how to hold the equipment.

Homework ideas:

As the children have worked so hard this week there is no homework – enjoy your rest! Instead a project will be set next week for completion over half term.

*In addition, please read with your child **every** evening and record in the reading record book accordingly. Remember that reading can extend beyond asking your child to read the book that they have chosen within the appropriate band for their current level. You may like to read to them first and of course reading can be from home books of your choice. It is important that there is a balance between your child reading to you and they hearing you and of course other members of the family reading to them. Remember to ask questions, opinions, preferences etc...*

The Blackbirds Team

Peacocks

Peacocks have engaged in some new strategies of learning this term in English following the Talk 4 Writing programme. This has proved to have been a positive experience for all pupils building vocabulary, sentence structure and fluency in their writing, cross curricular, in line with their topic.



In maths they have had many opportunities to take part in a range of practical activities involving investigation and problem solving, whilst covering their targets within measure, money and fractions.

Topic and Science has been of great interest to children with finding out how volcanoes and earthquakes are caused, the effect on human, animal and geological features and the layers of the earth, including finding out about tectonic plates and continental drift. With a mixture of research and practical creative activities of building up eruption layers and making their own volcanoes, to explode, out of paper mache. Science has allowed the class to construct their own fair test on the effect of growing conditions for plants with their own predictions, observations and findings, as well as understanding the re-pollination, seed dispersal and life cycle of living plants.

They have produced some beautiful pieces of flower art using pastels and sketches as well as preparing their garden ready to plant next term.

The Peacocks Team

Eagles

We have had a very busy term and are probably all pleased that it is nearly over! A big well done to the Year 6 children for trying so hard with their SATs exams and remaining calm and cheerful throughout. We can now look forward to a week's break and on return our residential trip to France. Please be aware that the children staying in school will also be provided with activities for team building and fun with Miss McCabe and Mrs Stanford.



The packs for residential have all gone out – if you do not have a full kit list – please let me know ASAP. Thank you for those you have already delivered passports and EHIC cards to the office for safe keeping until we go.

Next Thursday is our forest school day, look at the weather and if we are still experiencing heavy rain, make a decision on footwear. I shall be wearing my walking boots.

HOMEWORK:

I am setting two lots of homework for the class this week. Firstly, those children coming to France, please can you put together a topic file on Dieppe and the surrounding areas where we will be visiting. For those not on residential, can you please research an attraction and write a persuasive letter to Miss McCabe as to why she should take you there.

Many thanks,

Mrs Hunt and Mrs Burrows