



HORTON CE VA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Horton
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NEWSLETTER - 9 February 2018

Message from the Chair of Governors

Since Mrs Stephens informed us that she was moving to Cornwall, the governing board has been working hard to decide what to do about replacing her.

We have had a lot of support from the local authority and Gloucester Diocese and have attended a number of meetings with them to make sure we make the right decision. Small schools are very vulnerable in the present economic climate and our main concern has been to ensure Horton remains open and continues to thrive for years to come despite the funding cuts which will take place over the next few years.

Having carefully considered all of the options available to us, we have decided that it would be in the best long term interest of the school if we share a headteacher with Hawkesbury. Both the Diocese and Local Authority are very supportive of this decision.

Both schools are excited about the prospect of sharing a head but also clear about the importance of maintaining their individuality and will work closely during the recruitment process to ensure we appoint a headteacher who will be a good fit for both schools. This is an exciting time and we expect to have excellent candidates for this position.

Collaboration offers an opportunity to share best practice and experience to provide the very best education for our children. It also offers the following benefits:

- Increased long-term viability of the school in the village

- Improvements in the quality of leadership and management
- Better work-life balance for the headteacher
- More chance of recruiting high quality staff, at all levels
- Enhanced opportunities for leadership development
- Broader and richer curriculum experiences for pupils.

If you have any questions then please contact the governors via the school office or chair@hortongovernors.org.uk

PE

It is with real sadness that I need to inform you that Mark Lodge, our sports coach is moving on to a new position. Mr Lodge has had a huge impact on sport in our school, with 25% of our Y5/6 children qualifying for the gifted and talented programme. This is a huge achievement for such a small school. We wish him the best of luck for the future and I know the children will all be watching out for him at the next Paralympics. He will be coming into school on the morning of Monday 19th February to say good-bye to the children, so if you would like to send him your good wishes, this will be an opportunity to do so. Heather Bryant will be helping out with PE for the rest of the term.

World Book Day

World Book Day is fast approaching and will take place on Thursday 1st March. To promote the value of reading, we will be holding a Reading Competition entitled 'Get Caught Reading'. All entries should be returned to school by or on World Book Day. To enter the competition, children need to 'Get Caught Reading' in unusual locations. They will need to ask a family member or friend to take a photograph of them, ready to return to school. There will be a display put up on World Book Day showing the most unusual places our children have been reading. We will all vote for

our favourite and a prize will be given to the child who has been caught reading in the most unusual location.

Our theme for World Book day this year is 'Roald Dahl' and each class will be focusing on a specific Dahl book throughout the day. If the children wish, they can dress up as a Roald Dahl character or they can choose their favourite book character. Either way, we cannot wait to see their amazing costumes! Please remind your children to bring in their favourite book, to share with their classmates.

Good luck everyone! If you have any questions please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher.

Mufti Day Friday 16 March 2018

On March 16th the children can come into school in their own clothes and, instead of bringing in a monetary contribution, we ask if they can bring in an Easter egg for the Easter Fayre. The FOHS have said that they would prefer more small eggs than large ones.

Thank you very much.

Easter Service

Our Easter Service will take place on Friday 23rd March, 2pm at St. James the Elder. We would be delighted if you would be able to join us.

Easter Fayre

The Easter Fayre will take place on Thursday 22nd March, straight after school in the Village Hall.

Parents' Evenings

Parents' evenings will take place on Tuesday 20th March and Wednesday 21st March. A form will be sent out nearer the time so that you can book a slot.

Attendance

There are an increasing number of children coming in late to school again which means the dreaded Late Book will be making an appearance once again. Hopefully, after half term when it is lighter in the morning, it will make getting up easier.

Residential Camp

The next instalment for camp is £35 and is now overdue. Please could you pay as soon as possible if you haven't paid already. Cheques are made payable to South Gloucestershire Council. If you have any difficulty making this payment then please speak to Lesley Leahey. Thank you.

Dinner Money

Dinner money is £2.10 a day and can be paid either in cash or by cheque payable to South Gloucestershire Council. Can we please request that dinner money is paid at the time the child has the dinner. This makes it much easier for staff but also prevents a build up of arrears which can then be very difficult to pay.

Swimming Money for Year 1 to Year 4 - Term 3 and Term 4

The cost of swimming lessons for term 3 and term 4 is £24.50 per child. If payment is made by cheque please make cheques payable to South Gloucestershire Council. There will be no swimming on 19.2.18 because the pool will not be available on those days.

Academic Year 2017/2018

19.02.18	Start of term 4
19.02.18	No Swimming for Year 1, 2, 3, and 4
26.02.18	Swimming for Year 1, 2, 3, and 4
05.03.18	Swimming for Year 1, 2, 3, and 4
12.03.18	Swimming for Year 1, 2, 3, and 4
16.03.18	Mufti Day
19.03.18	Swimming for Year 1, 2, 3, and 4
20.03.18	Parents Evening
21.03.18	Parents Evening
22.03.18	Egg Hunt at School then Easter Fayre - Village Hall
23.03.18	Easter Service at church - 2.00 p.m.
23.03.18	End of term 4
09.04.18	Start of term 5
09.04.18	Swimming for Year 1, 2, 3, and 4
16.04.18	Swimming for Year 1, 2, 3, and 4
23.04.18	Swimming for Year 1, 2, 3, and 4
30.04.17	Swimming for Year 1, 2, 3, and 4
07.05.18	Bank Holiday
14.05.18	No swimming for Year 1, 2, 3, and 4
21.05.18	No swimming for Year 1, 2, 3, and 4
21.05.18	Life Skills Year 6 to attend for the morning children will travel by coach
25.05.18	End of term 5
04.06.18	Start of term 6
04.06.18	No swimming for Year 1, 2, 3, and 4
07.06.18	Year 6 Leavers Service at Gloucester Cathedral will travel by coach Parents not to attend due to space restrictions
11.06.18	Swimming for Year 1, 2, 3, and 4
12.06.18	Sports Day - at Village Hall - 1.30 p.m.
19.06.18	Reserve Sports Day - at Village Hall - 1.30 p.m.
18.06.18	Swimming for Year 1, 2, 3, and 4
25.06.18	Swimming for Year 1, 2, 3, and 4
02.07.18	Swimming for Year 1, 2, 3, and 4
03.07.18	Dress Rehearsal - at Village Hall - 2.00 p.m.
04.07.18	Summer Production - at Village Hall - children arrive at 5.30 p.m. for a 6.00 p.m. start
09.07.18	No swimming for Year 1, 2, 3, and 4
16.07.18	No swimming for Year 1, 2, 3, and 4
16.07.18	Talent Show - at School - 2.00 p.m.
20.07.18	Year 6 Leavers Service at church - 2.00 p.m.
20.07.18	End of term 6

