



A member of the Harlington and Sundon Academy Trust
AUTUMN TERM 2021 NEWSLETTER

Our November Value is Peace

Thursday 25th November 2021

Pupil Flu Vaccinations

We have a confirmed date of **Wednesday 15th December** for Flu vaccinations in school.



Cultural Capital and Reading

You may have heard the term 'capital culture' in the media recently in relation to a school's curriculum. This term has become popular over the past few months.

Cultural capital is **the accumulation of knowledge, behaviours, and skills that a child can draw upon and which demonstrates their cultural awareness, knowledge and competence**; it is one of the key ingredients that children will draw upon to be successful in their academic achievements, society, their career and later on the world of work. Ofsted use this term saying it is "**the essential knowledge that children need to be educated citizens**" (p31 Ofsted EY Inspection Handbook). It goes on to say: Cultural capital is the essential knowledge that children need to prepare them for their future success.

At the Harlington and Sundon Academy Trust, we offer an ambitious curriculum that gives a wide range of enriched and exciting opportunities so that children have the essential knowledge and skills to succeed in all they do; preparing them for life in the 21st century. Reading is a key element and we work hard from Early Years to Year 4 to develop children's skills and knowledge so they are fluent, confident and enthusiastic readers. Reading is very much part of our recovery curriculum and children have been working hard learning new skills and strategies so they gain fluency and understanding. We recognise the importance of working with parents to develop your child's reading abilities and value the support that you can offer by reading with your child on a regular basis. Miss Hines, our English subject lead has recently carried out a pupil questionnaire to gain an insight into children's view of reading. Please take time to read her report which is attached and do carry on sharing all kinds of literature with your child so they have the essential skills to succeed in life and develop "learning for life."

Keep calm and carry on reading!

Calendar Delivery

With Christmas on the horizon, we are starting to make plans for our annual calendar delivery to residents of Harlington. Each year, pupils across the school make extra calendars (in addition to those they bring home to their own families), which the children in year 4 deliver around the village in the week before the Christmas holidays. It is always a very popular activity, and we hope the calendars are well-received by those we deliver to. We would like to take this opportunity to invite you to nominate someone you think would appreciate this gift - it could be a family member, friend, or neighbour. Please let the school office know by e mail office@harlingtonlower.co.uk by **Friday 3rd December** the **name** and **address** of your nominated recipient, so that we can ensure we have enough calendars to go round. (For logistical reasons, I'm afraid they **do have** to live in Harlington, otherwise it won't be possible for us to deliver to them.) Thanks in advance for your suggestions.



School Christmas Nativity songs Early Years, Year 1 and Year 2

We are taking reasonable measures to safely put together Christmas nativity songs to share with you this term. Children from Early Years, Year 1 and Year 2 are really enjoying learning songs and these will be recorded to share with parents via zoom. We are disappointed that we are unable to have spectators in school but we are very pleased to be able to learn the songs with the children and share the recordings with you. We appreciate your understanding with this matter and we are excited about working with the children to film some fantastic Christmas content!

The zoom concerts will be as follows:

Year 1 - Chestnut Class 7th December 9.30am

Year 2 - Hawthorn Class 7th December 9.30am

Early Years - Oak Class 15th December at 2.00pm



Pantomime Payment Reminder

Pantomime payments are due by Friday 26th November please log into your parent Pay account to make the payment and

Golden Book

| | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Oak Class | - Harper Gent |
| Chestnut class | - Caleb Chrupek |
| Hawthorn class | - Lucy Targett |
| Rowan class | - Abbey Rowson |
| Beech Class | - Dexter Thomas |

Anti-Bullying week and Odd Socks



Last week saw lots of children wearing odd socks in school. This was to promote Anti Bullying week; just like odd socks we are all different and unique! The theme for this year was 'One kind word...'

Showing respect and kindness to others are key values that we model and use throughout all aspects of our daily life. Carry on 'living the values' and spread kind words.

Music assembly



Last Thursday we had our music assembly via zoom.

It was especially great to see children with parents sitting and enjoying watching themselves and others. Two children who took part by playing the piano have this to say; Ralph said "It was quite good to watch other people." "I liked it. Mummy liked it too." said Sasha.

A very big well done to all of the children who took part, it was fantastic to hear you play.



Children in Need

Each year the School Council raises funds for Children in Need. This Year's total raised by parents, pupils and staff was £242.69. Thank you for supporting this charity.

FHLSA Christmas Sale

We will be running the popular Christmas gift sale in school on Tuesday 14th December.

The Christmas sale is run as a learning experience and a fun activity for the children. Each child will be invited to visit a pop up shop in their classroom where they will be able to choose a gift. Please use the link below to order the gifts. Cut-off date is the 10th December 2021 <https://forms.gle/TsV9a21ind5i13jP9>



St Mary's Christmas Tree Festival

St Mary's church are organising a Christmas Tree Festival to be held on Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th December. The church will be open from 12-5pm each day and child entry is free. At the same time, they are also collecting unwrapped presents for children. This is for the Salvation Army Christmas Present Appeal and will provide at least one present for children who might otherwise not receive anything. Presents may be brought to the church any time before, or during the event. The Festival Finale at 5pm on Sunday 5th is a short 'service' with favourite songs and stories. All welcome.

Attachments

St Mary's Christmas Tree Poster
English Reading Attachment