



# NEWSLETTER

## 5th February 2024

Telephone 0121 464 2705

### Note from the Head

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is the last newsletter of the half term. We wish all of our families a wonderful half term break. We welcome back pupils on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February.

On Friday we say goodbye to Mrs Tapper, who has worked at the school since 2021 and most recently been our School Business Manager. We wish her well on her career journey in years to come and thank her for her contribution to Harborne Primary School.

We look forward to seeing Parents at our Parents Evenings scheduled for Tuesday and Thursday this week. We hope you are as proud of the progress pupils have made as we have been.

This week is Children's Mental Health Week. We have included some resources in the newsletter for you to take a look at. Tuesday also brings Safer Internet Day. Mr Wilson will be carrying out Parents Evening e-safety sessions, so please see him if you would like to attend.

Kindest regards,

Mr N Whitehouse

### Attendance News

Attendance for the week 26th Jan-2nd Feb 2024

<u>Year Group</u>	<u>Percentage</u>	<u>Lates</u>
Reception	95.2%	9
Y1	95.0%	17
Y2	97.1%	7
Y3	95.9%	8
Y4	94.3%	11
Y5	92.5%	5
Y6	97.2%	11

### Reception Eye Tests

All children in Reception classes at both sites will be having an eye test shortly after February half-term unless parents ring the number on the leaflet (0121 466 3551) to say they do not give consent.

If parents in Year One think their child was not screened last year they can ring to see if they can be tested but this is at the discretion of the Orthoptist team and not something school can arrange. Thank you.



### **An Important Notice About Reading Diaries**

All children are in possession of a reading diary in which to record all the reading they do. Unfortunately, the level engagement with these diaries is at an all time low and so we would like to provide some guidance on what we expect from children and parents as a minimum:

#### **Pupils should:**

- Read widely and often where possible.
- Change their stage books regularly (at least once a week).
- Have a reading for pleasure book that they engage with regularly.
- Read aloud to an adult regularly at least twice a week (even in Year 6).
- Endeavour to engage in conversations about books and reading with their peers and adults, including making recommendations where appropriate.
- Ensure their diaries have been signed by an adult at home.
- Ensure their diaries are in school every day and go home every afternoon.

#### **Parents/carers should:**

- Listen to their child read aloud regularly (at least twice a week).
- Record or help record reading done at home in the diary and sign the entry.
- Read comments written by teachers and engage with them with their child/ren.
- Ensure children bring their diaries to school every day.

Teachers will also be distributing a further sheet of guidance on ideas of what to write in your child's diary. This guidance can also be found on the website here: [Harborne Primary School - English](https://www.harborne.bham.sch.uk/english)

### **World Thinking Day—Girlguiding**



One of the special events within the Girlguiding year is World Thinking Day, which takes place every year on the 22nd of February. World Thinking Day is when Rangers, Guides, Brownies and Rainbows everywhere remember each other and their commitment to Girlguiding, international friendship and understanding.

We are therefore inviting girls who are part of either Rangers, Guides, Brownies or Rainbows, to come in their Girlguiding uniform and be prepared to answer any questions about the organisation, the promise that they have made, what they do and how they help others in their community and around the world.



## Loose Parts please!

We need to refresh our Loose Parts collections at Main Site and the Annex. Half-term could bring the perfect opportunity for a clear-out! Please bring any donations to either School Office for Mrs O'Brien to sort. I will risk assess every item before letting them loose on the children, but no sharp or fragile items thank you (eg. no glass or crockery).

We are looking for lots of:

Bottle tops	Containers	Costume jewellery	Pots and pans
Kitchen utensils	Baskets	Pegs	Small world toys
Pieces of wood	Old CDs/DVDs	Cardboard tubes	Buckets
Empty picture frames	Blankets/bedding/ fabric	Guttering and pipe offcuts	Tyres (from bicycles, cars and toys)

We are also happy to be surprised with your found, random items!



## Achievement Assembly Certificate Winners — w/e 02/02/22

REC	James	Seyda	
RGD	Maysoun	Jessica	
ROC	Alexander	Toby	
RDT	Jacob	Sophie-Mae	Abigail
1M	Rohan	Agnes	
1OQ	Awais	Zaha	
1G	Fathima	Harveer	
1B	Matthew	Leo	
2P	Anvika	Jack	
2O	Penelope	Simone	
2OB	Sarah	Beau	
2SF	Nia	Zayn	
3PR	Fayrouz		
3S	Jamie	Alfred	
3E	Mary-Lys		
3D	Timothy		
4W	Sunny		
4GV	Carlson	Ravi	
4NB	Hamza		
4RB	Khaleem	Heavenly	
5LM	Ethan		
5BC	Ibrahim K		
5C	Gorvind		
5B	Victoria		
6D	Daya	Sophia R	
6KP	Alex		
6J	Laith	Nina	Firoz



## Dates in the Diary

5th–8th Feb	Book Fair
Tues 6th Feb	4.00pm —6.00pm — Parents Evening (both sites)
Thurs 8th Feb	4.00pm—6.00pm — Parents Evening (both sites)
Fri 9th Feb	Last Day Of Term
Mon 19th Feb	School re-opens for all children
19th-21st Feb	Reception Eye Tests (both sites)
Wed 6th Mar	9.15am-Mother's Day Assembly: RGD (MS)
Thurs 7th Mar	9.15am-Mother's Day Assembly: ROC (MS)
Thurs 7th Mar	9.15am-Mother's Day Assembly: RTD (Annex)
Fri 8th Mar	9.15am-Mother's Day Assembly: REC (MS)
Fri 8th Mar	Y1—Fairytale Day
Fri 8th Mar	World Book Day
Mon 11th Mar	9.30am — Annex tour for prospective parents
11th-15th Mar	Y4 Condover Residential Trip
Fri 22nd Mar	Last day of term — Easter Break
Mon 8th Apr	School re-opens for all children





# Harborne Primary Sponsored Read

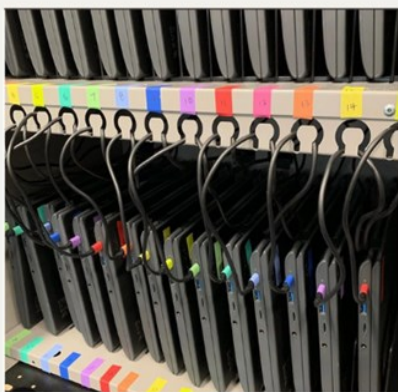
*Inspiring a lifelong love  
of reading.*

**6TH OF FEBRUARY TO 7TH OF  
MARCH 2024.**

**All the money raised will go directly to buying new books for  
the children to enjoy. Every pound the children raise will be  
matched by the friends.**

Why not kick start your sponsored read by coming to  
the school book fair w/c 5th of Feb.





Chromebooks and  
charging trolley



Resources for every  
classroom



Shade & shelter



Ukeleles

## SOME OF THINGS WE HAVE MADE POSSIBLE

*Enhancing and inspiring  
our children's experience of  
school.*



Duckling  
hatching



Playground  
resurfacing



Renovated  
reading room



Loose parts  
play storage

# THANK YOU!

Projects funded by the friends of Harborne primary school over the past 4 years.

For more information please email [friendsofharborneprimary@hotmail.com](mailto:friendsofharborneprimary@hotmail.com)

Or join us at parents evening for a coffee and a chat.





**FILM CLUB RAISED  
£995 FOR THE SCHOOL**

**THANK  
YOU**

To every parent that brought tickets.

It was lovely to see so many children enjoy the film and  
joining in with the songs.

With special thanks to the amazing  
parent volunteers and teachers that  
gave up their Friday evening to make it  
possible.





# My VOICE MATTERS

Place2Be's

CHILDREN'S  
MENTAL HEALTH  
WEEK

## TALKING TO YOUR CHILD ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH

**Are you a parent or carer who wants to talk to your child about mental health?**

This Children's Mental Health Week we want all children and young people, wherever they are, and wherever they are in the world, to be able to say – and believe – "My Voice Matters".

We visited primary and secondary schools to ask students what they wanted from the week – to help shape the activities we create for schools, the messaging we give to teachers, the tips we give to other children, and the advice we give to parents, carers and families.



### LOOKING FOR FREE PRACTICAL ADVICE TO HELP YOU SUPPORT YOUR CHILD?

Parenting Smart, Place2Be's site for parents and carers, is full of expert advice and tips on supporting primary-age children, and managing their behaviour, and act on their views.

[PARENTINGSMART.ORG.UK](https://parentingsmart.org.uk)

### Here's what children and young people told us they need from you:

- 1 We don't need to have 'one-off' conversations about our mental health' – sometimes a chat on a journey or at bedtime is enough.
- 2 I need to know it's okay to talk to you about any and all of my feelings. Please hear what I have to say, without interrupting me.
- 3 Please listen to me carefully and acknowledge how I am feeling – it might seem silly to you but what I am going through is important to me.
- 4 Playing with pets can make me feel better. Same with playing football, basketball or whatever type of sport I am into.
- 5 Don't compare my experiences to your own when you were a child.
- 6 Sometimes I just need you to listen and hear what I'm saying – I don't always need answers (or lectures)
- 7 Please don't worry about trying to fix things for me – I often just need to know you are there for me and understand what I am going through.
- 8 If you are open with me about your feelings, this can help me to be more open about mine.
- 9 Sometimes I don't want to talk. Please trust that I will come to you (or another grown-up or someone my own age) when I'm ready. Sometimes it's easier for me to talk to someone nearer my own age – my siblings, cousins, friends, younger teachers at school - because they 'get it'.
- 10 Sometimes a hug is all it takes to make me feel supported.



### WHAT MATTERS TO YOU? CREATIVE VIDEO ACTIVITIES FOR FAMILIES

These wellbeing activities can help children and young people think about and share what matters to them.

[For primary children: bit.ly/3Pz0G18](https://bit.ly/3Pz0G18)

[For secondary children: bit.ly/3L8D2wK](https://bit.ly/3L8D2wK)

## CONVERSATION STARTERS

Some ways to start a conversation with your child about mental health could be...

TELL ME ABOUT  
YOUR DAY

WHAT WAS THE BEST  
THING ABOUT TODAY?

WHAT IS THE BIGGEST  
STRESS / WORRY IN YOUR  
LIFE RIGHT NOW?

WHAT'S YOUR  
ONLINE LIFE LIKE?

WHO WOULD YOU TALK  
TO IF YOU WERE FEELING  
WORRIED ABOUT YOUR  
MENTAL HEALTH?

WHAT CAN I DO  
TO HELP YOU?

