

HOOTON PAGNELL ALL SAINTS PRIMARY

December School News

Looking back at November

It's been a month for thinking about others and raising money! Thank you very much for all of your generous contributions over the past few weeks. Firstly, we marked Remembrance Day with an assembly and some activities in our classes. A member of our Explorers class, Fern, and her family represented our school by placing our poppy wreath at the war memorial during the ceremony. We raised just over £118 for the Poppy Appeal.

We marked Children in Need Day by dressing in spotty clothes, thinking about different charities and having lots of fun. In total, we raised £84 for the charity.

Thank you with all of our hearts, Kim Bennion (Frankie's mum), for organising a raffle and raising £505 for school. This will be paying for the coach for our visit to the Young Voices Concert and then going towards more books for our library. Watch this space for the new haircut for Mr Horton...

Finally, it was lovely to see so many of our parents/carers at our teacher-parent meetings earlier this month. We hope you found the meetings useful. Our next ones will be during the Spring Term.

Learning Means the World

On 21st November (or about that time), all classes began their new learning project, this time based on 'Culture'. Navigators are learning about the issues of discrimination, with a key focus on history, in their 'I have a Dream...' theme. 'Cry Freedom', is the name of the Adventurers' topic, where they are looking at the history of slavery, as well as modern day slavery, including child labour. The Pathfinders' topic is called 'Zero to Hero' and they are looking at past and present heroes and heroines, such as Thomas Edison and Malala Yousafzai. Last, but not least, the Explorers have started their 'Under the Sea' topic, where they are learning about different kinds of fish and their habitats as well as how to be a good friend.

Key Dates

- 5/12 - Christmas themed Assembly
- 8/12 - Assembly with Rev. Huw
- 8/12 - Friday Dinner menu
- 9/12 - Christmas dinner and Christmas jumper day
- 14/12 - Pantomime at Cast (all pupils)
- 14/12 - Buffet lunch and party day
- 15/12 - Explorer and Pathfinder Nativity- 1pm (parents welcome)
- 15/12 - Adventurer and Navigator Outdoor (weather permitting) - 2pm (parents welcome)
- 16/12 - Last Day of Term
- 03/01 - Back to School
- 09/01 - Swimming starts for year 5 (am)
- 09/01 - Bible Assembly
- 02/02 - Young Voices Concert for Adventurers and Navigators

Christmas at HP

I'll start with another massive thank-you... this time to Hayley, Ania's mum, for Christmas-i-fying our school with your amazing balloon creations. All the staff and children are truly grateful.

Next Friday is Christmas jumper day for the staff and children and also the day we will be enjoying a delicious Christmas Dinner, prepared and served by our lovely lunch time staff.

On Wednesday 14th December, the whole school will be going to see this year's pantomime at Cast. Thanks to everyone who has already paid their £10 contribution. If you haven't already paid, please could you do so asap.

We will be having our Christmas concerts on the afternoon of Thursday 15th December.

Explorers and Pathfinders will be performing the Nativity from around 1pm and Adventurers and Navigators will be singing Christmas Carols outside (bring your warm coats) from around 2pm. We will be selling hot chocolate and mince pies and there will be a raffle - all to raise money for school funds.

Online Safety - Parental Controls

With Christmas nearly here and perhaps with presents including new technology or related games being received, we thought we'd provide you with a little reminder of how to set up appropriate parental controls.

Games/consoles

First, check the PEGI rating of any new games to ensure that your child is old enough to be playing them. PEGI provides age classifications for games and considers the age suitability of a game, not the level of difficulty. It is important to note that PEGI do not take into consideration the chat facilities within games. If a game does allow your child to communicate with others then you can adjust the settings so they are appropriate to your child - or disable it completely. Secondly, for any consoles (new and old), it is important to set up appropriate controls such as restricting spending limits and again managing who they can communicate with. Follow the links below to find out how to set up Parental Controls for each device:

Xbox: <https://www.xbox.com/enGB/community/foreveryone/responsible-gaming>

PS5: <https://www.playstation.com/engb/support/account/ps5-parentalcontrols-spendinglimits/>

Nintendo Switch: <https://www.nintendo.co.uk/Hardware/Nintendo-Switch-ParentalControls/NintendoSwitch-ParentalControls-1183145.html>

Uniform

Please make sure that pupils are wearing **PLAIN BLACK** shoes or trainers on uniform days. On PE days, they can wear any suitable trainers.

We all love fashion, but please could you make sure that school skirts and shorts/ PE shorts (ie Nike Pro) are not too short so that they are appropriate for the activities in school.

Please make sure that all clothing (especially jumpers, cardigans and sports tops worn on PE days) are clearly labelled.

Next Newsletter - 6th January 2023