

# Hartlebury CE Primary School

## April Newsletter

This month our value is 'Compassion'

Attendance class by class until the end of last term-

Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	Class 5	Class 6
96.6%	96.4%	97%	97%	97.6%	93.3%

Giving us an average of 96%- broadly in line with the Government's target.

We believe that every day missed has a negative impact on children's learning.

Individual Brady Bears were won by Class 3 this term! Well done.



### Our NEW Bear- WINNIE BEAR

Our brand new attendance bear for the Summer Term is WINNIE Bear! Which class will win their very own bear this term?

### Our NEW Mini Bus

Very many thanks must go to the Elizabethan Trust in Hartlebury who have given us the funds for a new mini bus, which is arriving imminently! We are all very excited about our new bus and although Topsy has served us well she is now passed her best and needs replacing. Our mini buses are very important to everyone, enabling us to be out and about all the time; competing, visiting, learning. We can't wait!



### Well Done!



Well done must go to our wonderful catering team, led by Mrs Jill Crow. During March they received their 'spot' inspection by the Environmental Health Team and received a level 5 (the highest!) for food hygiene! The certificate is proudly on display by our front door. It is always great to know that the standard set by our catering team remains at the highest level inspection on inspection and we thank them for all their hard work and diligence.

**Sport Relief** raised £271.83 so well done to everyone who walked and ran a mile for this great cause.

**OUR football team** represented the county at the regional finals in Nottingham on a cold Saturday at the end of last term. Although we found the competition at this level quite challenging the team played exceptionally well and with good heart. Well done lads! AND thank you to all our supporters who made the journey and cheered lots on such a cold day!

## Early Years Re-Vamped Outdoor Area



We have re-vamped our outdoor area in Early Years; spending lots of money on new learning resources. This area is a learning area for the Early Years children and is set up as such all day. PLEASE ENSURE YOUR CHILD DOES NOT USE THIS AREA BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL. There is nothing worse than setting up the classroom space for learning and then others coming in and moving everything around. The children have been told they are not allowed in there before or after school, so please can you reinforce this. Interestingly they don't go in there during the school day but some do see after school as an opportunity!

## Reading Badges and Reading Parties. (These 2 awards are very different.)

So the criteria:-

**Reading Badges-** These have run from September 2015 they are nothing to do with the reading parties. Every time your child achieves 50 reads at home (NOT including ANY reading done in school), signed by an adult at home they come to me and receive a star badge- we are now on purple. We are trying to encourage parents (or other adults/brothers/sisters) to hear the children read aloud at home. This builds confidence, fluency and eventually performance! You should see a tally recorded in their reading diaries. If a child does not have a reading diary in school we cannot keep the tally!



## PLEASE NOTE THE INCREASE IN READS NEEDED FOR A PARTY INVITATION.

**Reading Parties-** These are for **65 home reads** (again not including any reading done in school), signed by an adult during a time limited period. We are trying to encourage regular reading at home as part of their homework. This term's challenge begins on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April (any reading done in the holiday will count towards their reading badge but NOT towards the reading party) and ends on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> July with a surprise themed party! This gives 97 evenings in which to achieve 65 home reads. Invitations will be sent out on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July but anyone achieving their reading goal after this date will receive the invitation by hand. Invitations will be given up to the party date.

I hope this is clearer, but any questions please ask! I know these awards are important! We are delighted that they are encouraging such great reading at home. Over 50 children again attended our Sports/Olympic themed party and received cups and medals in recognition of their achievements! This term's surprise will be... well I wonder what!



## Our Teacher led Pre-School

Have you a younger child, or know a younger child, aged 3 before September? If so they can apply for a place in our Early Years Unit to start in September, but please let us know as soon as you can as places are filling up fast! If you have a child turning 3 during the next academic year (September 2016-August 2017) then they may also be able to take a place here. If you would like an information pack or to visit our fabulous teacher led Early Years Unit please contact the office and Miss Gledhill will do the rest!



## Sainsbury's Active Kids

We are collecting these vouchers again this year and hope to be as successful as previous years; BUT we need your help! If you could collect as many as possible and send them into school we will do the rest



## After School Activities

Due to many different factors these will be greatly reduced this term. Some activity clubs will be offered and notifications will be sent separately.

## PE kits

We were finding that lots of children did not have PE kits regularly in school last term. We will ensure that all PE kits go home at the end half term but please ensure they are in at all other times. Many classes are running a mile each morning and need their PE kit in everyday, so please can you ensure that they have full PE kit, including pumps, in school for the Summer Term. **PLEASE CHECK THAT ALL ITEMS ARE LABELLED.** As you can imagine finding jumpers and kit when it is not labeled is almost impossible!



## Water Bottles

With the weather getting warmer (wishful thinking!) and all the hard work we do in class we really do need ALL children to have their water bottles in school daily. Children are encouraged to drink water throughout the day as research has shown that water aids the thinking process. **Can we please insist that it is water in the classroom bottles, not juice!** As we all know sugary juice drinks should be restricted as much as possible because of their impact on childhood obesity and tooth decay and we are encouraging children to drink water or milk during the school day. **ALL children will drink water if that is what is available.** Any water bottles are suitable (preferably clear) as long as they contain JUST WATER.



## Healthy Snacks



We really do like to encourage healthy snacks in school; this is a government target BUT also makes good sense! We have too many children regularly bringing to school extra large chocolate bars and cookies. **The children will eat what YOU give them** and although they may nag for sweets, cakes and biscuits, if you supply fruit, yogurts and cereal bars they will eat them! These items release energy more slowly than sweets, being much better for brain activity, for their teeth and diet. Please support us in this quest and save the crisps, cookies and chocolate bars for treats when they are at home.

## Parking at School



Can I remind you that parking at the front of school for dropping off and picking up is **NOT POSSIBLE!** Parking here creates a real hazard for those children (and parents) walking to school. Parking is available at The White Hart and the castle. Please park carefully when using these places, as we rely on their good will to allow this. Parking at the bottom of INN Lane is causing me a great deal of conflict with the local residents and I have to admit that I agree with their frustrations! The small minority of parents continue to park without any regard for anyone! **Can I remind everyone that to park within 15m of a junction is illegal!** The only solution we have now is to contact the police if this continues and this has been my advice to the local residents. Please be warned that fixed penalty notices will be issued if the police see anyone parking illegally.



### **It's Testing Time of the Year!**



- Key Stage 2 statutory assessments (Year 6) begin on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May until Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May
- Key Stage 1 statutory assessments (Year 2 children) run from Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May into June.
- Year 1 Phonics screening assessments are week beginning Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June- Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June

Please ensure your child is in school during these assessment periods. If you know they are going to be absent in Year 2 please speak to Mrs Grand ASAP, she may be able to rearrange some of the assessments. Years 1 and 6 are fixed by the government; if your child is not in on the assessment day we can do nothing about it!

### **Bank Holiday Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May**

School is closed on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May for the Bank Holiday. School is open as usual on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May.

### **PTA Summer Fete- Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May**

This annual Summer Fete is being held on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May. It is always a fabulous traditional fayre; a great day out for family and friends. Please make a note of the date and come along, you're guaranteed great fun!! The PTA will be sending out more details, so do keep an eye out for their flyers.

