

Hartlebury CE Primary School

April Newsletter

This month our value is 'Perseverance'

'Let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we will reap if we do not grow weary.'
Galatians 6:9

It's Official- We are an Academy!

As of Saturday 1st April 2017 we became an academy within the Severn Academies Educational Trust, known as SAET and we are very excited about all the possibilities this brings.



Easter Craft Competitions - Wednesday 5th April

All entries for the Easter Craft Competitions need to be in school on Wednesday by 9.00am. Judging will be by our Vice Chair of Governors, Mrs Carolyn Gumbly (no pressure there!) and our Lunch Time Supervisors with prizes for the winners. All entries should be brought to the hall where class tables will be available. Just to remind you (in case you're panicking!)

- Early years, Reception, Years 1 and 2 were invited to make Easter Bonnets
- Years 3 and 4 were invited to decorate hard boiled eggs
- Years 5 and 6 were invited to make Easter Gardens

Parents are invited to join us in watching the Easter Bonnet Parade at 2.45pm and to view the entries to the competition if they are able.

Easter Service - Friday 7th April @ 9.00am

Our Easter Service is on Friday at 9.00am. The whole school will attend and it is always a very moving service; capturing the real essence of the Easter message for Christians. We would love as many family members as possible to join us. The service will be led by the children; with years 5&6 giving the readings and prayers. The After School singing group will also be performing.

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.



Thank Yous

I realise there has been lots of fund raising during March and want to thank you for your generosity.

- Red Nose Day raised £212.45
- Wear a Hat Day raised £175.85



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Extreme Read Winners

We had lots of fun judging the Extreme Reading Competition which saw some amazing (and potentially dangerous!!) examples of the weird and wonderful places we can read! The competition was judged by our Lunch Time Supervisors and was won by Amelia Bird in Year 4. Runners up were Sophia Rose in Year 5 and Samuel Pring in Reception.

Reading Party

76 children attended the Easter Reading Party!! Our largest number ever!! The children enjoyed a variety of Easter crafts, an Easter Egg Hunt and a Party Buffet!! Everyone had a lovely time!! The aim of the Reading Party is to set challenging but achievable targets that encourage regular reading habits for everyone. Research shows that fluent reading and good comprehension skills, acquired by the end of Primary School, ensure success in secondary school and later with job prospects and careers. It is no surprise that children who read every day with an adult succeed most in school, but these habits need to be established from a young age. Parents' participation is fundamental to this early success. **PLEASE remember that part of the challenge is your responsibility to write in the reading diary/journal every time your child reads.** If there is not the required amount of entries in the diary the challenge has not been met! You may read regularly but for a party invite it needs to be recorded!!

Next term's challenge begins on the first Monday back. Look for the challenge target in the May newsletter but to achieve it the reading tally will start on Monday 24th April. Don't be caught out by missing a few reads!



Welcome to the NEW Governors' Corner by Karl Stapleton- Chair of Governors

A few lines of the Monthly Newsletter will now fill you in with exciting news from School's Board of Governors. That is the motley, mysterious, behind-the-scenes crew of volunteers charged with making sure that your school knows where it is going, accounts for pennies well-spent and through the dubious sounding sobriquet of 'critical friends', offers an illustrious challenge to your industrious Headteacher (perhaps that should be the other way about)! Each month we will tell you what we are doing and how we are working, learning, training and monitoring to see that School delivers to your children and to yourselves. This will hopefully provide an insight into what we do. We would be delighted if it inspires you with thoughts and questions. An effective Governing Body should always be accountable to you, the parents.

Since the New Year we have:

- 'Self-Evaluated' - which means we have looked in at ourselves to see how well we think we are doing our job and to know what we should be doing better.
- restructured how we work as a group - after Easter we will all meet monthly instead of termly, with very clear and pointed agendas looking at key areas of School concern.
- taken on a more focussed approach in which we will all have more active individual roles and responsibilities - so, for example, an "English" Governor will be looking at how well we are doing with Reading and Writing in school, and meeting termly with the School's staff leader for English.
- experienced some fascinating 'learning walks' - coming into school and being shown at first-hand how science is taught in every class, what a 'Muddy Monday' entails in Early Years, and how we serve the needs of those of our children with Special Educational Needs. By seeing what is happening we are able to provide useful strategic feedback, as well as understand how effectively School works.
- been very busy with training - some of us have been on courses covering Safeguarding to SIAMS (what an amazingly "Outstanding" result we had!), Christian Distinctiveness to learning about Ofsted, New Governor Induction training, and plenty else too.



So, a busy time and an exciting one too with School about to start a new chapter in its history as a member of the Severn Academies Education Trust. If you have questions on anything Governor - related mentioned above, please don't hesitate to contact us. There should be at least one of us present at all School events. We are of course listed on the School's website, so you know who we are and where to find us!

Dates

Monday 24th Back to school @ 8.50am

May

Monday 1st Bank holiday, school closed

Tuesday 2nd Youth Makes Music @ Town Hall 6.00pm

Saturday 20th PTA Spring Fayre

Monday 29th Half Term

