

Hartlebury CE Primary School

January 2016 Our Value, this month, is 'Wisdom'

HAPPY NEW YEAR from all of us!

Welcome back everyone! It is always lovely to see, and hear, all the children back in school! The place just isn't the same without them! We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their good wishes, gifts and cards at the end of last term, and wish you all a very happy, healthy 2016.



ParentMail Re-Registration

From **4 January 2016** we will be upgrading to Parent Mail's latest platform. The newest version of ParentMail helps make life much easier for parents and carers and one of the biggest benefits is that you can easily pick up school messages on your smartphone by downloading the free ParentMail App on Android or IOS. To use the latest version of ParentMail all you need to do is verify your account. You will be sent either an email or text message from ParentMail, when you receive this click on the link from the text message or email and follow the verification process. **There will be no further access to the old version of**

ParentMail. It is imperative that all parents sign up to the new version, which will also include text message communication as well as email. Each parent needs to register individually with separate email addresses and phone numbers if you would like to receive the ParentMail information separately. If you have any queries or questions please speak to Miss Gledhill in the office.



Thank you- lots

- A **HUGH THANK YOU** to everyone who supported the Christmas Craft Sale. We raised over £300 from the crafts and Christmas card sales; a massive achievement! **WELL DONE** to all involved!
- I would also like to thank all of those parents and governors who joined us for the Christmas end of term service at St James's Church. It is always a special occasion and really does start the holidays well.



Attendance

- Dewi Bear was won by Year 5; Miss Salter's class!! Although the award went absolutely to the wire with Years 3, 4 and 5; Miss Salter's class came through in the end! They were very excited and thrilled; it was a real team effort!
- 64 children received Bronze Awards for 100% attendance during the Autumn Term; well done to all of you.
- Attendance, as you know, is a priority for us and winning the School Bear is very important to every class! The bear for this term will be Brady Bear (definitely Irish!)



Class by class last term-

Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	Class 5	Class 6
97.3%	96.8%	96.7%	97.5%	98.8%	94.0%

Giving us an average of 96%- broadly in line with the Government’s target of 97%.

We know that every day missed has a negative impact on children’s learning, but it also affects their attitudes to learning and to school; their involvement and engagement with school life, their understanding that learning is important to them and their futures and their friendships with others. Without all of these aspects children will not and cannot learn. We understand that when a child is genuinely too poorly to come to school they cannot be here, but if in doubt please send them to school; we will always call and keep in touch with you during the day to let you know how they are feeling. **Any child falling below 90% attendance is classified as a ‘PERSISTANT ABSENTEE’ by Her Majesty’s Inspectors and Ofsted. We are instructed to tackle this level of attendance through the Educational Investigation Service.**

We are unable to authorize any holidays taken during term time and holidays contribute to attendance percentages.

After School Activities

These activities will begin week beginning Monday 11th January. They will run from 3.15pm and be hosted by our brilliant teachers and teaching assistants. There will be a variety of different opportunities on offer, spread across all age groups (we aim to give a varied selection to encourage all children to have a go!). A separate letter will be sent out and we ask that it is returned by Thursday 7th @ 9.00am. Places will be limited and if the activity is oversubscribed a draw will take place during assembly time on Friday. If you have **NOT** been allocated a place at the club/s of your choice you will be notified.



A Breakfast Club and After School Club Reminder



These two clubs are becoming increasingly popular and places **MUST BE BOOKED AND PAID FOR** during the previous week. Bookings are only confirmed with payment and cannot be guaranteed without. We will need 24 hours’ notice if bookings are to be cancelled; otherwise the full payment will be expected. If you are interested in this provision please speak to Miss Gledhill, in the office, or the club leaders directly. For safety reasons numbers are limited, so we must ask that no child just ‘turns up’ as they may not be able to stay; please telephone the office if you are in need of emergency after school care.

Multi-Academy Trust Status

The current government made a pledge in its manifesto that by 2020 all schools will be required to become academies. Following a meeting of the Full Governing Body on Wednesday 25th November 2015, it was been decided to explore, with the Diocesan Board of Education, the opportunity of converting to an autonomous academy within a local Multi Academy Trust.



It is our belief that this development will enhance the educational experience and opportunities for all children at our school. As our explorations proceed, we will ensure you are kept informed with regular updates.



Reading Awards

Last term saw over 50 children attend a Mad Hatters Tea Party to reward them for reading at home more than 50 times. We all had great fun and it amazed me that children could eat so much so soon after their lunch! Well done to everyone who achieved this standard, you should wear your 'star reading' badge with pride.

We will be offering another celebration for children, who achieve 50 lots of reading again this term; zeroing the tally and starting again with effect from January 5th 2016 to Thursday 17th March, 2016. 73 days in total – so plenty of time for reading!! The star badge this term will be blue for brilliant!

Response to comments on the Parental Questionnaires

Thank you to all who took the time to respond to the annual Parental Questionnaires in December. The Governors and the staff have read and reviewed the comments that were made and although the vast majority was very positive there were some comments that we felt needed addressing. So...

It was noted that one of the areas for concern was a lack of support for parents with helping their children to achieve the most they can from school. To this effect we are re-instating Parent Information Evenings and it is hoped that parents will attend and benefit from these sessions. We have moved the time back to 6.15pm in hope that this enables more parents to attend. These evenings are for parents only, they are not suitable for children and we have no facilities to look after any children.

Thursday 21st January- 6.15pm-7.30pm- Assessment, reporting and curriculum

We are offering an information session on assessment, reporting progress and the reporting process, challenge and meeting individual needs, as well as looking briefly into how we create our curriculum- quite a lot really! From the questionnaires the most common concerns were about how well your children were doing and how well we keep you informed of their progress. This evening will try to throw some light on the assessment process, as well as ask your opinion about our procedures for keeping you informed. This session will be led by Mrs Unit and Mrs Bartlett

Tuesday 9th February- 6.15pm-7.30pm National Internet Safety Day

We are using National Internet Safety Day to offer a parent session on all things techy! Again this was a suggestion from a parent questionnaire. This session will be led by Miss Salter and Miss Fulwell and will cover all aspects of computing in school, staying safe on the internet, using the ipads for learning and the programs we have in school that you can access at home. The session will have a brief talk to everyone before you can visit different classrooms, where teachers will demonstrate and let you have a go at the different programs we have subscribed too.

We hope as many parents as possible will attend these sessions.



Re-register now! Don't miss any newsletters, letters, notes, texts and reminders! Keep in touch with all that's happening in 2016!