



The John Harrox Primary School

Broad Lane, Moulton, Spalding, Lincolnshire, PE12 6PN
Telephone 01406 370426
enquiries@johnharrox.lincs.sch.uk
Headteacher: Mr. D. Pilsworth



September Newsletter 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope the term is continuing well. Please find the latest news from The John Harrox Primary School with some reminders.

PARENTMAIL

Have you registered on ParentMail? By registering you can receive messages from the school via email and text. This is particularly important for those children going on the residential trip to PGL as you can be kept up to date at all times, night and day.

This is great because:

- Messages will get to you reliably
- We can send messages to, for example, mums and dads at the same time
- You will quickly know about important or urgent messages
- We can tell you more about what's going on at school

HOUSE CAPTAINS

Congratulations to the following children who successfully campaigned and presented to their peers and were voted to represent and lead their school houses.

Fire: Molly & Edward
Water: Pippa & Grace
Air: Florence & Amy
Earth: Chloe & William

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Each class votes for two class members to represent them on the school council. The school council meet regularly to put forward ideas, from the children, to implement in school. An example from last academic year involved the collection of plastic to fill plastic bottles to create a recycled bench which we now have in the school. Our thanks go to Mr Kent for helping the school with this.

Congratulations to the following children who were chosen by their classes to be their school council representative.

McKee: Mia & Jack
Donaldson: Eve & Isaac
Hargreaves: Macie & Jake
Dahl: Poppy & Nathan
Ahlberg: Emelia & Harry
King-Smith: Lilybelle & Matthew
Lewis: Lilah & Ethan
Morpurgo: Paris & Taylor
Rowling: Lucy & Zach

The new School Council have already started their work and met with Mr Spenceley, from South Holland Rotary, to arrange a Christmas Shoe Box appeal. The school council will be writing to you shortly to explain how you can help.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

We shall be holding our School Harvest Festival service in church on Friday 11th October at 10.00am. This year we are joining with All Saints Church in supporting Holbeach Community Larder the local food bank; donations of dried or tinned goods are welcome. There will be a separate letter shortly.



Healthy School





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VIRTUAL REALITY

Our Key Stage 2 children have recently experienced an exciting day of virtual reality. Year 3 and 4 encountered roaming dinosaurs including the infamous T-Rex. Year 5 and 6 ventured deep into several rainforests to experience the wildlife and plants. All the children had a wonderful experience.

#HELLOYELLOW

On Thursday 10th October we will be recognising World Mental Health Day whilst supporting the Youngminds charity. We suggest a donation of £1:00 and invite all children to wear something yellow.

ALDI STICKERS

We are collecting the Aldi stickers currently being given out when you spend £30 or more. Who knows maybe we will be the lucky school who wins £20,000.

SAFEGUARDING

At The John Harrox Primary School we recognise and take our responsibility seriously in regard to safeguarding children and having arrangements in place for promoting the welfare of children. To achieve this we work with a range of agencies and follow the guidance and procedures outlined by the Lincolnshire Local Safeguarding Children's Board. Further information and our safeguarding policies can be found on the school website.

HEALTHY SNACKS

All Foundation Stage/Key Stage 1 children participate in the 'Fruit in School' Scheme and are given a piece of fruit each day at playtime.

Unfortunately the scheme does not extend to Key Stage 2. We are quite happy for Key Stage 2 children to bring a small snack to school, to eat at mid-morning break, if they wish. This should be a healthy snack such as a piece of fruit, rice-cake or cereal bar. Please do not send items such as chocolate biscuits, cake or crisps for your child's mid-morning snack. As part of our healthy school status we only allow a healthy snack and we will ask children to take such items home or eat as part of their packed lunch. Please note that sweets are not allowed in school at any time.

Please can snacks be packed separately from children's lunch boxes and in a container or bag small enough to put in their individual trays, causing less disruption at break times, thank you.

PARKING

I would like to remind you of the parking restrictions that are in effect close to the entrance of the school and that the school safety zone includes the bus layby. These restrictions are in place for the safety of the children. It is important that the school bus can use the layby so that children can get on and off the bus away from the road. This includes secondary school children who are often dropped off at the end of the school day when children who attend here are being collected from clubs. I understand that it becomes very congested during peak times of the day. However please keep the safety zone clear. Please also continue to be considerate to our neighbours in relation to driving and parking around school, including in Westmoreland Road. Thank you.

May I also take this opportunity to remind you that the school staff carpark must not be used by parents; this is a county wide policy. In addition, and for your own safety, please use the pedestrian access, which goes around the car park via the separate gate, when visiting the school office.

PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT

We are very fortunate to have the range of equipment available for the children to use in the school playground. However, the three towers, climbing wall and trim trail etc. are for the children to use at designated times. We ensure a member of staff checks the equipment and the children are supervised while they are using it. These precautions help to provide a safe experience for the children. I ask that parents support the school and follow the signs that are clearly visible, by not allowing children to play on the equipment particularly at times when children are being brought to school or collected at



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the end of the school day. This includes both school and pre-school aged children. May I also ask that children do not ride their bikes or scooters on the school playground, including pre-school aged children. In the interest of the safety of the children and preventing accidents, thank you for your support with this matter.

ATTENDANCE

In any school year children attend school for a total of 190 days. The Government and the school expect children of primary school age to have school attendance of 100%.

A persistent absent rate is recorded where a child's absence is 10% or more (90% or less attendance). Falling below this causes concern to both Educational Welfare and the school as this can have a dramatic effect upon a child's education. Attendance rates can be taken across any six week period of the academic year and do not need to be considered over the whole school year.

We monitor attendance closely and may also work directly with the local authority on attendance matters. As part of this monitoring process we follow up on attendance which falls below 95% where these are unexplained or causing concern. Parents will often receive a letter and be asked to discuss reasons for their child's absences if attendance falls below the 95%. With this in mind, it is very important to avoid taking holidays during term time. Holiday absences will be unauthorised unless there is an exceptional circumstance for them. Unauthorised absence may lead to legal action and a fixed penalty notice being issued.

SCHOOL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

The school number remains the same, i.e. 01406 370426 and is the only incoming phone line. However, whenever we phone out the system automatically uses a different line. This has caused confusion when we have tried to contact parents and there has been no answer. When those parents have checked missed calls or 1471, it has come up with the number 01406 371133. Incoming calls will not be accepted on this number. Please make a note of this number as it is essential you know that the school has telephoned and you are able to return the call on 01406 370426.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

As we capture the last remnants of the summer sun, it is appropriate to prepare for cooler weather. We request that as from **Monday 7th October** children come to school in their winter uniform (please dig out your shirts and ties and pack away your polo shirts and gingham dresses). During this term children should always have a coat to wear. Your child will also require school P.E. kit for use throughout the year.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO NAME EVERY ITEM OF SCHOOL UNIFORM. We already have an ever growing mountain of lost property and it is impossible to reunite clothing with its owner if it is unnamed.

SWEATSHIRTS, ETC.

We currently have very little stock of sweatshirts, cardigans and P.E. T-shirts but are expecting an order to restock the cupboards after October Half Term. As usual school ties and red P.E. shorts are available from the office.

Book bags with the school logo are also on sale at £3.00. These help ensure that reading books, letters and homework assignments arrive home safely. All Reception children will be given a book bag by the school.

RAISING CONCERNS

Please let us know if you have any concerns regarding your child or other school matters at any time during the year. Do not hesitate to contact us. Often things heard on the playground get misinterpreted or only provide part of the information so please check with a member of school staff. We are committed to working with you to try and ensure concerns and minor irritations are resolved, and the facts are clarified as quickly as possible.

Yours sincerely
D. Pilsworth

