



The John Harrox Primary School

Broad Lane, Moulton, Spalding, Lincolnshire, PE12 6PN

Telephone 01406 370426

enquiries@johnharrox.lincs.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Mr. D. Pilsworth



April Newsletter 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to a new school term. I hope you have had an enjoyable Easter break I hope to bring you up to date with news and forthcoming events. We are looking forward to a busy and enjoyable Term 5.

Y3/4 PERFORMANCES

Thank you and well done to all the children who performed so well in the Key Stage 2 performances of 'Go for Gold' by the Dahl, Fine and King-Smith classes at the end of last term. Both the staff and the children were especially grateful for the kind messages sent in after the performances congratulating them on their efforts.

STAFF

We welcome Miss Hill who has recently joined our staff team as a HLTA. I am sure you will all extend a warm welcome as she starts her new post.

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 Partnership (LSCP). Our safeguarding policies can be found on the school website.

As a follow up to our questionnaire completed earlier in the year, I wanted to ensure parents knew who the Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL) are for the school. Mrs. Amess and I are the school's designated safeguarding leads. Should you wish to discuss any safeguarding concerns regarding a child, we are available during normal school hours and can be contacted via the school office on 01406 370426.

Alternatively, the number for Lincolnshire Children's Services Customer Service Centre, for reporting concerns, is: 01522 782111.

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.





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PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT

We are very fortunate to have the range of equipment available for the children to use in the school playground including the recently added outside gym. However, the equipment is to be used at designated times by the children. 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 (both school and pre-school aged) to play on the equipment particularly at times when children are being brought to school or collected at the end of the school day. May I also ask that children do not ride their bikes or scooters on the school playground. 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.

SATS AND PHONIC ASSESSMENTS

Please note that the KS2 SATs will be taking place within the week beginning Monday 13th May. It is very important that all year 6 pupils attend during this week to take part in these national assessments. If your child is ill at this time, please contact the school as soon as possible.

There is also a statutory year 4 multiplication check which will take place within a two-week period from the 3rd June.

Although no longer statutory, we have planned to administer the KS1 SATs during May in the usual way.

The Year 1 phonics assessment checks will be administered during the week beginning Monday 10th June.

We ask that you do not arrange appointments or request holiday during these times.

Protective sun hats and sun screens – Just a reminder

As warmer weather is hopefully expected again in the coming weeks it is important to ensure that children are protected from the harmful effects caused by the sun. Particularly vulnerable areas of the body are the face, neck and arms. It is important that children wear a sun hat





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on sunny days. If they do not have suitable headgear, you may wish to consider purchasing one of the three styles of hat available from the office at £2 each. The use of sunscreens is an effective way of preventing sunburn and is recommended for use, especially if a child has fair skin. Children have to know how to apply these sunscreens if/when used during the school day. Similar to our policy on medicines, teachers are unable to administer the application.

Sports Day

Our school Sports Day is planned (weather permitting) for Friday 14th June. We shall hold EYFS & Key Stage 1 events in the morning from 9.30a.m. until 11.30a.m., followed in the afternoon by the Key Stage 2 programme from 1.05p.m. We are hoping that the weather forecast predicts hot weather so please remember that children will need a named drinks bottle and sun hat on the day.

If you wish to stay between the two events, you are welcome to bring a picnic to eat on the school field.

Your child will be able to have their lunch with you at some point during this time if you wish, but children must be collected from the playground by parents. If your child will be collected and eating with another family, you must send a letter to their class teacher to that effect, on the morning of sports day. It is also very important for safety reasons that Pre School children are supervised by their parents at all times. All other children will have lunch in the usual manner in the hall (especially if they have ordered a hot meal) or on the field. It is intended that all children line up at approximately 1.00p.m to prepare for their sports events or to spectate.

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

