

Horndean Infant School

"U.N.I.T.E.D. in all we do"

Autumn 2 Newsletter 2024



As we draw the curtain on another bustling half-term, I find myself reflecting on the wealth of experiences our children have enjoyed. It's been a whirlwind of activity, brimming with rich learning opportunities and a generous helping of festive cheer. Despite the palpable excitement in the air, I've been immensely proud of how our little ones have managed to keep their focus in the classroom while embracing the joy of the season.

Our termly Rock Steady concert was a resounding success. It was a delight to see our budding musicians show so much confidence as they performed for their families and friends. The friendship among the band members was truly heartwarming, showcasing the power of music to bring people together.



Emergency Services

We were fortunate to welcome some very special visitors to our school recently. Parents who serve in the emergency services generously gave their time to speak with our children about their vital roles. We had the privilege of hosting members of the ambulance and fire service, as well as nurses. These visits provided our children with unforgettable experiences, and we're incredibly grateful to those parents who carved out time from their demanding schedules to engage with our youngsters.



Our Year F children embarked on their first adventure beyond the school gates, taking a walk to the local post box to send off their handmade Christmas cards. The excitement was palpable as they posted their own letters, and I'm pleased to report that their behaviour was exemplary throughout this maiden outing.



It was heartwarming to hear from the Nursery staff about our youngest children's visit to Pear Tree Court care home. It was a joyous occasion filled with song, games, and cake, bridging the gap between young and old in our community.



The introduction of Parent/Carer Christmas lunches proved to be a wonderful success. Your positive feedback has been overwhelming, and we're thrilled that you enjoyed sharing this special moment with your children.



Throughout February, we'll be participating in the NSPCC's 'Speak out. Stay safe.' programme. This child-friendly initiative aligns with our curriculum and includes age-appropriate virtual assemblies and classroom activities, as well as NSPCC volunteer-led workshops for our 6-7 year olds.



Festive Fun

December has been a month brimming with festive experiences. We began our Christmas countdown with a Christingle assembly, where 260 children crafted their own Christingles and learned about their significance. Our PTA outdid themselves with two fantastic events. The Winter Wonderland brought families together for Christmas fun, complete with visits to Father Christmas, festive crafts, and a carol service. The Christmas shopping day, always a highlight, began with a surprise visit from Santa during assembly. The children's excitement as they shopped for their loved ones was truly magical.



Christmas Performances

Our Christmas shows were a testament to the talent and hard work of our children. Year F delighted audiences with their amusing Christmas jokes and beautifully sung carols. Year One's nativity, 'A King is Born', was a superb performance, while Year 2 rounded off our shows in style with their production of 'The Big, Big Story'.



COMEDY AND CAROLS



Notices

On January 29th, the Hampshire school nursing team will be visiting the children to deliver their 'Healthy Me!' workshop, focusing on the importance of a healthy diet and lifestyle.

Throughout February, we'll be participating in the NSPCC's 'Speak out. Stay safe.' programme. This child-friendly initiative aligns with our curriculum and includes age-appropriate virtual assemblies and classroom activities, as well as NSPCC volunteer-led workshops for our 6-7 year olds (further details to follow).



Please note that January 6th is an Inset day. On February 6th, we'll be celebrating Safer Internet Day with films, storybooks, and fun activities to promote online safety. We're also hosting a coffee morning for parents, featuring a short presentation on relevant online safety tips (more information to follow).

Our Parents/Carers Evenings will be held on February 11th and 13th. Keep an eye out for further communication nearer the time with details on how to book your slot.



This is my first opportunity to officially introduce myself (Holly Battle) as your new PTA Chair. I'm mummy to Clayton in China Class & this will be my 4th & final year with the PTA. I'd personally like to thank you all for your incredible support with our events over these past few months, it has been such a busy period and there has been A LOT keep on top of! But through your attendance at our events and generosity, we have kicked off the year by raising approximately £3,500! Absolutely incredible, so thank you!

I have had amazing support from our new Treasurer (Heather Stoddart) and Secretary (Alicia Salway) not to mention a whole host of new and existing committee members who help make these events happen.

I look forward to sharing details of our plans for 2025 in the New Year but until then, I wish you all a very Merry Christmas & Happy New Year! Holly Battle

As we look forward to the new year, I want to express my heartfelt thanks for your continued support and partnership in your child's education. Here's to another fun-filled term of growth, learning, and shared successes.

Best wishes,