

# Hartlebury CE Primary School

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## February 2022 Newsletter Our value this month is 'Friendship'

*'A friend will be a friend in times of all kinds' Proverbs 17:17*



*Sometimes Winnie the Pooh just says it as it is too!*

### Our NEW Head of School is appointed!

Congratulations goes to Mrs Sophie Bartlett who has been appointed as our new Head of School. She has been undertaking this role since the beginning of January but I am delighted to announce that, after a rigorous and competitive selection procedure, she has been appointed on a permanent basis. At this point Mrs Bartlett will continue in her role leading Special Educational Needs. Miss Jemma Davies will continue as our Year 1 teacher until the end of this academic year.



### Do you value the monthly newsletter?

Do you look forward to receiving the monthly newsletter? Is it of a value to you? Do you read it? We are reviewing the value of our monthly newsletter and considering what is the best way for you to receive general communication and whole school news. We are going to send out a Google Form to seek your opinions, so please consider replying. We are happy to keep sending a newsletter if it has a value to you

### Toddler Forest School Starting in March! Open to all toddlers!

**CALLING ALL TODDLERS-** We are starting Toddler Forest School from March and all toddlers (your child does need to be steady on their feet!), from far and wide, are welcome to join us (with their parent or carer) for a fun filled afternoon in our Forest School. Mrs Wilton and Mrs Hall will be leading the sessions. So please SPREAD THE NEWS! These sessions are for any toddler who wants to join in with Forest School, not just for those already involved with our school. Please call (01299 250312) or email ([office@hartlebury.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:office@hartlebury.worcs.sch.uk)) our office for all the details.

These sessions are free but please do call to book your place as numbers will be limited.

**Dates from 1.30 - 2.45pm**

- **Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March**
- **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March**
- **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April**
- **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April**
- **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May**
- **More dates to follow if popular**



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## NSPCC Number Day Friday 4<sup>th</sup> February - Dress Up For Digits



We will be taking part and supporting NSPCC Number Day! The theme of this year's Number Day, is "Making Math's Meaningful" and it is a great way to bring about a positive 'can do' attitude towards it. Throughout the day, the children will all be taking part in a numerous fun and practical math's activities; Key Stage 2 will be taking part in a times table battle and both Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 will be taking part in online quizzes with the other primary schools in our Trust.

We would also like to invite all the children to take part in "Dress up for Digits!" The children can come to school dressed up as anything math's related. This could be something as simple as a sports kit with numbers on, wearing clothes with shapes on or a pattern, or they may want to do something a little more extravagant! There are excellent examples online if you are struggling for inspiration. Please note, the children do not have to dress up and will still take part in all the fun activities throughout the day. We would also like to raise some money for the NSPCC, but again, there is no obligation to contribute and you don't have to pay to dress up. A few children will be in the playground rattling some buckets before and after school; if you would like to donate or send money in with the children so they can donate, please do. If you have queries at all please do get in touch, and here is to a fun-filled Number Day!

## Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> February

Our very many congratulations go to Her Majesty the Queen on her Platinum Jubilee. 70 years of service to this country is quite a feat! We will be marking this anniversary in the Summer, along with the rest of the country, but we intend to be learning all about her Majesty's anniversary over this, her actual date.



## Children's Mental Health Week 7<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> February- Growing Together



We are focusing on all our well-being and mental health this week... and just taking a breather! From 7<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup> February school will be taking part in Children's Mental Health Week. This year's theme is **Growing Together**. Place2Be have created activities and resources to help children (and adults) to explore the different ways that they can share their thoughts, feelings and ideas. Our learning this week will include lots of activities promoting well being and there are lots of resources on the Place2Be website that you can use with your child at home too.

**On Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February, I'd like to invite all children, to wear their favourite scarf to school.** I can't wait! SCARF is the program we use in school to support children's well-being and they will be using these learning resources, as well as the resources from Place2Be, during this week. Wearing your favourite SCARF is a great demonstration for all we have taken on board during this important week. How much style can you put into wearing your SCARF? If you have any questions about how you can support your child's wellbeing, please do get in touch and we can signpost you to support that is available for primary aged pupils and their parents.



## Eco newsletter



What an exciting and busy month the eco council have had! Firstly, the whole school took part in the RSPB's Big Bird Watch! Every class went outside and counted how many birds they saw in half an hour and had a go at identifying some too- a great time was had by all!

The eco council are also very happy to announce that our battery recycling station is up and running, so please do send in all your used batteries and we will happily make sure these are recycled for you!

We are also holding a uniform donation station on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February, where you can pick up donated school uniform and also bring in any your child may have outgrown. If you have any donations towards this, please drop them off at the school office. Many thanks, The Eco Council

## Uniform Donation Station - Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February @ 3.00pm

Eco Council are organising this event with the aim of recycling any unwanted uniform you have to others in school. We all know spare uniform is often our saviour when we haven't time to wash the felt pen covered cardy or mud-covered sweatshirt.... This Donation Station may help out! We are asking if you have any outgrown, good quality, clean school uniform that you are happy to recycle to someone else? If you do please bring it in to school on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> or Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February and our eco-council will do the rest. Please then visit our station and collect any items that will be of use to your child...saving the planet all the way! We will also put the mountains of lost property into this recycling event.



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## Non-uniform day for Children with Cancer UK

On Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February, we are inviting all the children to come into school in their home clothes, to raise money for Children with Cancer UK. Mrs Branagh-Wall is raising money for this fantastic charity by walking the Cotswold Way in June. This is a 51-mile walk, which she will be walking in 24 hours! We are holding the non-uniform day to help her reach her target of £1000, and if you would like to donate, we are suggesting a £1 donation, which can be sent in cash with your child.

Many thanks for your support.

## PTA Quiz - Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February @ 7.30pm, School Hall

The PTA Quiz is back...and if the fun we had last time is anything to go by...THIS IS NOT TO BE MISSED!

The staff team(s) are already in full practice and raring to go! Tickets are £10 per person to include a fish and chip dinner. Why not get your team together (max 8 per team) and drop your money in an envelope to the school office? Please include names of all team members and a team name.

Bring your own drinks and snacks and the PTA will provide everything else. We hope to see as many of you there as possible, parents, staff, friends and family.

Please note that this is an adult only event, but always great fun!



## Applying for Free School Meals... It's never too late!

Have your circumstances changed during these challenging times? We are here to help.

### **Are you eligible for free school meals?**

Free School Meals, in addition to the Universal Free School Meals that children in Reception, Years 1&2 receive, can be awarded if you or your partner are claiming either;

- Universal Credit
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided they are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190, as assessed by HMRC
- Working Tax Credit run-on-paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax



There are so many benefits to having free school meals. You get half price visits and free music tuition straight away, but we have also given pantomime tickets, books and other treats as they have been offered. So please don't hesitate; if you think you may qualify contact Miss Gledhill and she will be able to help and advise with the application.

Please contact her, she will help!

## February Dates to Note

- 4<sup>th</sup> NSPCC Number Day
- 6<sup>th</sup> Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee
- 9<sup>th</sup> Dogs Trust Visiting all classes
- 11<sup>th</sup> Wear A SCARF Day
- 11<sup>th</sup> Uniform Donation Station
- 14<sup>th</sup> St Valentine's Day
- 18<sup>th</sup> PTA Quiz Night and Non-Uniform Day
- 21<sup>st</sup> Half Term
- 28<sup>th</sup> Back to School

**Remember Half Term – 21<sup>st</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> February 2022**

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## **Government Announcements & Information - as received from the Government, not edited!**

### **Changes to the self-isolation period for those who test positive for COVID-19**

This change came into effect in England on Monday 17 January and applies to all positive cases, regardless of vaccination status.

People who are self-isolating with COVID-19 have the option to reduce their isolation period after 5 full days if they test negative with an LFD test on both day 5 and day 6 and they do not have a temperature. For example, if they test negative on the morning of day 5 and the morning of day 6, they can return to their education or childcare setting immediately on day 6.

The first test must be taken no earlier than day 5 of the self-isolation period, and the second must be taken the following day. All test results should be [reported to NHS Test and Trace](#).

If the result of either test is positive, they should continue to self-isolate until they get negative results from two LFD tests on consecutive days or until they have completed 10 full days of self-isolation, whichever is earliest. Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests or anyone who continues to have a temperature will need to complete the full 10-day period of self-isolation. Further [information on self-isolation for those with COVID-19](#) is available.



### **New Government campaign launched to help parents improve children's diet**

On Monday 10 January, the Department of Health and Social Care launched a multimedia Better Health campaign to encourage families to eat better. The campaign includes a new 'scan, swipe and swap' feature on the NHS Food Scanner App, to help families maintain a healthier diet. Families can scan the product barcodes from their shop and the app will suggest healthier alternatives to help them make an easy swap next time they shop. The app uses a "Good Choice" badge to help signpost people to healthier food and drinks in line with the government's dietary recommendations for added sugar, saturated fat and salt. The campaign follows a record rise in obesity amongst children since the start of the pandemic, with latest data highlighting that one in four (27.7%) children of reception school age is overweight or obese; this rises to four in 10 (40.9%) in year six (ages 10-11). Read government announcement in full on new campaign launch

### **Let's Stop Abuse Together-Keeping All Children Safe**

Stop Abuse Together Campaign It is estimated that one in ten children in England and Wales will experience sexual abuse before they turn sixteen. The majority of these children will not tell anyone at the time of their experiences. On 13 January, the UK Government launched the Stop Abuse Together campaign. The campaign aims to empower parents and carers to take steps to help keep their children safe from abuse. The website enables parents to:

- Learn about the potential signs of abuse
- Build trust by speaking to their children regularly, which can help prevent abuse
- Find further support, including through the NSPCC helpline (0808 800 5000)

Why not check out this resource- All children have a right to be safe from sexual abuse, and we all have a role to play in keeping them safe. Let's #StopAbuseTogether.



### **Support for families struggling to pay their energy bills**



This message is on behalf of Act on Energy. Do you know anyone who is struggling to pay their energy bills due to low income, job losses, reduced pay or higher usage? Act on Energy, a local charity, provides FREE support to any resident living in Birmingham, Solihull, Coventry, Warwickshire and Worcestershire.

Act on Energy offer:

- A specialist helpline for residents or professionals, offering support and advice on keeping warm and ways to help reduce your energy bills: 0800 988 2881
- Support with reading and understanding fuel bills, and discussing issues with energy supplier
- Support for accessing funding for emergency heating replacements (subject to eligibility)
- Home visits to support the most vulnerable households – these may be booked in for the future or carried out remotely
- Opportunities to strengthen the pathways between local support services and Act on Energy and to raise awareness with professionals and residents of the health implications of living in a cold and damp home

They also offer free energy awareness sessions for professionals and community groups. For more details or to make a referral, telephone 0800 988 2881 or complete the Enquiry Form online

<https://actonenergy.org.uk/home/professionals/>.

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