

Hartlebury CE Primary School



March and April Newsletter
Our value is Perseverance.

HAPPY ST DAVID'S DAY
Dydd Gywl Dewi Hapus!



Whole School Monthly Newsletters- We're sticking with them!



Thank you to all those parents (67) who responded to our information collecting about newsletters. You were very much in favour of continuing to receive these monthly, so we will continue sending them out on the **1st of each month**. The newsletters give general whole school information about successes (not year group information), advice, Government Guidance (new in the last 2 years!) and news. It also aims to give a 'head's up' on what is coming for the whole month and later events. I try to put **whole school** events in **chronological order** to help with your planning but appreciate that you do receive an enormous amount to information and reminders! In the 'olden days' we used to write reminders on school notice boards; now we fire off emails to ensure everyone gets the same information but will take on board that sometimes it is too much! Individual year group news will continue to be shared by your class teacher, so look out for that information too. So...read on and enjoy!

Lateness for Registration

Lateness is a concern. Being late makes the children feel uncomfortable and doesn't start the day in the right frame of mind. We need **all** children to be in school for 8.50am, using their classroom doors to enter the building. Learning begins at 8.40am and children arriving after registration at 8.50am miss out on vital settling in and learning time. Children arriving after 8.50am will need to arrive via the front office, be entered in our late register and receive '**L**' for **Late Arrival**. Children arriving after 9.15am will be registered as '**U**' for **Pupil Arriving after the Register has closed**. This will go down on their personal data as an absence.

Children with less than 90% attendance will be placed on our Attendance Pathway and supported by the SAET Attendance Officer.



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Wanted- A New Parent Governor

Holly Baraks, a Parent Governor, has come to the end of her term of office. She is very happy to continue for another 4 years BUT is also happy to stand aside if another parent wishes to take over this role. If you are interested in the role please let us know via email, office@hartlebury.worcs.sch.uk by Friday 11th March and we will invite you in to find out more about what's involved. All parents are entitled to be on the Governing Body, so don't be shy, come and find out how you can help support school with its strategic vision and plans.



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Working Together; Getting Things Right.

I would always hope that we all work in partnership, together, to get things right as often as we are able for everyone in our school community, but also understand that, sometimes, we may not do or handle things quite how parents think we should or we may put things in place that we are not at liberty to fully discuss with all parents. I want to re-assure you that we do always listen to what is being reported, take it seriously and try to work with the parents and children, from both sides of the difficulty, to solve issues that are causing concern.

With this in mind, it is always helpful for us to receive your concerns directly rather than via second and sometimes third sources, and for these concerns to be continually raised with us, especially if they are repeating after being initially reported, until a solution is found. When we receive concerns via other routes (i.e Facebook, whatsapp etc), we often have to apply our detective skills to find out what the issue is and who it refers to; a direct approach is much more productive and dealt with more quickly.

We will always continue to work with everyone involved to solve differences and difficulties, for as long as it takes within the understanding that we are educators not punishers, and the people we are working with are, in the main, your children. We will always work with children to ensure they understand the effect of poor behaviour choices and how changing these has a positive impact for everyone, but this is seldom a work of moments. If your child is reporting negative behaviours that are affecting them, their Class Teacher should be your first port of call, they will try to support improvements. You may then wish to speak with Mrs Bartlett if you feel the issue hasn't been addressed, is more serious or is being repeated and leading to conflict. Mrs Bartlett discusses all behaviour issues with myself, but you can always email me directly if you feel the situation needs another pair of eyes head@hartlebury.worcs.sch.uk

If you still feel we have not dealt with your concerns adequately there are, of course, other channels available for you to raise concerns (ie Chair of Governors, Trust CEO, Worcestershire Children First, Ofsted) as outlined in the school and Trust's **Complaints Policy** which can be found on our school website <https://hartlebury.worcs.sch.uk/school-policies/> External agencies will always come back to school for the information and to help sort the issue, so please consider coming to us directly and discussing if you feel we have not handled an issue in a way that you consider appropriate - we are here to listen, to discuss, to re-consider and to help. All behaviour concerns are recorded and those brought to myself or Mrs Bartlett are recorded for inspection by Ofsted and other interested parties, but when and if these records highlight repeating patterns we do address these by working with the children concerned and, often, their families.



New COVID-19 Guidance.... Really No New COVID-19 Guidance!

Goodness! I think the new COVID-19 guidance is that there is none!! My advice remains the same.... if your child is unwell please keep them at home and avoid contact with others. Moving forward now we are living with COVID and the best advice is common sense! You know your children best and will make the best decisions.

The key summary points from the latest Government Guidance documents are as follows:

- The remaining domestic restrictions in England have been removed.
- The legal requirement for those testing positive to self-isolate has ended. **However, until 1 April, the government still advises adults and children who test positive to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for at least five full days and then continue to follow the guidance until they have received two negative test results on consecutive days.**
- Children testing positive or showing the key symptoms of COVID-19 should not attend school, not even to collect siblings, for a minimum of 5 days, given the potential risk to others. They can return on Day 6 following 2 negative test results on consecutive days, ie days 5&6.
- If children are experiencing the key symptoms of COVID-19 a PCR test is still recommended. You are advised to stay at home whilst awaiting the results
- LFDs are primarily to be used after a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19, to support returning to school from Day 6
- Routine contact tracing has ended.



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- Fully vaccinated adults (plus under 18s) who are close contacts are no longer advised to test daily for 7 days and the legal requirement for close contacts who are not fully vaccinated to self-isolate has also been removed.
- Staff will not be expected to continue taking part in regular asymptomatic testing.
- Maintaining good hygiene, appropriate cleaning schedules and adequate ventilation remains part of the ongoing risk assessment process.

Hopefully this is my last COVID Guidance catch up!! (Famous last words!)

THANK YOU from Mrs Branagh-Wall

Mrs Branagh-Wall would like to say a HUGE thank you to all our wonderful Hartlebury families who supported the non-uniform day before half term. As you already know, she is walking the Cotswold Way- a 51 mile walk in 24 hours, to raise money for Children with Cancer UK. Thanks to you, she has already raised £249.80 - an incredible amount! Thank you to you for your support, it means a great deal and we will keep you posted as to how Mrs Branagh-Wall gets on!

All Things Green! From your Eco Council

The eco-council would like to thank everyone who donated (and took!) items to (and from) our uniform recycling event and our eco/sensory garden- we are very grateful! We are beginning to work on this great project in the next few weeks, so please do feel free to drop anything off which you would like rid of- your junk is our eco treasure!

A little reminder that as well as batteries (of which we have had hundreds- thank you!) we are also now recycling pens! We can accept any felt-tips, board markers, biros etc so if you have any at home which no longer work, please do feel free to send them in and we will make sure these are recycled!

A special thank you to Mr and Mrs Warwick, who very kindly printed us off some amazing signs to show the children where they can recycle their crisp packets! It's so lovely to see so many parents helping us on our eco journey- thank you!

Lastly- don't forget to send in your Great Hartlebury Bake off entries, as part of Fairtrade Fortnight! Last year we had some incredible creations and I am sure this year will be just as impressive!

Many thanks



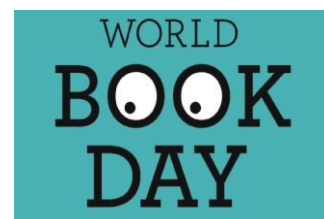
March brings a WHOLE list of return to normal activities!

All the traditions we have missed so much during the last 2 years will hopefully go ahead this month and during the months to come. We really hope you will join us in as many ways as you can!

World Book Day- Thursday 3rd March- Come dressed as animals!



We are celebrating World Book Day all week but are taking a slightly different approach to dressing up and the ACTUAL day! As part of our celebrations in school, we have chosen a book to share in all classes called Leaf, by Sandra Dieckmann and invite the children to come to school dressed up, not as book characters, but as animals, to support the activities around this wonderful story. While the tale of Leaf takes place in a forest, full of woodland creatures, children can choose any animal, from any part of the world! Giraffes, wolves, cats, sharks, hamsters, and even caterpillars and butterflies are all welcome...a proper Noah's Ark!!



Afternoon Tea Parties -Starting Friday 4th March

We are launching a celebration Afternoon Tea every Friday, starting from the first Friday back after half term. One child from each class will be invited to a weekly afternoon tea party to share a fantastic piece of work they have achieved during that week with the other children and the teacher hosting. The teachers will take it in turns to host the tea party. Tea cups, saucers, napkins and table cloths have been purchased and, most importantly, CAKE has been ordered!



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British Science Week- Monday 14th - Friday 18th March

We are celebrating British Science week with fantastic, exciting science activities, off site learning visits and scientist in school! We even have a dinosaur visiting! It should be a really busy, fun week. We are encouraging everyone to discover the fun of science and to develop their 'inner scientist!' Listen out for all the things your children get up to; there will be lots to tell, share and find out!

Red Nose Day Friday 18th March

We are supporting this national fundraising appeal again this year and invite everyone to come to school head to toe in RED! Or with a little bit of red... which ever is easier. All we ask is for a donation towards this GREAT National charity....and lots of red noses!



Mothering Sunday Service- Friday 25th March @ 9.00am in St James' Church

We are holding our celebration of Mums during school time this year. All classes will be taking part in this Service at St James' Church. We hope to see as many mums, grans, aunts, sisters as possible at this special service, dads you are very welcome too! The children always enjoy taking part in this service for their mums' so we hope you are able to join us.

Mother's Day Lunch Celebration- Friday 25th March

A reminder that the long-awaited Mothers' Day Lunch is RETURNING on Friday 25th March. WE ARE SO EXCITED!! Look out for a separate booking letter via email. Booking and payments are now available on ParentPay. If you have multiple children in the school, you will only need to pay for one lunch and will be able to sit with all your children together. It is a great opportunity to discover for yourselves how great our new cook, Lois, actually is...she's fab! Last day for ordering food is Friday 18th March. Due to popular demand and catering plans any parents booking after this date will have to bring a packed lunch. Details of your 'lunch sitting time' will be sent out by Thursday 24th March. Lunch times will be staggered to avoid long queues at our server. If you are coming along and have not booked a hot lunch via ParentPay, please email the school office to let them know of your attendance plans office@hartlebury.worcs.sch.uk



Parents Evenings- In PERSON! HOORAY!! Wednesday 30th & Thursday 31st March

We are, at last, offering Parents Evening meetings in person AND in school!! We are so excited! You will be able to come in look at all the books your children have been working in, seeing their brilliant progress for yourselves. Look out for the bookings opening up from Monday 21st March. BUT if you would prefer a telephone conversation this can also be arranged, just book a time and let us know via email that you want a telephone conversation!



We have all very much missed our regular Easter competitions over the last 2 years as well ... BUT THEY ARE BACK!

We are hoping that everyone will get behind these celebrations and join in with the traditions that make our school such a fun place! NOW don't be shy!



Key Stage 2 -Decorate an Egg Competition-Thursday 7th April

All children in Key Stage 2 (Years 3,4,5 & 6) are invited to decorate an egg for an Easter Egg competition. Any decoration; no theme at all, just have some fun! Prizes for the best entry! Maybe include a little explanation to go along with your idea, just in case it's not obvious!

Key Stage 1 & early Years Easter Bonnet Parade -Thursday 7th April @ 2.40pm

Our youngest children (Pre-School, Reception, Years 1 & 2) are invited to take part in an Easter Bonnet Parade (Loved by the whole school!). The bonnets need to be **made at home** and brought into school on the morning of 7th April. Parents are invited to join the whole school in watching the Easter Bonnet Parade at 2.40pm, we will open the gates from 2.30pm. If you will have difficulty making a bonnet at home (it can be really simple is a nice weekend afternoon activity) just let us know. We will ensure no child misses out from the parade!



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Easter Service- Friday 8th April

Our traditional Easter Service, led by our Year 6 children, will be in St James' Church at 9.00am on the last day of term. Parents, grandparents, carers, friends and members of the local community are very welcome to join us and we would love to see as many as possible there! Refreshments will be available in church from 9.00am; so please do come along.

After School Care Finish- Friday 8th April we are OPEN!

We are going right to the end of term this time and keeping After School Care open on the last day. Hopefully this will make things easier for our parents who rely on this provision. Please book and pay on Parent Pay in the usual way.

Back to school Monday 25th April

Whole School dates to note

- Monday 2nd May- Bank Holiday- School Closed
- Monday 9th May Year 6 SATs Week
- Friday 13th May PTA May Fayre
- Friday 27th May Platinum Jubilee Street Party
- Monday 30th May-Friday 3rd June inc Half Term
- Thursday 5th May- assembly in St James' Church- all welcome
- Monday 6th June TED day
- Tuesday 7th June School Back

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