

# Hartlebury CE Primary School

## December 2023

# Newsletter



### **In this Season of Advent**

“God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in Him will not perish but will have eternal life” John 3:16

#### **Monthly Church Worship Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 9am, St James’ Church**

Please join us at St. James’ Church on Thursday 7th December for our monthly Church Worship assembly at 8.55am. Worship Group, Mr Berry and Reverend Winter will lead an assembly based on ‘Advent’.

#### **Children in Need – Thank you!**

We supported Children in Need again this year and our children all looked spotacular! Thank you to those who made coin donations, we filled and filled two Pudsey Bears and your generosity raised over £130.

#### **Hollybobbles - Young Lives vs Cancer**

Holly, Evelyn, Seren, Millie, Willow and Florence have been busy selling bracelets and hair scrunchies to raise money for this fantastic charity. The girls researched good causes, developed a business plan, produced samples and approached and presented to the PTA, in order to launch their project. They have sold from a stall every Friday after school on Playground 1. The last Friday that they will be selling bracelets this term is Friday 8th December. We do hope that you can support them in this endeavour, we are very proud of them.

#### **HSBC and Dogs Trust Assemblies and Workshops**

On Friday 1st and 8th of December we are very lucky to be having HSBC in school, running some workshops for all the children. We have had these before and they are a fantastic introduction to money for the younger children and a chance for the older children to start thinking about things like bank accounts and saving.

On Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7th December, children will be taking part in a Dog’s Trust assembly and workshop, specifically looking at safety around dogs, care of animals and responsible dog ownership. Charlotte will be bringing along her puppet dog but no real dogs will be in school on this day.

#### **Cold Weather - Appropriate clothing**

Please can all children be sent to school with a coat during the winter period. We only have very limited spares and, unfortunately, not in all sizes so we very much appreciate you wrapping up your little (and big) ones as warmly as possible.

### **Book Cafe and Swap Shop - Monday 11th December**

On Monday 11th December, you are warmly invited to our first Afterschool Book Cafe and Swap Shop in the Hall. Come and enjoy a hot drink and a story with your children and bring books to swap to keep your collection at home fresh. Staff will also read a story and share some tips on how to support reading at home. The event will run from 3:30pm-4:30pm and everyone is welcome - parents, grandparents and siblings! We hope to see lots of you there.

### **Nativities and Christmas Concerts**

A reminder of our Christmas performances:

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December** - Whole School Church Worship at St James' at **9am**

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December** – Year 3/4 Christmas Carol Concert at St James' Church at **6pm**

**Wednesday 13th December** – EYFS (Pre-School and Reception) Nativity at **2pm**. If your child does not attend Pre-School on this day, they are still welcome to take part in the Nativity and can be dropped off in the afternoon. Please look out for further details on this from Mrs Hall.

**Tuesday 19th December** - Key Stage 1 Nativity at **2pm and 5.00pm** - ***Restricted to 2 guests per performance.***

**Thursday 21st December** - Christmas End of Term Service at St James' Church at **9am**

### **PTA Christmas Movie Event - Thursday 14th December**

On 14th December, the PTA will be hosting a special Christmas movie event for the children. This will be held straight after school with popcorn and drinks provided. Preschool, Reception, Y1 and Y2 will be watching Stickman in the Early Years classroom. We expect these children to be ready for collection at 4pm. Years 3-6 will be watching the Grinch (cartoon version) in the hall. We expect them to be ready to collect at 5pm. This will be a lovely event for the children. If you would like your child to attend, there is a small charge of £2 per child payable via ParentPay. The deadline for payment will be Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

### **Santa Dash and Christmas Jumper Day Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December**

**Friday 15th December** will be **Christmas Jumper Day** as well as our annual **Santa Dash!** Your children can come to school wearing a Christmas Jumper, tinsel, festive hats/headbands ready for some festive fun! We may even have a surprise visitor to cheer them on! Children always look forward to the Santa Dash; they will trot like a reindeer, stroll like Santa, skip like an elf and stomp like a snowman for 15 minutes, completing the course as many times as they can in that time. By taking part, we are hoping to raise as much money as we can for Hartlebury Primary School PTA. Your child will be coming home with a sponsorship form which needs to be returned to school in a sealed envelope, with any money raised by **Friday 15th December**.

### **Christmas Lunch**

We are in the process of finalising the details for the Christmas Lunch that will be held on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December. Please keep a look out for the most up-to-date details, that will be sent out in due course.

### **All things Eco!**

Our Switch Off Fortnight competition was a huge success with lots of fabulous entries! Reverend Winter judged the competition for us and was blown away by the quality of the posters the children made, making it a very tough decision!

There were lots of fantastic entries promoting saving energy but please see our winners below:

Key Stage 1- Oscar,

Year 3- Alannah,

Year 4- Harvey,

Year 5- Ruben

Year 6- Saskia.

There were also runners up as well as teacher's picks and we were very proud of the children for their wonderful efforts - they really do make our school a greener place!

## **Pre-School and Reception Places - September 2024 Intake**

Do you know of children looking for places here at Hartlebury? Are you a parent/carer looking for a Pre-School or a Reception place for September 2024? Do please book a visit where our children and staff will be delighted to showcase our fabulous school.

## **Safeguarding News - HANDi App - Don't let bugs play on your mind**

If your child is unwell, use the [HANDi](#) App to check their symptoms and get instant, NHS-approved medical advice. Developed and approved by local Paediatric Consultants, the [HANDi](#) App provides expert advice on how best to manage the most common childhood illnesses, including:

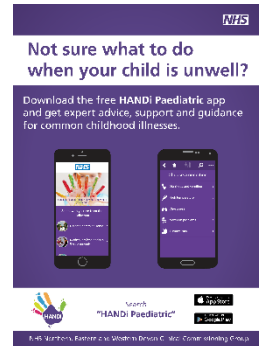
- High temperature
- 'Chesty baby' illnesses, such as bronchiolitis, asthma and croup
- 'Chesty child' illnesses such as wheezing and asthma
- Abdominal pain
- Common newborn problems
- Diarrhoea and vomiting

The app is free, and can be downloaded to any Apple or Android smartphone or tablet.

Why use [HANDi](#)?

[HANDi](#) is designed to help you know what to do when your child is unwell - whether that's looking after them at home, taking them to see a GP, using the NHS 111 service, or visiting an urgent care service.

If your child is unwell, [HANDi](#) will ask you questions about your child's condition to help you decide the best course of action - and with all the advice on [HANDi](#) developed and approved by local NHS paediatricians and other healthcare professionals, you can rest assured that you're getting the best possible advice. For more information, to download the app and to hear from our Clinical Lead for Children and Young People, Dr Louise Bramble, please visit the website <https://www.hwics.org.uk/our-services/handi-app>



## **Forest School**

December is quickly rolling in and the children in Hazel and Ash class have been feverishly creating Christmas decorations for their contribution to the Christmas Tree festival. We have gone for the theme 'Growing Brilliance', which ties in to our school's ethos. All the materials have been sourced from our school site or been upcycled. From Alder cones from our trees, cherry wood from a fallen tree on site, Lime, Ash and Beech wood slices that the children cut and drilled, we are very proud of them all.

We have been very lucky to receive brash donations from a local tree surgeon, J and A Tree Services and pallets from Solar Select in Chaddesley. We plan to put these donations to good use with the children.

Hazel class got to enjoy some fun in the Autumn leaves whilst we investigated what camouflage means, how we can achieve it and how animals adapt to utilise it. We had a lot of fun discovering how best to blend in.



## **Sports News**

Thank you so much to the PTA for our new football goals! Our old ones were damaged which meant we didn't have any goals to use in our P.E lessons or for our extra-curricular clubs but now we are able to play football matches and take part in shooting games properly once again. Thank you Hartlebury PTA!

Well done to our team of Year 6s who took part in a football tournament at Burlish Park Primary. The team played every game with huge smiles on their faces and showed fantastic perseverance. The children worked so well together and it was clear to see that the children were really enjoying themselves. Thank you to the parents who brought the children along, we wouldn't be able to participate in these festivals without you!

Well done to our cross-country runners who took part in the Wyre Forest School Sports Partnership Cross Country event at Stourport Memorial Park on Friday 10th November 2023. All of the children did extremely well, and persevered throughout. We are so proud of everybody's determination! Well done team.



## **12 Days for Christmas**

Following the success of our Kidderminster Food Bank Advent Calendar donation last year, this December, we will be holding a reverse advent calendar event from December 1<sup>st</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> (12 school days). Below is a list of 12 items from which families can choose to donate, should they wish or are able to, for our Christmas Food Bank box. All donations collected will be taken to Kidderminster Food Bank for distribution to those in our community experiencing food poverty or insecurity this Christmas.



### **Traditional Christmas Service - Thursday 21st December 2023 at 9am**

Remember our end of term Christmas Service - everyone is invited! This is a traditional service; led by Year 6 and helps to remind us what Christmas is really about. We hope you can join us and just take a small moment in your Christmas preparations for some 'STOP' time ... and maybe stay for a coffee and a mince pie too!

Our school day finishes after lunch, at **1pm on Thursday 21st December 2023**. Children can be collected from outside of their classrooms as normal.

### **Diary Dates**

**Please also look out for information directly from your child's Class Teacher regarding class trips this term.**

#### **December**

Friday 1st December - 12 Days for Christmas Launch

Friday 1st December - HSBC Assembly and Workshops

Friday 1st December - Christmas Jumper Exchange

Wednesday 6th December – Dogs Trust Assembly

Thursday 7th December - Church Worship at St James' at **9am**

Tuesday 12th December – Year 3/4 Christmas Carol Concert at St James' Church at **6pm**

Wednesday 13th December - EYFS Nativity at **2pm**

Friday 15th December – Santa Dash and Christmas Jumper Day

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Wednesday 20th December - Christmas Lunch

Thursday 21st December - Christmas End of Term Service at St James' Church at **9am**

#### **January**

Monday 8th January – Term starts for pupils

Thursday 18th January – Hearing Tests for Reception age children