

Hartlebury CE Primary School

February 2024

Newsletter

A Very Special Visitor

We had a wonderful day on Tuesday 16th January when we were honoured by a visit from the Right Reverend, Bishop of Worcester, John Inge. The Bishop blessed our new Reflection and Prayer Space which has been created by the pupils themselves. Bishop John took part in a whole school act of worship, hearing about the school's new vision and the difference that the space will make to the children. Bishop John said: "I am delighted to be here to bless this new space as well as the whole school and all who are a part of it. Prayer is a fantastic gift that God has given us. It enables us to extend our care and concern for others across the miles. I hope that you will use this space to feel God close to you and also to bring other people to God in prayer."

The school has been supported by parent and Chair of the PTA Alex Jolly to transform the space. Alex said: "It was great to transform a white, uninspiring space into something more exciting for the children to use for reflection. We reflected the school's vision that everyone is a unique child known to God by helping the children paint their handprints on the space. We also thought about joy, hope and prayer and explored different symbols of Christianity. The children then designed prints which we printed onto fabric and turned into a curtain. The designs from children in early years were turned into a cushion and blanket."

Thank you to all of the children, staff and friends of the school who made this day so special.



Picture by Gabe



Monthly Church Worship - Thursday 7th March 9.00am

Please join us at St. James' Church on Thursday 7th March for our monthly Church Worship assembly at 8.55am. Worship Group, Mr Berry and Reverend Winter will lead an assembly based on this month's value, 'Forgiveness'.

Children's Mental Health Week - Monday 5th February - Sunday 11th February

Children's Mental Health Week 2024 will take place 5th - 11th February 2024. We will be following Place2be's theme this year of 'My Voice Matters'. My Voice Matters is about empowering children and young people by providing them with the tools they need to express themselves – this can support our mental health and our sense of wellbeing.

As part of our whole school SCARF programme (an approach which supports us in promoting positive behaviour, mental health, wellbeing, resilience and achievement) children will also be invited to 'Wear Your Scarf' for the day on Friday 9th February. Children may wear a scarf with their normal school uniform to raise awareness of Children's Mental Health Week. We are looking forward to celebrating this important week and connecting further as a school community.

Safeguarding News: Safer Internet Day - Tuesday 6th February 2024

There will be an Online Safety Assembly on Tuesday 6th February in recognition of Safer Internet day. This follows the fantastic Key Stage 2 Online Safety performance 'Back to the App', which we hope that the children enjoyed.

Children will explore all aspects of internet safety with their class teachers. Please see attached some leaflets supporting the education of children in this important matter.

STAYING SAFE ONLINE

**A parents and carers guide for:
Supporting Children and Young People Online**

Children and Young People are spending more time online and it can be confusing for us as adults. **Here are some top tips to keep your children safe online:**

- Explore the internet together
- Check you have your safety and privacy settings on
- Teach your children about what information shouldn't be shared online
- Encourage your children to show you what apps and websites they are accessing
- Support your children in spotting the difference between real and fake news
- Remind them of some key online safety rules
- Have boundaries or set a family agreement for online use
- Don't block access to all technology – teach children to use them safely instead
- Balance screen time with no-screen time
- Talk about how their own online actions can affect others

For more info scan here

[safeguardingworcestershire.org.uk](https://www.safeguardingworcestershire.org.uk)

Early Years News

As part of Willow's learning on 'People Who Help Us' the children had a very special visit from Claire from West Mercia police (a.k.a. Edward's mummy!). Claire came and spoke to the children about the skills you need to be a police officer. Lots of the children want to be police officers when they are older! We discussed the different job roles within the service and just how important the police are in helping people. The children kindly received special police themed gifts and some colouring from West Mercia police. We would like to say a big thank you to Claire for such a fun and informative afternoon!

All things Eco!

As you know, at Hartlebury we are always striving to make our school a greener place and, at the moment, we are working hard to achieve our Plastic Free School accreditation! There are lots of things we have to complete to earn this award and one of them is trying to create change on a bigger scale- by challenging the government. I would like to invite any children that would like to, to write a letter to Rishi Sunak himself, stating what they would like to see changed to help look after the planet and trying to persuade him to make some big improvements! I will collect all these in school and, once the Eco Council have written their own letter, we will post them to the Prime Minister- fingers crossed for a response!

Many thanks,
Mrs Branagh-Wall and the Eco-Council

Sports News

Thank you so much to Joe from the Wyre Forest School Sports Partnership for coming in to lead some sessions with our Year 1 and Year 4 children on Thursday 11th January 2024. The Year 4's had a brilliant time developing their volleyball skills whilst the Year 1's focused on their ball skills. We are also very fortunate that Carolyn came in from the sports partnership on Wednesday 31st January to work with Year 2. They focused on learning some new warm up games and had a great time taking part in activities to build their core strength. We really appreciate the support that the Sports Partnership provides for our schools and always look forward to them coming in to work with our staff and children.

Mrs Bartlett and Mrs Bellison had a wonderful time with pupils from Willow, Cherry, Ash and Lime at Baxter College last month. The Celebration of Inclusive Sport Festival gave children an opportunity to experience a variety of sports challenges, which encouraged collaboration, cooperation and team skills development.



School Closed: Monday 12th February to Friday 19th February

Governor News

We need a Governor for our Local Governing Board.... Could this be you? Or do you know someone who may fit the bill? We are looking for someone who is keen to support the work of our school, with a focus on making us the best we can be for the children and families in our community.

A Governor plays a very important role supporting our Christian ethos and distinctiveness. If this role appeals to you please contact the school office, office@har.saet.co.uk by Friday 9th February and we will arrange for you to find out more.

Polite Reminders

We are so pleased to see so many children in the correct school uniform. This is a gentle reminder to let everyone know what is the expected school uniform and a request that children do not wear make-up to school. We think that they are beautiful just as they are.

- Sunflower yellow polo shirt
- Maroon jumper or cardigan
- School fleece / Coat
- Dark grey trousers or knee length tailored shorts, dark grey knee length skirt or pinafore
- Grey or black plain socks
- Black shoes
- Sunflower yellow summer dress & white socks
- Grey socks or tights
- Black shoes

Thinking Day Friday 22nd February 2024

World Thinking Day is a celebration of ten million girls worldwide that has taken place every 22nd February since 1926. It remains a day for all Guides and Girl Scouts to think of each other and celebrate their sisters all around the world. Traditionally members of Girlguiding have worn their uniform to school when 22nd February has fallen on a school day and this year it falls on the Thursday after half term. Pupils who belong to Rainbows, Brownies and Guides in the Kidderminster Division, are most welcome to wear their Girlguiding uniform to school on this day.

Mother's Day Lunch Friday 8th March 2024

Every year, we invite our parents/carer mothers to a special lunchtime with their child. This year, our 'Mother's Day Lunch' is on Friday, 8th March. Do please look out for further details next week.

Diary Dates

- 5th – 9th February Children's Mental Health Week
- 6th February Safer Internet Day
- 7th – 9th February Pioneer Residential (Years 3 and 4)
- 9th February KS1 Girls Football Event
- 22nd February Thinking Day
- 7th March World Book Day
- 8th March Mother's Day Lunch