



Friday
23rd Feb
2024

School Newsletter

Dates for
the Diary:

Honesty, Attitude, Respect, Resilience, Caring

Welcome back

What an action packed week we have had! We have all been working so hard – the holidays now seem a long distant memory. This week we have had a wonderful visit from Reverend Lindsey Brown; she shared a story from the Old Testament; Book 1: Samuel 25. As a school, we discussed the importance of being a peacemaker and how our choices and decisions have a huge impact on others. We are learning to take into account the needs of the wider community by aiming high and caring. During this learning, we have been using our leadership, teamwork, speaking, and listening 'Skillsbuilder' strands. Please speak to your children about what we learn during skills builder lessons and assemblies, as we feel these are valuable real life skills that support the whole child through education and into adult hood.

Reading Success

This week, some key stage two pupils have represented Hurst Hill at the Dudley Book Quiz. I am so proud of their efforts and achievements. They have studied texts in their own time, so as to be able to answer challenging questions. Well done to all pupils who took part. Years three and four have made it through to the semi-final, so I will update you on their progress next week.

Forest school

The work on Forest school has certainly paid off and most children have been able to experience outdoor activities. Each term we shall hold a focus day for each class and we shall, wherever possible, link the Forest school to our foundation curriculum. As part of our curriculum, we have been focusing on pollution and sustainability. As previously mentioned, we will be planting our own vegetables, caring for chickens and eventually we will have bees, which we will care for and produce our own honey. If you know of anyone who could support in any of these areas, especially with bee keeping, then please get in touch with Mrs Johnson via the school office. We have exciting times ahead!

Attendance

Finally, thank you to all of the parents who ensure pupils arrive at school on time every day. However, I have seen a marked increase in late arrivals, by some families, since Christmas. Learning starts at 8:55. Any children who arrive after this time miss valuable teacher instructions and essential learning. Lates can also be classed as unauthorised absences and will result in referrals to the EIS and a potential fine for repeat offenders. If you receive a late letter, can I ask that you ensure your child's punctuality improves in order to avoid a referral.

Have a super weekend. Mrs Johnson ☺

DIARY DATES

Thursday 29th February- Book Quiz semi final (years 3 and 4) & HVT football tournament

Thursday 7th March- World Book Day

Tuesday 12th & Wednesday 13th March- Parents' evening & Book fair

Tuesday 12th March- Oracy debate

Monday 18th March- Y6 WW2 workshop

Wednesday 20th March Y1 Wild Zoo visit

Thursday 21st March School Disco

Friday 22nd March School closes at 3.30pm for Easter Holidays

Thank you to Team Hurst Hill.



I would like to say a huge thank you to Kelly and the fantastic team we have working hard in our school kitchen every day. This week they have worked exceptionally hard to adapt provision in line with our new catering company. They have produced some amazing dishes and feedback from pupils has been very positive. Well done Team!

Can I also offer a huge shout out to Mrs Pilbeam, our school office manager. She has been running the office single handed for two weeks and she has done a fantastic job. She has been our very own SuperHero. Please say well done if you get the chance. On Monday we welcome our new Receptionist, Miss Brookes. Please bear with her during her settling in period.

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HURST HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Newsletter

Attendance

Attendance at school is mandatory. Whole school attendance should be at least 96%. The 100% winner this week is Hudhifa in Reception. The winning class is Mrs Weaver's class

The Department of Education has made it clear that schools must be stricter when dealing with families whose children are persistently absent or late for school. A child's absence from school can only be authorised in exceptional circumstances, for example, if they are too poorly to attend or if they have a medical appointment that cannot be made outside school hours. If your child is persistently absent or regularly late for school, whatever the circumstances, a referral may be made to Dudley Education Investigation Service, and this could result in a fine.

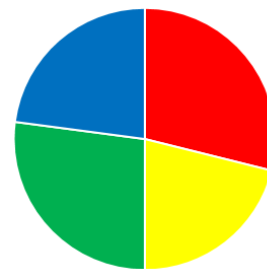
If you are having difficulty getting your child to school, or to school on time, please contact the school office so we can offer some support. Please note that school will not authorise holidays during the school term and that our policy is to refer such absences of 5 school days or more to Dudley Education Investigation Service who may issue a fine. If your child is too ill to come to school then you should **contact the school office before 9.30am**, either by telephoning 01384 818845 (option 1) or using the absence reporting feature on ParentMail. Do not use our social media pages to report absences. Please remember that school can administer medication in certain circumstances



We use house points to reward pupils for following our school rules and values.

This week our house points totals are:
Ruby 296, Diamond 150, Emerald 164 & Sapphire 148.

Well done Rubies!



Star Pupils of the week

have shown our school values of honesty, positive attitude, resilience, respect and caring.

Reception- Oliwia for resilience at carpet time

Year 1- Pablo-Junior positive attitude in all areas

Year 2—Jax for positive attitude in lessons

Year 3-Elijah for positive attitude in reading

Year 4— Harriet for resilience school

Year 5— Sofia for positive attitude in learning

Year 6— Gabriel for respect for others



Our skills builders this week are:

Leo B, Delilah & Isaac

Our Century winners are:

Annalise, Olivia, Max and Arjun

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Please see below the KS2 spellings for the next two weeks.

Spelling tests will take place weekly.

Pupils will focus on the same spelling for two weeks, so that the spelling rule is embedded.

Year 3 and Year 4 Spellings

Look and Say	Look Say and Write	Cover and Write	Check and Write Again
century			
certain			
circle			
complete			
consider			

Year 5 Spelling 26. 2. 24 – 11. 3. 24

Words ending with '-sion' and '-ssion' (the shun sound).

'-sion' is usually used when the root word ends in 'd', 'de' or 'se'.

televise → television

'-ssion' is used when the root word ends in 'ss' or 'mit'.

discuss → discussion

Careful — there are some exceptions to this rule.

- | | |
|---------------|-------------------|
| 1. collision | 6. expression |
| 2. permission | 7. conclusion |
| 3. decision | 8. profession |
| 4. discussion | 9. intrusion |
| 5. tension | 10. *mystery word |

Year Six Spellings 26. 2. 24 – 11. 3. 24

Words with silent letters

Silent letters are letters that you don't hear when you say a word.

doubt would know

The 'b', 'l' and 'k' are all silent letters in these words.

- | | |
|-------------|-------------------|
| 1. doubt | 6. fascinated |
| 2. scene | 7. ascend |
| 3. wreckage | 8. exhaust |
| 4. guitar | 9. design |
| 5. vehicle | 10. *mystery word |