



Horspath Church of England Primary School
Blenheim Road
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OXFORD
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Tel/Fax 01865 872702
email: office@horspathschool.org
Headteacher: Mrs Rachel Medley
Chair of Governors: Mr James Askew

Horspath C of E School Newsletter

19th June 2020

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

I hope you are all keeping safe and well and being productive in your home learning. Even though school is only partially open we are as busy as ever and there is lots to fill you in on.

School capacity

Following on from the letter sent to the whole school community last week and various emails and letters sent to individual groups this week. I am writing to let you know that as of Monday 22nd June school is unfortunately at full capacity and we will not be able to admit any more pupils until September 2020. We will continue to hold a waiting list for parents who are critical workers but cannot guarantee a place.

End-of-year reports responses

You will have received a letter from your class teacher about capturing your comments to be included in this year's end-of-year reports. The technical issues with the forms on the home learning seem to persist so if you cannot gain access to the form please answer the questions below and email them back to your child's class teacher no later than **27th June**.

End-of-year report - Home learning questions

1. Child's name
2. My child's favourite memory of this year.
3. My child's least favourite memory.
4. How I think my child has changed this year.
5. What child is looking forward to next year.
6. What my child has got better at.
7. What new thing(s) my child has learned during the lock down.
8. A picture of my favourite piece of work (as an attachment to the email).

Punctuality – for those attending school

Punctuality is always important, but it is even more important now that we are having to have staggered entrance to school. We politely ask that you ensure your child(ren) arrive promptly at their allotted time as there is a chance of spreading the virus between groups if those who are late cross over with those waiting. If children arrive late, they may be asked to wait until the next group has gone in.

Home Learning – Message from Mrs Bailey

From next week, 22nd June, home learning is going to change slightly. Having listened to feedback from children and parents, we are going to offer a variety of activities.



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Challenge Award
FOR EXCELLENCE IN PROVISION FOR
ABLE, GIFTED & TALENTED PUPILS
FEBRUARY 2014





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The English and maths lessons for each year group will still be uploaded onto the site. There will also be a weekly project based around a theme – next week's theme is animals. There will be different activities for EYFS, KS1 (year 1 & 2), LKS2 (years 3 & 4) and UKS2 (years 5 & 6): Lime will have the KS1 & LKS2 projects and Oak will have the LKS2 & UKS2 projects on their class pages.

Families can choose to do the English and maths or the project, or a combination of both. We hope the addition of the project will help keep your child/children motivated to learn and bring back the enjoyment of home learning.

There will be a new project each week covering topics such as famous people, space, transport, or food.

As with VE Day, I will organise photo galleries on the website for each week's project. Please email one or two photos of your child/children's work to me (mbailey@horspathschool.org) by Friday afternoon each week.

Year 6 end-of-year activities - Message from Mr Mayling

The closure period brought with it many changes, and we are sadly unable to do many of the things that we would typically have done to celebrate the end of the academic year. Although we are unable to give our Year 6s the sendoff to secondary school that they were looking forward to, we are hoping to have a number of events within Willow Class to mark this significant point in the children's lives. Firstly, over the course of the next few weeks, we will be compiling a video message from all of the children in Year 6 containing readings, memories and perhaps even a bit of (socially distant) amateur dramatics, that will be shared to our school's website and shared with the children to keep.

We will also be having a couple of special reward days at the end of the year where the children will be able to take part in quizzes, challenges and party games with each other and across our school 'bubbles', either at school or at home, participating via a Google Meet, which I hope will be a close approximation for a typical end-of-year reward day.

Our hope is that in the autumn (when and if social distancing guidelines have been relaxed), we will be able to invite you to special Year 6 Leavers' Afternoon Service either at school or at St. Giles Church. We hope this will enable us to say thank you to the children and celebrate their achievements, giving them the recognition that they deserve.

Finally, can we please say a big thank you to our Year 6s who have returned to school following the closure in a calm, supportive and mature fashion. It is lovely to be able to have you back at school and we are proud of how well you have settled following this lengthy period of uncertainty.



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Wildlife photography competition

Apologies for the delay. We had no entries from Acorn, so we have awarded places in two categories instead of three. The winners of the wildlife competition are:

KS1

1st place Lucien -Beech

2nd place Beatrice -Beech

3rd place Georgie - Lime

KS2

1st place Olivia – Oak

2nd place Max – Oak

3rd place Josie -Willow

Well done to the winners and thank you to everyone who took part. As promised, all entries will be displayed in school from September 2020.

Parent mail update

Improving the way the school runs is still firmly on the agenda even in these difficult times. With that in mind we are moving to a new data system called Integris and adding ParentMail to make communication easier and more effective. Please see the attached letter and please look out for the email or text which will be sent by ParentMail in July.

Dates for your diary

Friday 27th June – last date to get your end of year reports responses to teachers

Wednesday 1st July – possible session for Y4 and Y5 to visit school TBC

Friday 3rd July – School is open this will not be an Inset day

Wednesday 8th July – possible session for Y2 and Y3 to visit school TBC

Week beginning 13th July – End of year reports sent to all children

Friday 17th July – school closes at 1.30pm for all children – **we expect school to be closed to all children until the start of the new academic year in September**

Thursday 3rd September – School reopens for the Autumn term -Please note due to the circumstances of this year we will be having an extra Inset day on **Wednesday 2nd September**

With the exception of the added Inset day on Wednesday 2nd September, the expected term dates and Inset days are on the school website.

Stay alert, stay safe but most of all stay blessed.

Mrs Rachel Medley



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