



Harwell Community Primary School

7th March 2019

School Hall

The first phase of the redevelopment of the school hall was completed during February half term. One of the major aspects was sanding and varnishing of the floor which now looks fabulous. This refurbishment was enabled by additional government capital funding announced in the Chancellor's Autumn Statement.

However, the smell of the varnish lingered for a few days and so we took advantage of the unusually fine weather allowing the floor extra time to harden and the smell to disperse. I would like to thank Georgie and her team, the lunchtime supervisors and all the children and staff who were flexible and supportive, enabling us to eat lunch outside for the first three days.

We also had singing assembly outside on Wednesday afternoon which was a great experience. which we will replicate when the weather brightens once again.



The next phase will see the addition of new indoor PE equipment.

Spotlight on Year 1

What a lovely sunny start to the term we have had! The children have settled back into school brilliantly and seem very excited about this new term.

This term we are learning about Harwell. We will explore the brief history and look closely at the various things Harwell has to offer.

In our literacy sessions we are exploring the story of the Three Little Pigs. We have had fun learning the story and stepping out the scenes in the correct order. We are moving on to explore the characters a little more and then we will begin to plan and write our own version of the story!



Stepping out the story...
Guess which character
Rosie is??



Our maths lessons have included identifying and representing numbers as tens and ones. We've been doing this through counting and grouping objects, using tens frames, drawing and with the base ten equipment. Children continue to count in 2s, 5s and 10s and prove their mathematical responses through reasoning.



Working as a
team to make
our structures.

In science we are looking at materials and construction. We have taken the idea of constructing buildings to complete some fun challenges using some rather strange materials including spaghetti and marshmallows.



Frankie and Beatrice
enjoying the challenge.



Together we have written a set of 'Class Agreements' and are working on cooperation and team building skills so we can be the best learning team!

Cycle and Scooter storage

We are working towards the installation of the new cycle and scooter storage area during the Easter holiday period. In the meantime, I would ask you please to continue to be careful when leaving bicycles and scooters at school - thank you

We are grateful to the HSA (and therefore all of you!) for paying for this new addition to the school which I know will be very popular with the children. Our thanks to some of Year 6 pupils including the school council representatives for helping with the design phase.

Play ground

The School Council have been instrumental in designing markings for the KS2 playground and I am delighted to let you know that this is due to be installed later this month. Funding for this project is from the Healthy Schools Capital Fund - commonly known as the 'sugar tax' . In addition to this, we will install new basket ball hoops funded by the community sports fund.

Class 1

A huge thank you to the Year 1 parents who volunteered to help redecorate class 1. The refurbishment looks lovely and will make such a difference to the learning environment for the children. Although it was hard work, the efforts of everyone involved are really appreciated.



World Book Day

Always a fabulous, colourful day in school and this year the children and staff have excelled as always. We receive a £1 token for each child to spend as part of World Book Day and as in previous years, this has come home to you with details of Roving Books who are visiting the school on Tuesday 12th March. The token can be used towards purchase of books on that day, or can be used at most book shops.

Roving Books will be open for parents to browse and buy from 8.30 to 9.00 am and again from 3.15 to 4.00 pm



Parent Workshop on e-safety

On Wednesday 13th March, we have NSPCC visiting the school as part of their 'Speak Out Stay Safe' campaign for children. As part of this, they will be holding a parent workshop on e-safety in the school hall at 9 am after school drop off.

The workshop will last approximately 45 to 50 minutes, after which there will be age appropriate assemblies for both KS1 and KS2 and then workshops for Years 5 and 6.

A letter with more details has been sent to you.

Please let the office know if you are able to attend the workshop.

School Garden

Now that Spring is officially here, work has started on the school garden. A big thank you to our helpers and the children who love to join them. We do though need more compost and so if you have any spare, please arrange with the office to deliver it to the garden

Thank you

JUNK MODELING

This is a popular choice for Golden Time at the moment and we would be grateful for any empty boxes and plastic bottles which you no longer have any use for -

egg boxes, cereal boxes, plastic drink bottles etc, etc

All will be gratefully received - thank you!

Toy Sale in Foundation Class

On Monday 1st April (*no joke*), FC will be holding their annual toy sale. In previous years there has been a range of toys and books for all ages. If you have anything that you are able to donate, please take it to their classroom at the start or end of any day. All classes will get a turn to browse the sale on the day with donations accepted (maximum of £1) for smaller items. All parents are invited to look at larger items and anything left unsold outside the FC classroom at 3.15

CHESS

The annual UK Chess Challenge is well under way at school with awards being given out in Celebration Assembly. If your child is looking for a different opportunity to play, Wantage Junior Chess Tournament will be held on Saturday 30th March. They are looking for children who like to play for fun. Entry is free and children will be grouped by age. There will be prizes for section winners and certificates for all entrants.

Please contact them directly by email: peterjhemmings@btinternet.com

Key Dates for the next few weeks

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| Saturday 9th March | Spring Ball to raise funds jointly for the school and Little Pippins Pre School |
| Monday 11th to Friday 15th March | British Science Week |
| Tuesday 12th March | Roving Books in school |
| Wednesday 13th March | parent e-safety workshop at 9 am |
| Friday 15th March | Year 5 cake stall |
| Friday 22nd March | Year 4 trip to Cadbury World |
| Wednesday 27th March | Tennis Taster Day |
| Friday 29th March | Year 4 cake stall last Activity Club for this term |

NO GO JOE

Several of our children are singing solos in this Harwell Players production at St Matthew's Church. We wish them well - details about the show and where to purchase tickets are in the flyer later in this newsletter and on the parent noticeboard at school

Respectful - Resilient - Responsible - Resourceful Learners