

Thank you to all our parents and carers

Well done. You have reached week 5 and are still standing! You are doing an amazing job. Even during normal years, week 5 (of the winter term) is one of the hardest weeks as everyone is tired, it is dark outside, the weather is usually pretty grim and it feels like there is no sun in sight.

However, next week is the last week of half term and although we are back remote learning after half term, the February break is an opportunity to reset and replenish those batteries.

So this weekend, be kind to yourselves and give yourselves a huge well done.

Screen Detox Day - Friday February 12th

In the previous five weeks, the children have had an enormous diet of screen time. We are mindful of that and we would like to give the children an opportunity to reset.

NO google meets, google classroom or tapestry activities but we will send some activities through to you early next week so that you will have them in advance.

The activities will be quite open-ended to allow your child to pursue an interest, for example, to bake their favourite recipe together, or to play their favourite game (non-screen based:o).

You can be as creative as possible and we would love to hear about what they got up to perhaps share your favourite things to do on rainy days and lockdowns so that others can enjoy your ideas too.

Numbers

This term has been a challenge for everyone. During week 6 of the first lockdown, we had **62** children attend school across the whole week. Next week, will be the sixth and, for comparison, we have **412** children attending across the week. This illustrates the challenges that we face as we are effectively running two schools. This makes any staff shortages doubly challenging and we appreciate your support with the efforts all the staff are making.

Parents Consultations

This year we will have plan A and Plan B, depending on what is announced on February 22nd.

Plan A: If we open on 8th March to all, then we will have parent-teacher meetings after Easter to give children time to settle back.

Plan B: If we remain closed, we will have parent-teacher meetings during the day of the week beginning of 1st March.

Test, Track and Trace

Please remember to update the school if your child is isolating due to either:

- Displaying symptoms and waiting for test results
- Due to close contact with someone who has tested positive for Covid

This is important whether your child is accessing learning remotely or within school.

If your child is unwell and unable to access their learning, please email the school in the usual way so that we can advise their class teacher

Staff testing

Just a reminder that schools are now taking part in regular asymptomatic Lateral Flow Testing to help reduce community transmission. If a staff member tests positive, the school will follow our procedures, including potential class closures.

The timescales for letting parents know of a class closure would be very tight and emails would, by necessity, have to be sent to you fairly late on a Sunday or Wednesday evening.

Harwell School Association

We continue to be grateful for the support given to us by parents via the HSA. The purpose of the HSA is twofold. Not only do they raise vital funds for the school but they also contribute massively to the whole community that is Harwell School.

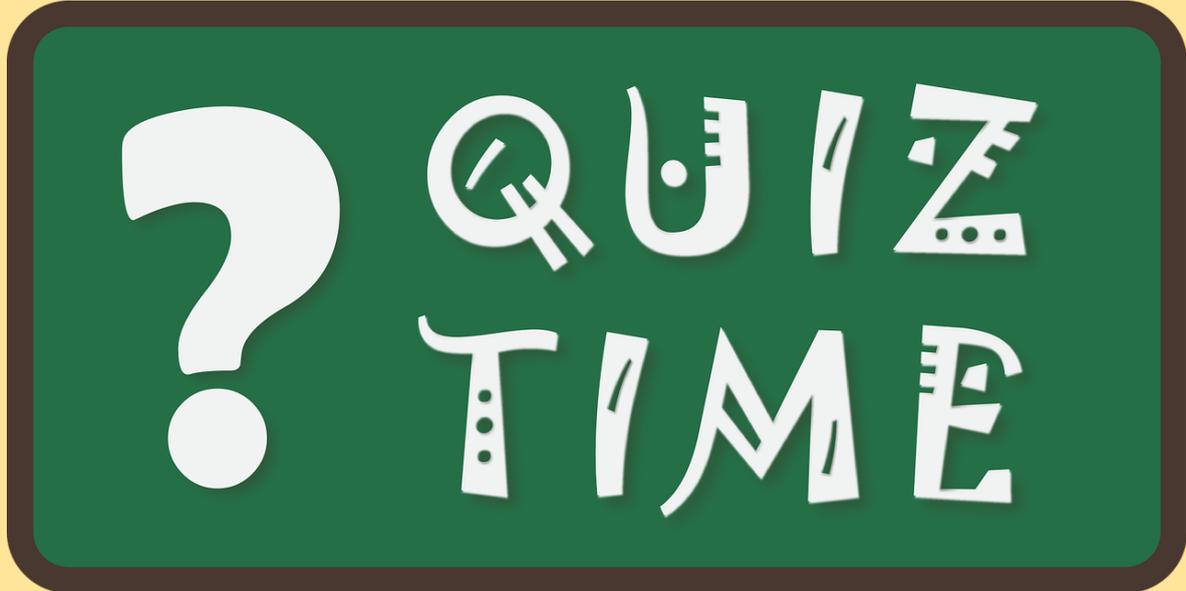
They have 2 fun events planned over the next few weeks:

- A family quiz on next Friday evening (see below)
- A World Book Day themed disco on the afternoon of Friday 5th March - children in school and at home can dress up as their favourite book character (or simply be themselves) and join in the disco fun for the last hour of the school day

Watch out for 'Harworld' Book Day

We look forward to seeing some colourful costumes via google meet at the disco and in the classrooms!

*Harwell School Association Family Quiz
Friday 12th February*



6.30 start

*link will be emailed to families before the
day*

A fun quiz for all the family

No prizes

*No entry fee
but*

*if you would like to make a donation to the HSA
there is an item on parentpay to enable you to do so*