

Newsletter



Thursday 21st December 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Well, the end of term has arrived and what a week we have enjoyed at Place Farm! The children in EYFS and Year 1 performed their nativity brilliantly this week - singing and speaking confidently and wearing their costumes with pride! Thank you to all those families who came to the performances.



Thank you to those who have provided feedback about the Carols on the Playground last week - and to those who recognised how difficult it is to lead an event involving so many pupils outdoors! This really is intended to be a whole school community event and every year we work hard to build in further improvements. We very much appreciate the feedback and will look at how we might make further tweaks next year to increase viewing capacity on the playground.

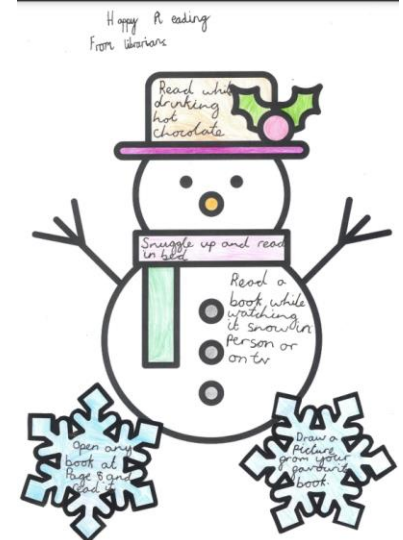
This newsletter contains some helpful information to help guide with reading at home, including some useful video clips. Miss Jenkins has also recently shared a Winter reading challenge for children to complete at home - across all year groups. Please do check Class Dojo for this information.

Thank you once again for your continued support of our school. It has been so wonderful to welcome families to school this last term through our various events - we very much look forward to offering more as the year goes on!

Wishing you all a very merry Christmas!

With very best wishes,

Mrs McConnell
Head of School



Upcoming Dates:

December

School term ends 21st December

January

3rd January: PD Day – school closed

4th January: Spring terms starts – (Thursday)

11th January: Reading Café for 5JG - 9:00-9:30 in school hall
EYFS Tour - 9:15 – further information below

18th January: Reading Café for 5CM - 9:00-9:30 in school hall

24th January: Year 6 Residential to Manor Adventure (until 26th January)

February

1st February: Reading Café for OAP - 9:00-9:30 in school hall

8th February: Reading Café for OLP - 9:00-9:30 in school hall

15th February: Reading Café for 6EJ - 9:00-9:30 in school hall

Half term: 19th-23rd February

29th February: Reading Café for 6SL - 9:00-9:30 in school hall

KS2 Snack Hut and after School Club Snacks

We wish to make you aware that as of 3rd January 2024 we are no longer able to offer a KS2 snack hut for morning break, or sell snacks for children attending after school club.



All children are encouraged to bring a snack from home to eat at break or after school.

The Christmas Story - EYFS and Year 1 Nativity



What a fantastic end to the Autumn term. The Christmas Nativity was a huge success. The children have all worked so hard to learn the songs and say their lines, we are so very proud of all of them. A big thank you to all of the parents/carers who supplied costumes, they all looked incredible.

We hope you enjoyed the performance as much as we did. Merry Christmas to you all!



Reading at Home – support and guidance

To support you to listen to your child read at home, our Reading team put together some videos that demonstrate questions you can ask when reading together. These were shared on Class Dojo earlier this week.

EYFS-Year 2

As Sounds-Write is relatively new across the school, Mrs. Stewart has recorded a video to show you how you can support your child to read at home. She showcases how to help them with blending and segmenting as they read the book aloud. She also shows how to use key questioning to help them gain an understanding of what they have read. If you have any questions about how to support your child with reading at home, please do ask.

[EYFS-Y1 Reading at Home](#)

KS2

Please find attached a video from Mrs. Stewart to support you with listening to your child read. She showcases how to use key questioning to help them gain an understanding of what they have read. These questions help your child to develop their comprehension skills when reading and are useful to ask whenever you hear your child read. I have attached a file which shows other questions you can ask when listening to your child read. If you have any questions about how to support your child's reading comprehension and fluency, please do ask.

[KS2 Reading at Home](#)

Here are some questions you can ask your child as they read:

Before reading the book:

- What might happen in the story?
- What genre will this story be? E.g. fantasy, comedy, horror.
- What do we call the writing on the back of the book - (blurb). What does the blurb tell us?

During the reading of the book:

- What might happen next?
- How do you think the story might end?
- Who is your favourite character? Why?
- Who is the character you like the least? Why?

At the end of the book:

- Would you change any part of the story? How?
- Which part of the story was the funniest, scariest, saddest and happiest? Find some evidence in the text to support your opinion.
- Would you like to read another book by this author? Why?
- Does your opinion of the characters change during the story? How? Why?
- If you met one of the characters from the story what would you say to him/her?

Video from National Literacy Trust:

Reading a book offers so many benefits for children and adults alike. It can make us laugh, it can thrill us and it can even make us cry. Reading can help us find out more about the world and connect our lives with the lives of others. But what about reading for pleasure? Why does reading for pleasure really matter? Take a moment and listen to Lucy from the National Literacy Trust as she explains why reading for pleasure is so important and shares some top tips on how to encourage a love of books with your child:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IA_hDIRNSGY&t=169s

Resources from National Literacy Trust:

Please find attached a link from National Literacy Trust with lots of activities to do over the winter break: <https://wordsforlife.org.uk/themes/winter-reading-and-activities/>

Haverhill Pantomime Trail

Running throughout December, families can pick up a free map from Haverhill Library or Haverhill Arts Centre. The map shows locations throughout town where a pantomime image or prop are hidden. Complete your map and return it to the above locations to receive a prize.

Morning and Afterschool club helped to make one of the displays!



Haverhill Pantomime Trail

Test your pantomime knowledge with this festive town trail! Find the props or pictures in the windows of each of the places listed. Which pantomime story do you think they're from? If you can think of two answers, pick your favourite!

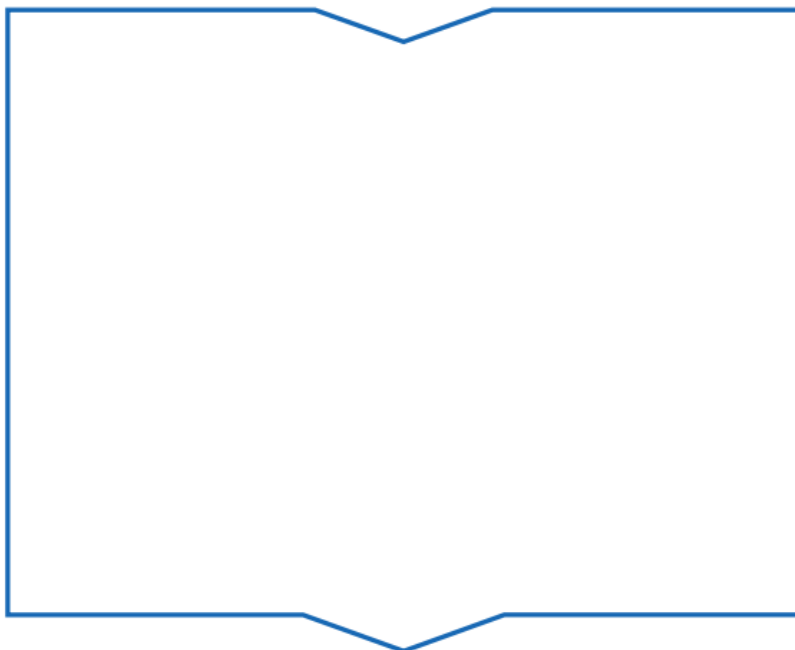


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|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Haverhill Library _____ | 5. TVL Allstar Videos _____ | 9. The Link _____ |
| 2. The Craft Basket _____ | 6. Observatory the Opticians _____ | 10. Clarks _____ |
| 3. C&B Beautiful _____ | 7. Chapman & Son _____ | 11. The Works _____ |
| 4. Quick Service Shoe Repairs _____ | 8. Clinton Cards _____ | 12. Glasswells _____ |

The National Literacy Trust is a registered charity no. 1116260 (England and Wales) and SC042944 (Scotland).

Haverhill Pantomime Trail

Running throughout December



Pantomimes are usually based on fairy tales. Pick your favourite fairy tale – it can be one you found on the trail or one you've shared at school or home.

Draw a scene from the fairy tale you choose – either in the space provided or on a bigger piece of paper. Think about the characters, the setting and the action.

Once you're done, you can share your drawing with your family and friends and see if they can tell what story it's from!

Fill in the info below and return your trail to Haverhill Library or Arts Centre to get a small prize.

School: _____

School year group: _____

Postcode: _____

Thank you to the Haverhill businesses who have supported this trail. Visit literacytrust.org.uk/suffolk or follow us on Facebook @SuffolkLiteracyTrust to find out more about the National Literacy Trust's work in the county.

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Fundraising

At Place Farm we want to provide children with as many exciting opportunities as we can, in a safe and enriching environment. To help us do this, we are holding fundraising events throughout the year. Any money raised during these events go straight back to the children in various ways. It could include; new books, new resources for lunchtimes, new classroom resources to support learning or, paying for visitors.

Our next fundraising event will be:

The Little Recyclers



To support this fundraising event, we ask that you **send in any old clothes** that you no longer wear. This can be children's or adult's clothing.

These clothes will be collected by The Little Recyclers and around 95% of the collected clothes are reused, upcycled, or recycled. The remaining 5% of clothes are turned to rags that are used for industrial purposes.

The Little Recyclers then pay us 55p per kilo that they collect.

Please see the list below before sending any items in:

We Accept*:

- ✓ Good quality clean clothing (adult's, children's, baby)
- ✓ Shoes (paired)
- ✓ Bags
- ✓ Hats & scarves
- ✓ Belts
- ✓ Fashion accessories
- ✓ Swimwear
- ✓ Jewellery
- ✓ Lingerie
- ✓ Perfumes

We Can't Accept:

- ✗ Uniforms
- ✗ Dirty, wet, ripped, damaged clothing
- ✗ Traditional clothing
- ✗ Underwear & socks
- ✗ Duvets & pillows
- ✗ Carpets, rugs, mats, curtains
- ✗ Linen, towels, bedding
- ✗ Single shoes
- ✗ Furniture, mattresses
- ✗ Stationery, hangers
- ✗ Workwear
- ✗ Hygiene items, diapers
- ✗ Baby stuff (prams, baskets, etc.)
- ✗ Food, medicines
- ✗ Books, CDs, DVDs
- ✗ Bric-a-brac, kitchen utilities (pots, pans, etc.)
- ✗ Electrical appliances
- ✗ Soft/hard toys

The deadline for bringing in clothes will be confirmed after Christmas.

Other notices

PE Kit

During the colder winter weather that we are now having, please ensure that your child's PE kit includes a jumper and tracksuit bottoms as PE will still take place outside.

Haverhill Newt Pond

A message has been sent to all schools in the area to report that the newt pond in Haverhill is frozen over and they have had some issues with school pupils throwing logs onto the ice. Please remind your children to take care, act safely and act responsibly if near this area and around the frozen water.

Sports Clubs

These will be starting up again after Christmas. Further communication to follow on our return.

Upcoming EYFS Tour and Open Event



Reception 2024 Open Events

Join us for a warm Place Farm welcome, a tour of the Early Years Unit and an opportunity to meet the EYFS teachers

Thursday 11th January 2024 at 9.15am

To book a slot please contact the School Office 01440 702836 or email admin@placefarm.org.uk

It's Christmas Time – Parents guide to help keep children safe online

It's Christmas Time!



A Parent's Guide to Social Media



A Parent's Guide to Sharing Pictures



A Parent's Guide to Gaming



A Parent's Guide to Online Grooming



scan the QR code with your phone's camera to see the guides on our website



A Parent's Guide to Live Streaming



A Parent's Guide to Online Influencers



A Parent's Guide to Fake News



A Parent's Guide to Privacy Settings

It's always best to be prepared

Many parents may be planning to give electronic gadgets to their children this festive period.

Our guide is designed to help parents take a realistic approach to help keep their children safe when using the internet, social media and playing online games.

Scan the QR code to find out more.

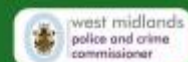
Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.

Parents please contact your school to enquire attending their next e-safety workshop or have any concerns.

Working with Home Office 'PREVENT', The Police and Crime Commissioner and Children's Safeguarding Partnerships to help keep children safe online.

Skips Educational Email: info@skipsed.com Tel: +44 121 227 1941

Developed in partnership with



Skips

www.skipssafetynet.org