



Newsletter – Spring Term March 2016.

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome

Welcome to the second newsletter of the term which aims to give you a flavour of recent and forthcoming events at Hartsfield. We have, as always, been very busy working hard and constantly learning new skills.

Year 5 Ancient Greece Day

On 1st February, our Year 5 children took part in an Ancient Greece Day as part of their History curriculum looking at the achievements, legacy and influences of Ancient Greece. Year 5 learnt a great deal, had a huge amount of fun and were perfect in character role dressed in costumes. The children experienced a variety of crafts and skills including; carving letters in wax, producing apothecary remedies for ailments, making mosaic tiles, designing charm bracelets and making clay bowls. A fascinating day for everyone and many thanks to our fabulous parent helpers and wonderful cake makers!



Making offerings to the temple oracle.



Making charm bracelets.



Preparing to make mosaic tiles.



Apothecary materials for herbal remedies.

Year 3 Rainforests

As part of their Geography curriculum, the Year 3 children have been studying the ecosystems of Rainforests around the world and debating the issues around deforestation. As part of this project, the children were visited by 'Zoolab' who introduced them to some of the animals that might be common to Rainforests, including a female tarantula! The children have also been writing some very impressive letters to Rainforest organisations and are holding a cake sale next week to raise funds to adopt a Rainforest animal.



I cannot believe I am holding a corn snake!



A pigmy hedgehog native to rainforests.



It is just beautiful!



A white tree frog, named after zoologist Dr White.

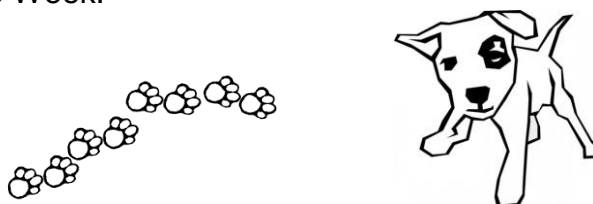
Baldock Primary Music Festival

On Friday 12th February, Year 6 spent the day at Knights Templar School taking part in the Baldock Primary Festival of Music which included children from the Baldock Town schools and villages and was led by Mrs Dawson, a member of the KTS music department. Parents and staff were invited to the afternoon performance and we were all proud of the children and in particular, our Hartsfield children who behaved exceptionally all day and were quite superb when they sang. Baldock is very fortunate to have strong networks across the school community which we all value and support.

Science Week

We all enjoy our themed weeks at school which add another layer of interest and excitement to our learning and experiences for the children. At the end of the term, before we break up for the holidays, we will be holding a Science week during the week of 29th March to Friday 1st April 2016. The theme will be 'Living things and their Habitats' Throughout the week, the children will be completing a range of animal themed activities in class linked to the Science theme including, information about animals and their habitats, predation and food chains, life cycles, classification, artwork, IT research, conservation work, stories and poems, music and much more. On Friday 1st April we will encourage the children to come to school dressed as an animal. This could be an 'animal print onesie/ P.J's, a spotty T-shirt or simply make an animal mask to wear for the day.

On Wednesday 30th March and Thursday 31st March, we are delighted to be welcoming a visitor from the Dogs Trust to the school. We will be holding assemblies and class workshops for all of the children ranging from 'How to approach an animal safely' and 'Basic Needs of Animals' to themes of 'Responsible Dog Ownership' and 'Animal Welfare Acts.' As a thank you for their time with us, we are planning to hold cake sales on Wednesday 30th and Thursday 31st March to raise funds for the Dogs Trust and we hope that you will support us by baking during that week. We have our cake co-ordinators in place and are busy talking about recipes! Thank you to Miss Childs for planning and organising the Science Week.



Our new addition to the Library

Following the development of our beautiful and continually busy library last year, we have been turning our attention to extending the library theme to our reading book areas for the Early Years, Year One and Year Two children. Thanks to the generous support of the FHSA, we have had that work completed and Mrs Nelson has purchased a significant number of new reading books which we are currently labelling ready to be devoured by the children! Our children love reading and are always excited by new books.



Easter Eggs for the School Council

We all know that our School Council plays an important role in the life of the school at Hartsfield and all our Councillors take their role very responsibly ensuring that the voice of all children is heard and expressing their ideas by influencing projects around the school. The School Council have once again asked to run an Easter Egg Raffle and the School Councillors would be very grateful if you would be generous enough to donate an Easter Egg for the School Council Easter Egg Raffle.

The Easter Eggs will be displayed in the entrance area and the School Council will be selling raffle tickets from 16th March 2016 until the raffle is drawn by the School Councillors on Thursday 24th March 2016. This event is exceptionally popular with our children because it is organised by the children, for the children and your support would be greatly appreciated.



Sainsbury's Vouchers

Sainsbury's are currently running the Active Kids Voucher scheme and I have been asked by Mrs Lawes to thank you for all your contributions to date and to request that you continue to send the vouchers into school. Thank you.

Finally

I have added as many confirmed dates as possible on the Diary Dates page and further dates and information will follow; in the meantime, do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any queries you feel we can help with.

Yours sincerely,

Suzanne Summerhayes.

Headteacher.

Dates for your Diary – Spring Term - 2nd half term 2016

Wednesday 24 th February 2016	Year 4 visit Baldock Fireside Festival
Wednesday 2 nd March 2016	Magistrates in the Community working with Year 6
Thursday 3 rd March 2016	Book Swop in School for World Book Day
Thursday 3 rd March 2016	Girls Football at St Christopher's School
Friday 4 th March 2016	Fire Service visit Year 6 / fire danger awareness
Monday 7 th - Friday 11 th March	Year 3 Rainforest Cake Sale
Wednesday 9 th March 2016	7.30pm FHSA meeting – all welcome
Thursday 10 th March 2016	Boys Football Tournament @ St Christopher's School
Tuesday 15 th March 2016	Boys Football Tournament @ St John's School
Wednesday 16 th March 2016	School Council Easter Egg Raffle Tickets go on sale
Monday 21 st March 2016	Year 3 'Rocks and Fossils' workshops Year 6 'Evolution' workshops
Tuesday 22 nd March 2016	Netball Tournament – A Team
Wednesday 23 rd March 2016	6pm Year 6 Parents meeting re: PGL Residential Trip
Thursday 24 th March 2016	School Council Easter Egg Raffle Draw
Thursday 24 th March 2016	Netball Tournament – B Team
Friday 25 th March 2016	Good Friday –School Closed
Monday 28 th March 2016	Easter Monday -School Closed
Tuesday 29 th March 2016	Start of Science Week in school.
Wednesday 30 th March 2016	Dogs Trust leading Assembly and working with Early Years, Year 1 and Year 2 classes. Dogs Trust cake sale.
Wednesday 30 th March 2016	School Nurses: height, weight & audiology screening for Early Years children.
Wednesday 30 th March 2016	Parent Consultations 4.00pm -7.00pm
Thursday 31 st March 2016	Dogs Trust leading Assembly and working with Year 3, 4, 5 & 6 classes. Dogs Trust cake sale.
Thursday 31 st March 2016	Parent Consultations 4.00pm -7.00pm
Friday 1 st April 2016	Dress up as an animal/ animal theme day.
Friday 1 st April 2016	End of SpringTerm at 3.15pm.
Monday 18 th April 2016	Staff Training Day.
Tuesday 19 th April 2016	Summer Term begins for children.
Monday 25 th April 2016	Year 4 trip to St Albans.
Monday 2 nd May 2016	May Bank Holiday – School Closed.
Monday 9 th May 2016	School Assessment Week
Thursday 12 th May 2016	Van Cols Photographer in: Early Years & Year 6
Saturday 14 th May 2016	Baldock Street Fair.

Monday 16 th May 2016	Year 6 PGL School Journey week to Caythorpe Court
Tuesday 17 th May 2016	School Nurse: Parent Consultations
Wednesday 18 th May 2016	Early Years trip to Wimpole Home Farm
Friday 20 th May 2016	The Big Dance school event
Wednesday 25 th May 2016	Year 1 trip to Willows Farm
Friday 27 th May 2016	Staff Inset Day - School Closed
Mon 30 th May – Friday 3 rd June 2016	Half Term Week
Monday 13 th June 2016	Year 1 National Phonics Screening
Tuesday 14 th June 2016	Year 5 visit Walton-on-the-Naze
Wednesday 15 th June 201	Hartsfield Music Showcase at the Icknield Centre – more info to follow.
Thursday 16 th June 2016	Year 2 visit Marston Vale
Tuesday 21 st June 2016	Early Years & KS1 Sports morning
Thursday 23 rd June 2016	Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 Sports morning.
Thursday 14 th July 2016	Secondary Visit day for Year 6 and Hartsfield Children visit new class/ teacher.
Thursday 21st July 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11.00am Year 6 Leavers Concert • End of Academic Year - 12.00 midday • End of School Day.
Friday 22 nd July 2016 Monday 25 th July 2016	Staff training Occasional Day
Thursday 1 st September 2016	Staff training
Friday 2 nd September 2016	Staff training
Monday 5 th September 2016	Academic Year Autumn Term starts for children.

MORE DATES AND INFORMATION TO FOLLOW AS THE TERM PROGRESSES