



HARFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENTS' NEWSLETTER

Term 1B - November 2024

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Welcome to Term 1B. How time flies. I will begin my newsletter, by thanking you all for attending our Harvest assembly last half term despite the inclement weather. I am sure that you will agree that the children did us all proud! Thank you also for the wonderful Harvest Gifts that were sent in to be distributed. This all added to the ambience of the occasion.

School's PTA AGM

Thank you to those of you who attended our Annual General Meeting held last half term. A new Committee for this academic year 2024–25 were elected as follows:

Mrs Charmaine Buckley–Thomas – Chairperson
Mr Tom Wortley - Vice Chairperson
Mrs Debbie Augustus - Secretary (Teacher)
Mrs Mercy Chiseya – Treasurer

Members

Miss Sinead Green (Teacher)
Miss Erica Richards (Teaching Assistant)
Miss Sherrilee Phillips
Miss Justina Peters
Miss Paula Moyce
Mr O'Mence Murawu
Mrs Elizabeth Clingham
Mrs Jane Gangat
Miss Kerry Yon
Miss Julie Rose Brinsden
Miss Charlotte Williams
Mrs Carlean Crowie (ex – officio member)

Thank you to everyone for your support.

Speaker Bear

The half term commenced with the arrival of Speaker Bear to our school. Speaker Bear is a bear version of the Speaker of the House of Commons.

The bear was sent from London to promote Parliament Week (18th – 22nd November) on the island. The Governor's Office invited schools to have Speaker Bear for a week. Throughout that week, Speaker Bear interacted with teaching and learning. Photographs of this were taken and posted on the Governors web page for you to 'like' and share -

The school with the most 'likes' and 'shares' will get to keep Speaker Bear so make sure you visit the website <https://www.facebook.com/GOASHT>

Public Holiday

Friday, 15th November is the Kings birthday. This day is a Public Holiday.

EYFS Stay and Play

This Stay and Play session for EYFS parents, will take place on Thursday 28th November 2024 from 9.30 – 10.30 am. We look forward to seeing you all there.

Sponsored 'Wacky' Walk

As part of our Healthy Schools initiative and to raise some funds for our PTA, we are planning a Sponsored 'Wacky' Walk to take place on Wednesday, 11th December 2024. Sponsor forms should be returned on this day.

The route is divided into three categories: Mini Mile - EYFS and SEND pupils; Short Route - KS1 pupils and Long Route - KS2 pupils. Further details can be seen, on your child's Sponsor Sheet.

To add to the ambience and fun, we would like pupils to come dressed as 'wacky' as possible.

Swimming

Swimming sessions commenced this half term. The timetable for this are as follows:

S.E.N.D Group – Monday – 10.50 – 12.00

Reception & Yr 1/ 2 – Thursday – 10.50 – 12.00

KS2 – Friday – 10.50 – 1.45

The Primary Schools Swimming Gala, is scheduled to take place on Friday, 6th December at the Jamestown Swimming Pool. We are in the process of preparing for this event. On the day, pupils are asked to come adequately prepared, with a hat, sun block and cool clothing. Plenty to drink is essential. They are required to bring their own packed lunch and luxuries, as visits to the tuck shop will not be allowed. We have made this rule to ensure smooth operations. However, parents if they wish, can buy from the tuck shop for their children if they so desire. Parents are reminded that this is a school day and they should not call their children away from their allocated school 'spot' as this makes it harder for teachers to monitor pupils.

Anti-Bullying Week

Anti-bullying week is scheduled for the 10th to - 14th November 2024. We hope to use this week as a platform to continue to stress and promote the 'Say No to Bullying' theme. It is well documented, that pupil's wellbeing is essential for good learning so we must facilitate safe and happy environments for our pupils.

During the week, all classes will place a spotlight on bullying behaviour and its consequences. In addition, we will be having an 'Odd Socks Day' on Thursday, 14th November 2024, to promote diversity, and highlight that, it is not a bad thing to stand out and we should be proud of our uniqueness and differences. Most importantly, Odd Socks Day is designed to be **fun!**

I look forward to seeing everyone in his or her odd socks on Thursday, 14th November 2024. The day will begin with an anti-bullying assembly.

Cake Bake Sale

On Friday, 8th November, our SEND group joined with the SEND group from SPPS and had a cake stall at the Market. The purpose of this was to raise funds for their SEND Christmas Party. The amount raised from this event was £250.00. This sum will be split between the two schools.

As you are aware, on Wednesday 13th November 2024, as a further fundraiser, the group from Harford will be making and selling pasta to staff and pupils.

Parliament Week

UK Parliament Week is an annual event that promotes awareness of the role and functions of the UK Parliament. This year's event will be held between 18th and 22nd November.

As British Citizens, of the Overseas Territories we are encouraged to, engage with UK Parliament week. During the week in school, our Yr 5 /6 pupils will be taking part in activities to promote parliamentary principles.

Student Council

A new student council for this academic year has been elected as follows.

Head Boy – Zack Phillips (Yr 6)

Head Girl – Hollie Benjamin (Yr 6)

Yr 1 /2 – Leah Hopkins and Blake Thomas

Yr 3 – Chloe–Onna Phillips and Kade Yon

Yr 4 – Hailie–Jade Cranfield and Kunashe Shangwa

Yr 5 – Maitah Chiseya and Nashaun Royles

Congratulations and well done to you all!

For new parents, the purpose of the Student Council is to be a 'pupil voice' for the school. They are elected by their peers through the process of secret ballot.

Student councillors are role models for the school. They are good communicators who can give pupil ideas to the Leadership team for school improvement. This year, teacher Miss Amber Isaac, will lead the council. One of the key duties of the Council is to represent the school at official functions.

If your child is, a councillor and you have further questions around this, then do not hesitate to contact me at the school.

Remembrance Day

The annual Remembrance Day service is scheduled for Sunday, 10th November 2024 at the Cenotaph, in Jamestown. On this day, the newly elected Student Council will represent the school at the ceremony. Pupils are requested to dress smartly in black dress trousers and a white buttoned shirt with a collar. They will be loaned one of the school's green ties to complete their attire. We will meet outside of the Public Library at around 10:15 am. As it is very hot in Jamestown, it might be useful for councillors to bring with them a hat and some water.

Special Visits

You are all aware of the special visits taking place this half term from officers abroad. Last week an FCDO team in connection with the Primary Reorganisation visited us. This week we have a team from the Hampshire Local Education Authority whose remit is to assess the quality of teaching and learning within our schools. Their findings will determine future training and development needs.

Commonwealth Essays

I am very pleased to report that twenty three of our pupils gained awards in this (2023 -24) year's Commonwealth Essay competition. We are thrilled with such an overwhelming amount.

They are:

Bronze Award:

Yr 3 - Zoey Moyce, Jalisa Essex

Yr 4 - Ellias Buckley, Irie Ellick, Nashaun Royles and Conor Phillips

Yr 5 - Kimada Murawu, Yazmin Walters, Kudakwashe Makamure

Yr 6 - Skyla Thomas, Kaiden Glanville, Mia Hopkins

Silver Award

Yr 3 – Thandi Phillips

Yr 4 - Maitah Chiseya, Georgia Thomas, Emma Jacobs

Yr 5 - Annalyn Williams, Hollie Benjamin, Micah Henry

Yr 6 – Hollie Leo

Gold Award

Yr 3 – Bailee Benjamin, Hailie–Jade Cranfield

Yr 6 – Ava Phillips

Congratulations and well done to you all!

Visitors to School

A reminder to all parents/ carers, that in the interests of the Safeguarding of pupils and property, when visiting the school during the day for any reason, you must first report to the school office where you will be issued with a visitors badge. At no time should parents / carers enter the school and go straight to classrooms and other areas.

Thank You all for your co-operation in this matter.

Christmas Carolling

Yr 6 pupils will be carolling in front of the Canister, Jamestown, on Friday, December 13th at 11:00 am. They will be taking a collection for school funds. Do come and support them if you are able to.

Christmas Production

Our annual Christmas Production is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, December 10th at 7.00 pm at St Matthews Church. The title this year is '**I'm Gonna Shine!**' Here at the school its all systems go, in preparation for a fine production.

On the day, all pupils and staff involved in the production will be allowed to go home at 12:30 pm to allow them to rest and be ready to return to the church by 6.00 pm. Nursery pupils are not involved on this occasion.

As is customary, a collection will be taken and shared between the school and St Mathews Church Parish. We look forward to seeing you all there.

School End of Year / Christmas Party

This event is scheduled to take place at the school on Thursday, 12th December. The theme

for this year is 'Superheroes' Pupils are encouraged to come dressed as their favourite superhero with a festive twist if they wish!

All children will be provided with a BBQ lunch courtesy of the PTA. Please note that Nursery children will stay at school for the **whole day**, on this occasion. More details for the day will be made known when they are firmed up.

Alternative Home arrangements

Please be reminded that if your child requires an alternative home arrangement on an afternoon, the school must be informed in **WRITING, prior to, or on the morning of the change**. For safeguarding reasons, we will not accept a 'word of mouth' instruction from your child; instead, we will take it that home arrangements are the same.

Public Library Holiday Activities

Christmas Crafts for all Primary aged pupils, will be held at the Public Library on Tuesday, 17th December between 10.00 and 12.00 noon. Do encourage your children to come along. These activities are free of charge and guaranteed to be fun.

Schools will close on Friday, 13th December and re open for the children on Tuesday, 14th January 2025. Monday, 13th January is a SDD.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all on behalf of the school, a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year when it comes.

Yours sincerely,

Carlean Crowie (Mrs)

Head Teacher

