

Welcome to Mrs Davies'
weekly newsletter



5th May 2017

The Voice



Dear Parents

The Reception children put a smile on all the children's faces today with their class assembly. It was lovely to see the youngest children in the school showing such commitment and bravery—it isn't easy standing up and speaking in front of a hall full of parents and children.

Thank you to Ladybird class for starting our Friday off in such a lovely way.

SATs in Year 6

Next week is an important week for our Year 6 pupils and staff actually, as the National Key Stage 2 SATs are held from Monday, 8th May to Thursday 11th May.

This is the very first time that Harpenden Academy have had a Year 6 to take part in the SATs and we wish them all the very best and I am very proud of the Year 6 achievements to date. I have witnessed how hard the children have worked towards this moment and I know that whatever the tests hold the children will do their very best.

The SATs are an important hoop all schools have to jump through but I know that Mrs Watson, Miss Curtis and Mrs Storey have tried hard to ensure we create a Year 6 of children who are good learners and more importantly who are able to use their skills and knowledge to perform as well as they can in the SATs, but also in their schooling now and in the future.

Week beginning Mon, 8th May

SATs week (Year 6)

Celebrating SATS

**I'd like to celebrate the fact that SATS are nearly here,
Each morning next week we'll laugh and give a cheer.
Grateful for the chance to show the amazing progress we've all made,
And super proud of the positive attitudes to learning that we've all displayed.
Excited that once they're over, we can continue learning in a fun, creative
way,
Fully returning the sparkles of joy and curiosity in your eyes every day.
Knowing that whatever our test scores, we've all done our absolute best,
Showing positivity, resilience and of course a growth mindset.
I've loved watching you learn and prepare together, in small groups and
pairs,
Helping, coaching, encouraging and whooping each other with genuine care.
Thank you for coming in smiling every day to our test-tastic home,
Never giving up, complaining or giving a moan or groan.
Please remember the tests can't assess what's important in my eyes,
That you all have a 'can do' attitude, believe in yourselves, are happy and
always kind.
Taking a test cannot assess your depth of learning or your passion,
Or tell how great you are at running, skating, art, baking or fashion.
SATS can't prepare you for your exciting transition to secondary school,
But I know you'll all fly with your motivation, love of learning and ability to
stand tall.
So embrace these tests for what they are and smile throughout each one,
Knowing I couldn't be prouder of you; each and every one.**

Mrs Kate Watson

Friday, 19th May Occasional Day

Just to remind parents that the school will be closed on Friday, 19th May for essential training. Mrs Lucynda Howard has offered to run a holiday club for the children of working parents and all parents have been emailed this information.

Lucynda will run the Art club from 8.30am – 2.20pm, and throughout the day the children will be working on creating a finished piece of art work such as a sculpture or a painting.

Lucynda is an experienced Art teacher and is used to running all day Art clubs at other schools in the area.

If you are interested in your child attending this Art club on Friday 19th May please contact Lucynda directly to reserve a space. The spaces will be allocated on a first come first served basis and the cost of the day will be £30.00 per child. The children will need to bring a packed lunch for the day. If your child already attends the Art club on a Friday Lucynda will deduct the daily rate of £7.00.

Lucynda's contact detail are as follows:

Email : Lucyndahoward@yahoo.co.uk

Mobile: 07821907978

Class Assembly dates: 9.00-9.30am. All Parents/Carers welcome.

Date	Class
Monday 15 th May	Dahl Year 4/5
Monday 12 th June	Austen Y4
Monday 26 th June	Aslan and BFG Y1/2
Friday 14 th July	Shakespeare Y6

Can I ask parents politely not to bring in hot drinks to the assemblies as for safety reasons it is not appropriate to have hot drinks around the children. In addition staff are having to pick up the disposable coffee cups at the end of the assemblies. it would be more valuable use of their time to be in the class with the children.

Sainsbury's vouchers

Thank you so much for all the Sainsbury's vouchers that we have received for sporting resources. Please continue to send them in as we really appreciate being able to buy extra things. They are no longer available from Sainsburys however if you have any lurking about please send them our way.

FOHA UPDATE

FOHA UPDATE

Thank you to all who attended the Comedy Night on Saturday and to all those who helped make it a success. It was a fantastic, well-attended night with some great comedians, music and wine. **Even better we raised another £300 for school resources.**

Coming up we have the opportunity to **raise funds for the school without asking parents** to put their hands in their pockets again – wow! Of course, we still need help though!

Through a parent of the school, we have the opportunity to serve teas and coffees at **Europe's biggest Demolition Show** at Herts Showground (22-24 June). Thursday and Friday is trade with Saturday open to families - so great if you have construction vehicle obsessed children.

We plan to be there 9-5 for the 3 days - so can anyone help? Particularly Saturday – please contact me, your reps or Ruth Penfold directly if you can offer some time.

Can anyone help with operating the candyfloss or popcorn machine (full training given) at the **Harpenden Carnival on 10 June** (Slots between 12.30-5 pm available).

All funds raised from both events will go towards our next project – **wall-mounted gym equipment for all children to use in the school hall** – an excellent focus for fundraising, which will benefit all children at the school – we hope you agree.

A market researcher by trade, I need the **FOHA parent survey** to be statistically significant - it's in my blood - **so can some more people complete it please.** I'd like a nice round base size of 100 and we only have 34 at present.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdnGu39GqU5gXqsKehXhTJ0lltnA3UGW3oXthJrsq_4Mz2OxA/viewform

Micro Scooters for Schools Scheme

We are delighted that Harpenden Academy is now part of the *Micro Scooters for Schools Scheme*. This means you can help raise money for the school, with 10% of any purchase you make coming directly to Harpenden Academy. The code can be used for any UK purchase (scooters, accessories, parts) from the website, so please share with family and friends.

If you're in the market for a scooter, accessory or part - visit www.micro-scooters.co.uk



- At the checkout screen select the "Apply School Code" box (on the left-hand side, next to the delivery costs)
- Apply our school code 143648
- When you apply the school code, a blue box will appear confirming the school and how much your purchase contributes

Happy scooting – and fundraising!

Geraldine

Changes to school uniform

The Governors met last week to approve proposed changes to the school uniform. I am currently finalising details with our uniform provider and once this is confirmed I will be in a position to inform parents what the new uniform will look like and hopefully have mannequins in the entrance area to show the actual garments.

Finally....

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

Kind regards

Mrs Davies