

The Voice

14 October 2016



Dear Parents,

Our day started with a fantastically informative, engaging and calming assembly led by Year 6. The children have been learning about mindfulness (trying to calm your body and mind and be in the present) and they shared their learning with the rest of the school. From mindful eating to making mindful journeys rather than mind full journeys. The children explained and modelled various techniques that are helping them to keep calm and appreciate the moment. Please try some of the techniques at home and let us know how you got on with the positivity challenge set by Year 6 children to try to say and think only positive thoughts today!



A reminder that our Harvest Festival assembly will be on Friday 21 October at 9am. Our Harvest Festival Assembly will be conducted by Rev Jane Weedon, from the United Reform Church. We are asking for donations to support the church's charity work and their chosen charity is "Signposts". Signposts' in Luton and Dunstable provide temporary accommodation for people who are homeless. They have emergency shelters providing shelter on a temporary basis and help their clients with life skills like shopping, budgeting, cooking and personal care to help them to be able to sustain permanent accommodation in future.

Please find below a list of the items which would be most welcomed should you wish to make a donation. Our Harvest Festival Assembly will start at the normal time 9am. As always, parents/ carers are welcome. **These are the items that Signposts need most:**

- Cans baked beans , Cans minced beef, stewing steak
- Cans spaghetti , beans, tomatoes, Cans hot dog sausages, meatballs etc.
- Tea, Instant coffee, long life milk (UHT)
- Cans vegetables: carrots, peas, sweetcorn, potatoes etc.
- Cordial (orange, blackcurrant, lemon, etc)
- Cans tomatoes , tomato ketchup, brown sauce, salt and pepper
- Cans tuna, sardines
- Cook-in pasta sauce, pasta, rice
- Cans fruit , evaporated milk , custard

Other items that Signposts need:

- Toothbrush
- Toothpaste
- Shower gel
- Soap

The children can bring their donations to the hall on arrival to school where all the donations will be displayed for all to see. I am hoping that this is a wonderful occasion when school and community come together showing our support for not only each other but also those in the immediate surroundings. **We are also looking for volunteers to drive the donations to Signposts next Friday. Please let the office know if you are able to help.**

Digby puts Harpenden Academy on the Map! On Tuesday, Digby in Year 4 discussed being on the School Council and how they plan to spend the £200 allocated per class on playground zoning. Digby did a wonderful job and we are all very proud. Check out his recording on Chris Evan's Radio 2 show.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b07xxppl>

A BIG THANK YOU to the Friends of Harpenden Academy for their very generous donation of £3000 for musical instruments and a further £1800 for the play equipment.



Happy Birthday! Koralia and Sasha, Y1,
Dexter and Harry Y2, Ava, Y3, Lucia and Callum, Y4
and Ella Y6

Reception play area

Thank you everyone who has donated items so far. We are still looking for the following items:

Maths Area – plastic toy food

Sandpit – shells, funnels, fork for digging

Stage – plastic step, shower curtain, shower curtain/pole

Art area – chalks

Outdoor play – garden games (giant chess, Jenga, Throwing hoops, Twister, Connect 4)

General decoration – paint (suitable for outdoor use), Varnish

Foundling Museum Trip

On Tuesday the Year 6 children enjoyed a trip to London to the Victorian Foundling Hospital where they learnt about life in the Hospital during the reign of Queen Victoria.



TECHNICAL ISSUES – ART PROJECTS FOR SCHOOLS



There have been some technical issues with ordering Christmas card designs online.

Unfortunately, we do not know how long it will be before they are up and running again.

Please make a note of the unique code on the back of your Christmas card so that you can continue trying to order online but the Christmas card designs themselves MUST be handed in by Monday 17th October as I will be sending them off as a batch in the post.

We have sent an email to all parents that has come from the Art Projects for Schools Company explaining the reasons for the fault.

The code will look something like this: 30124-QWM

Any cards not given in by Monday will not be sent to print by the school – you can still do this directly to the company by paying for your own postage and packaging within a certain time. You would need to enquire directly for these deadlines.

If you have already handed in the Christmas card design but did not make a note of the unique code, I will send a note to your child's class teacher so that she can let you know.

Apologies for the inconvenience and apologies on behalf of Art Projects for Schools Ltd.

Mrs Gilham

Art & DT Subject Co-ordinator





Yarn Bombing

Coming to Harpenden Academy this Christmas!

Our newly formed School Council have a mandate to not only support developments within the school but also to reach out to our wider community. An important part of their role is to support charities both local and further afield. This year, they are raising funds to buy 'Good Gifts' for others this Christmas. They will be *Yarn Bombing* the tree near the front entrance! Members of the community will be invited to see their art work and in return, contribute towards this good cause.



The members of the School Council are hoping we can raise enough money to buy...

- Comics and puzzles for children in 3 hospitals (A total of £40)
- Footballs for 3 African schools (A total of £35)
- Food for 2 abandoned cats or dogs (A total of £16)
- Soft blankets and clothes for 2 new babies (A total of £20)
- A gift for a child in a hospice (£6)
- A trip to the seaside for a disadvantaged child (£12)

If we are lucky enough to raise a greater amount of money, there are many more gifts that the children were keen to purchase.

Can you help?

Requests:

- Donations of wool (please drop off in the collection box in the entrance hall - anytime between now and 17th November)
- Keen knitters for our 'Family Knitting Club!' First meeting – in the library, after assembly on Friday 21st October. Club run by Lucinda Howard - no need to regularly commit but we'd like to get you knitting for our tree. It's a community event which includes you!
- Parent helpers to support with our *Whole School Yarn Bombing Afternoon* on Thursday 17th November (1pm until the end of the school day). Helpers needed in all classes.
- Families to stand by the tree outside school with collection buckets (half an hour on a rota basis) on Saturday 3rd December. *During school hours, the collection bucket will be kept just inside the school entrance.*

If you can help with any of the above, please sign up! A sign up sheet will be in the playground at *drop off* and *pick up* each day next week. For working parents who are not able to access the sign up sheet, please email the office with information regarding when you can help.

Thank you!
Mrs Haines

Please note a change to the date advertised last week for the Fireworks. The event will be on 6 November




Harpenden Rugby Club Fireworks!

Harpenden Rugby Club in Redbourn Lane will be hosting their annual Fireworks Extravaganza on November 6, with the gates opening at 3pm for a display at 6pm.

The display includes a bonfire, funfair, food and bar, and features Flaming Phil the caped fire-breathing unicyclist crusader!

Tickets are £8 for adults, £5 for children under 17, and £25 for a family (two adults and up to four children up to 16).

Harpenden Rugby Club very kindly donate 50% of ticket sales to Friends of Harpenden Academy! Tickets will be on sale from Monday 10th October.



Celebrate Halloween

Monday 31st October

Its Halloween when we come back after the October half term break so we want to kick off the new term with a bang.

Come and join us for some spooky goings on.

Lunch will be :

- Hot Dog Fingers
- or
- Wizards Hat Pasties
- Both with Witches Curly Hair Fries

Spooky Jelly From The Cauldron

