



HARNHAM INFANT SCHOOL

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Newsletter 6

Friday 11th October 2024

Another week comes to a close as we are starting to edge towards October half term now. It has been a busy week with lots of learning. The EYFS children have been enjoying the story of Zog by Julia Donaldson as well as using their senses in Forest School. It was also lovely to see so many parents at their Stay and Phonics on Tuesday this week too. Year 1 have been learning about the 4 countries of the United Kingdom and we have been treated to several children singing their song about this to us. In Year 2, children have been enjoying their Eco project and using recycling to make pieces of Art.

The teaching staff this week have conducted Pupil Progress Meetings where we have discussed the progress of every child in the school and their next steps. This has really shown how well the staff know the children in our school. The Full Governing Body have also met to continue their strategic responsibilities to whole school development. Phew! It must be time for a weekend – we look forward to seeing you all on Monday!

Celebration Assembly

Congratulations to Florence – Robin, Lyle – Ladybird, Hugo – Hedgehog, Arlo – Bee, Joshua – Woodpecker, Kristen – Squirrel, Aidan – Dragonfly, Betsie – Badger and Isabella – Owl. We are so proud of you all!

Invitations to Celebration Assembly are sent out on a Friday for the following week, plus a reminder the day before. Please check your email inbox carefully. We look forward to celebrating with more children and their parents next week.

Menu for week beginning 14th October:

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRE-ORDER ONLINE

	Choice of Main Meal	Served with...	Choice of Dessert
Monday	Margherita or Pineapple Pizza Mexican Plant-based Chilli with Rice Jacket Potato and choice of fillings Soft Roll with choice of fillings	Potato Wedges Green beans, Sweetcorn Salad bar Homemade Bread	Lemon Drizzle Cake Homebake Fruit Yoghurt
Tuesday	Macaroni Arrabiata Fisherman's Pie Jacket Potato and choice of fillings Hot Sandwich: Ham or Pepperoni Melt	Peas Carrots Salad bar Homemade bread	Chocolate Sponge and Custard Homebake Fruit, Yoghurt
Wednesday	Slow Roast Pork or Chicken Italian Borlotti Bean Stew Jacket Potato and choice of fillings Soft Roll with choice of fillings	Baked New Potatoes Carrots, Cauliflower Salad bar, Homemade bread	Jelly and Fruit Homebake Fruit Yoghurt
Thursday	Roll your own wrap (Chicken / Quorn) Butternut Squash Hot Pot Jacket Potato and choice of fillings Soft Roll with choice of fillings	Steamed Rice Broccoli, Sweetcorn Salad bar Homemade bread	Peach Cake & Custard Homebake Fruit Yoghurt
Friday	Breaded Fish Fingers Homemade Cheese Pasty Jacket Potato and choice of fillings Soft Roll with choice of fillings	Chips Peas or Baked Beans Salad bar Homemade bread	Vanilla Crumble Homebake Fruit Yoghurt

Dojo Rewards

Congratulations to the **Badger** class who have earned their 1000 dojo point reward. Badgers have chosen to wear their pyjamas to school on **Tuesday 22nd October**. Well done Badgers!

Congratulations also go to the **Dragonfly** class who have earned their Dojo reward too. Dragonflies have also chosen to come to school in their pyjamas and bring a small teddy bear to school. This will be happening on **Thursday 17th October**. Well done Dragonflies!

Year 1 Forest School – change of day

Year 1 are doing Forest School on **Monday 14th October** instead of Tuesday. Please may the children come to school in their Forest School clothes on this day instead? Please ensure your child has waterproofs and wellington boots in school for the wet weather too. Thank you.

Stay ands... Reminders

Year 1 have got their Stay and Feast on **Friday 18th October** at 9.00am. If you would like to come along, please book your place using the school gateway app – clubs section.

Year 2 are offering Stay and Phonics on **Wednesday 16th October** at 9.00am. Again, please sign up to attend this using the school gateway app – clubs section.

Signing up helps us to know who to expect and to make sure we have the correct number of resources available for the session. Thank you for your support with this.

Year 2 Visit to Harnham Water Meadows

Don't forget the Year 2 children have their visits to Harnham Water Meadows next Monday and Tuesday. Please make sure all children have the right equipment for these visits including appropriate coats for the weather. Children can wear their Forest School wellies as it will be wet underfoot. Thank you.

Parents Evening Time Allocation

Following the email containing this newsletter being sent to you, the parents evening allocation is being sent out to each class. Please check this carefully to see your allocated time to meet with your child's class teacher. If you did not request an appointment and would like one, please contact the school office from Monday to arrange this.

If you requested to see Mrs Pike in her SENDCo role during Parents Evening, please note that she is going to attend your appointment with your class teacher as well. Should you need a longer conversation than this, a follow up meeting can be arranged afterwards. Thank you.

Harnham Infant School Characteristics of Effective Learning

At Harnham Infant School we enjoy learning through being creative, going for it, persevering, exploring, making links, knowing, choosing, concentrating and being proud. These are our Characteristics of Effective Learning, which we use across the whole school. Each class animal has a mascot, who is known for one of the particular characteristics and they all have a story to match them, which teach the children what it means to be an effective learner. The celebration certificates that are given out during Celebration Assembly on a Friday are linked to one of the 9 Characteristics of Effective Learning at Harnham Infant School.



Staffing News

We are sad to inform you that Mrs Wendy Oaten has resigned from her position at Teaching Assistant at Harnham Infant School. Mrs Oaten is a very experienced, very knowledgeable and very loved member of the Harnham family and she has made such a huge difference to the many hundreds of children she has worked with over the years. We shall miss her very much when she leaves us at October half term. Mrs Oaten is leaving to begin a new career in a local hospital. We hope that Mrs Oaten takes with her many special memories and lots of Harnham love!

Year 1 Grandparent Tea Party

In the email containing this newsletter, you will also find attached a letter for Year 1 families about their Grandparent Tea Party that the children are hosting in Term 2. Please check this letter carefully and sign up using the School Gateway App. Thank you!

Parent Questionnaire

In the email containing this newsletter, you will also find the results of the parent questionnaire that was carried out in July 2024. We are delighted with the results and are proud that 100% of parents said they would recommend Harnham Infant School to another parent. There is an additional document called "You said, we will think about" which is the next steps that the school intends to take in order to respond to some of the things raised by parents.

Attendance

Weekly whole school attendance:	94.87% ↓ from last week	Number of late marks in the Registers:	27 ↓ from last week
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We want to encourage our children to be Attendance Heroes! HERO – Here Everyday Ready On time! Miss Dorrington has recorded a video all about attendance for you. To watch it, please click here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wcs2PKKJ_q4

In the email containing this newsletter, you will also find a leaflet giving you further information, please do check this carefully for important information and updates. Thank you.

Growth Mindset

This week we learnt more about the power of **yet**. Some children volunteered to help Miss Dorrington to pick things up from a table and pass a ball along a line without using their hands! We learnt that 'there is nothing I can't do, just things I haven't done yet'. We were then inspired by Richie Parker, he has achieved his dream job by preserving and using a growth mindset.

[Must See Richie Parker Guy With No Arms Of Hendrick Motorsports Inspirational Video \(youtube.com\)](#)



Parent Governor Vacancy

Just a reminder that we are looking for a parent to join our Governing Body. If you would be interested in joining our Governing Body and would like to find out more or have any questions for us, then please pop along to the coffee and chat on Friday 18th October 2024 after school drop off. You can also email Beth Evans – chair@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk

Reminder – Support for Families

On **Tuesday 15th October at 8.50am**, Chris Lister, our PSA is going to be leading a very short workshop about establishing **sleep routines** at home. You can book into this using the school gateway app – clubs section. Tea and Coffee will be available and the short presentation will be only 5-10 minutes long with an opportunity to ask questions and take away some useful hints, tips and goodies. We do hope you will join us! 😊

Parent Support Advisor

Chris Lister is the Parent Support Advisor for Harnham Infants, and many families benefit from her expertise, support and advice. She can help parents with all sorts of things including difficulties with behaviour, financial matters, family breakdown and bereavement. Chris is also happy for you to get in touch if you're worried or concerned about any school related matters. You can contact her by email psa@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk or by telephone 07595217569



Additional Club Opportunity for Next Term

Mad Science will be running a club in Term 2 for children in year 1 and year 2. If you are interested in your child taking part, please follow the instructions on the poster to get them booked in. This needs to be done by 21st October. Thank you.

Mad SCIENCE

AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB

Complement Your Child's Learning Experience with a Mad Science After-School Club. Our unique approach gives children a solid scientific foundation that goes beyond the classroom, through hands-on activities and spectacular demonstrations.

Sign Up for your course today
Harnham Infant School

Autumn Term Science will be a hair-raising electrifying experience, prepare for strange glowing liquids as we travel from Autumn to Winter with festive fun to end the term.

Day and Time: Thursday 3.15 pm-4.15 pm
Dates: 7th November – 12th December

Programme Duration: 6 x 1-hour sessions
Cost: £48
Please register by: 21st October 24

Register ONLINE

Visit Wessex.madscience.org **click REGISTER HERE**
This will take you to the booking page run by Class4kids

If you are unable to access the internet, please call us to register by phone 01980 611807
Registration will be available until **21st October 24**

Please ensure you register by this date to secure your child a place. In the interest of fairness places are allocated on a first-come first-served basis.

Please note: successful online registration with full payment secures your child's place on our After-School Club programme unless you are otherwise contacted.
For further information or if you encounter any problems please don't hesitate to contact us:
schools@madsciencewessex.co.uk

Due to the nature of this After School Club, all students will be expected to behave in an appropriate manner and adhere to the rules of the school and of Mad Science. Any child who consistently does not behave will be asked to leave the After School Club and will not be entitled to a refund.

wessex.madscience.org **01980 611807**

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AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS BIRTHDAY PARTIES CAMPS SPECIAL EVENTS WORKSHOPS

Upcoming Dates

Whole School	
15.10.24, 8.45am	Bitesize Support for Families – workshop with Chris Lister
15.10.24, 10.00am	Community Forest School Event
18.10.24, 9.00am	Coffee and chat – find out about becoming a parent governor
21.10.24 and 22.10.24	Parents Evenings
23.10.24	TD day – school closed for children
Year 1	
18.10.24, 9.00am	Stay and Feast
Year 2	
14.10.24, 9.00am	Owl class visit to Harnham Water Meadows
15.10.24, 9.00am	Dragonfly class visit to Harnham Water Meadows
15.10.24, 1.00pm	Badger class visit to Harnham Water Meadows
16.10.24, 9.00am	Stay and Phonics / Read

Letters / Attachments sent out this week:

- Year 1 Grandparents Tea Party
- National Online Safety guidance to Parental Controls
- Parent Questionnaire results
- Parent Questionnaire – You said, We will try to... document
- Acceptable Use Policy for Parents
- Letter for year 2 parents from Harnham Junior School

ICT Acceptable Use Policy for Parents

Attached to the email containing this newsletter is another document for you. It is the Acceptable Use Policy for Parents regarding ICT and Social Media. Please read this through carefully. We will assume that all parents are in agreement with this policy unless we are contacted by 18.10.24. Should you have any questions, concerns or suggestions, please let us know by emailing admin@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk

Online Safety

During our Year 2 online safety learning, there have been a lot of children talking about playing online games like Roblox. Please make sure that you have restrictions enabled on children's devices. Some children were talking about Brookhaven, which is an action game for the Roblox Platform. From our research on this, it would appear that the recommended age for this platform is 13+.

We have found the following information:

- **Parents Need to Know**

Parents need to know that Brookhaven RP is an action game for the Roblox platform. It doesn't offer much guidance to show kids how to use features in the game, although they can view a list of directional commands at any time. Customizable avatar characteristics include different skin tones. Vehicle and other upgrades are sold for Robux, the platform's in-app currency. Kids don't have to buy anything, and there's virtually no pressure to. Other players sometimes swear and make inappropriate comments in the ongoing on-screen chat, which kids can click to hide but may choose to leave open. While the game isn't necessarily violent, some of the objects kids receive at the start in their backpack, which they can use whenever they'd like, include guns, handcuffs, and a bomb. While kids far younger than 13 will want to play, given the Roblox platform's continuing challenges with problematic content, it's strongly recommended against unsupervised play for kids under that age.

Extract taken from: [Brookhaven RP Website Review | Common Sense Media](#)

We have included some further information and links for you here:

[What is Roblox? A guide for parents to keep kids safe | Internet Matters](#)

[Use Parental Controls to Keep Your Child Safe | NSPCC](#)

In the email send out containing this newsletter, you will also find a booklet called “A Parent’s Guide to Internet Controls”. We hope you find this helpful.

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about ROBLOX

Roblox is one of the most popular video games among children. In 2020, the game's developers claimed that more than half of the USA's children had played it. As a 'sandbox' title, the game lets players create their own gaming experiences with Roblox Studio to build custom levels, which can then be shared online.

AGE RATING
PEGI 7

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Roblox encourages players to interact online (including a group chat function), which could expose children to various risks. Scammers often attempt to trick young Roblox fans into exchanging their paid-for items for something which turns out to be of much lesser value – or something they never even receive. The in-game chat has some filters, but it isn't perfect: players can still send unpleasant messages, while predators can reach out to children directly.

ONLINE DATERS

These are also called 'ODers' and are quite common in Roblox. An ODer is an individual who joins a game with the intention of finding someone to date online – and eventually meet in person. Such online dating is against the Roblox community guidelines, but this doesn't usually deter such people. Some player-built Roblox levels have even been designed with online dating specifically in mind, and this will not always be obvious.

PUBLIC SERVERS

Roblox has private or VIP servers which allow people to play exclusively with their friends, but this costs money – usually a one-off payment. Most Roblox players will instead be on public servers that anyone can join. Servers can host games which focus on all kinds of aspects, including direct player interaction. Some lobbies, therefore, will put children at greater risk of contact from strangers than others.

IN-APP PURCHASES

Roblox is free to download and play, but bear in mind that there are some extra costs. These are usually indicated with the symbol for 'Robux' (the in-game currency). Players are encouraged to make purchases in the game using real money. People can also buy extra Robux to spend on cosmetic items in the game, and it's also possible to purchase a private or VIP server.

Advice for Parents & Educators

SET PARENTAL CONTROLS

Roblox comes with several parental control options, which are explained well on the game's official website. It's essential to enter the correct date of birth for younger players, as that allows Roblox to automatically apply appropriate chat filters. The game also allows parents and carers to set monthly spending restrictions and monitor their child's account.

DISABLE PRIVATE MESSAGING

Roblox's private messaging function raises the risk of children being contacted by people they may not want to speak with – potentially leading to bullying, harassment, toxicity and scam attempts. Keep in mind that the game allows you to disable messages from anyone who hasn't been added as a friend on your account.

PRIVATE SERVERS

If a child has friends to play Roblox with, paying for a private or VIP server decreases the risk of contact from strangers. Even then, however, the player who owns the server could invite other people – who might not be child friendly – to join them. Additionally, private servers can be set up in such a way that any player on the host's friends list can join, so it's important to discuss who children are playing with.

MONITOR SPENDING

If they don't understand they're using real money, it's easy for children to accidentally spend a sizeable amount in the game. Using parental controls to place limits on their spending will help avoid any nasty financial surprises. Ensuring that two-factor authentication is enabled on any payment accounts also makes it harder for children to spend money inadvertently.

DEALING WITH STRANGERS

At some point in their development, children must learn how to deal with strangers online. Show them how to block and report any users who are upsetting them or asking uncomfortable questions. Talking to them about what's okay to discuss – and what they should never tell a stranger – can help them understand how to communicate more safely with other people online.

Meet Our Expert

Claire Goshwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2016, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.

The National College

Source: <https://www.theverge.com/2020/12/22/2004493/inside-one-half-of-us-kids-playing-actual-parties-online>
<https://www.roblox.com/parents>

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In the Community: Please note that our school is neither involved with or endorsing the use of the services being advertised here. They are for families to access at their own discretion. Thank you.

For the attention of all parents

Will your child be transferring
to a secondary school in
September 2025?

You must apply for a secondary school place

Apply online at **wiltshire.gov.uk** or
complete an application form, available at
all Wiltshire Council offices.

The deadline for applications is

12 midnight, 31 October 2024

All forms must be returned to the school admissions
team at County Hall, Trowbridge, Wiltshire.

Contact customer services on **01225 713010**

For more information or to request our guide
to finding a secondary school place in Wiltshire.

Wiltshire Council