



Monday 24th February 2025

Newsletter 4 - February 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Can you believe we're already halfway through the school year? Time is flying by, and that's no surprise with all the incredible learning, creativity, and achievements happening every day! We have another busy half term ahead.

I've had to order more **Headteacher's Awards** this term—what a fantastic problem to have! So many children have been to share their amazing work with me.



Children's Mental Health Week

One of the highlights of the week was our dress up day. It was lovely to see the way our children and staff had chosen to express themselves through their clothing. Lots of lovely conversations were happening throughout the day. It is such an important message for the children, that we need to focus on not only our physical health but



our mental health too. Don't forget that stories are a great vehicle to have discussions with children about their feelings.

Another highlight of this week was when the children had an archery session. The aim was to try a new sport but also to learn to cope with setbacks and persevere when things didn't quite work out. In their classes, the children talked about how they can encourage their friends if they are finding the new skill difficult.



Church Visit

I was so proud of all our children when we visited St Michael and All Angels church recently. They walked sensibly to the church and behaved impeccably once inside. It was a great opportunity to visit a place of worship and explore Christianity whilst also recognising that not all people share the same beliefs. The children asked some interesting questions. A big thank you to Sarah and all the Open the Book volunteers.



These boys made a model of the St Michael and All Angels when they returned to school!

World Book Week (3rd-7th March)



Our World Book Week this year is starting in a slightly different way. We are having a live theatre performance of the story Rumpelstiltskin. This will be a great way to bring stories alive for the children. Thank you to everyone who made a contribution to the FOBHHS events because the money is paying for this event.

Throughout the week the children will be joining other classes in school and having a Book Buddy reading session.

We also invite children to come dressed up on **Thursday 6th March** as their favourite book character and we will have our annual World Book Day parade.

Another new idea for World Book Week, is having a “Masked Reader” who will read a story to the children each day and the children will have to guess who the reader is. If you would like to be one of our masked readers then we’d love to hear from you- it isn’t too late!

Out of School Club

We were incredibly sorry that Sam (Out of School Club Manager) and Emma Chart Davies (Playcare Worker) left their roles in the Out of School Club before the holidays. We will miss them both very much.

Pleasingly, Emma Carter-Jenkins has been appointed as the new “club” manager. I know she will ensure that the wrap-around provision continues to offer high quality care. A new Playcare Worker joins the team after the holidays and we currently have a vacancy for an Assistant Playcare Worker.

Friends of Black Horse Hill Schools (FOBHHS)

Before the half-term holidays, I had the pleasure of meeting with Jen Borg and Jenn Merrin, who have kindly stepped into the roles of Chair and Vice Chair of the Friends of Black Horse Hill Schools committee. Their enthusiasm and passion for supporting our school community was clear. They have lots of fantastic fundraising ideas for both the Infant and Junior Schools, and I was excited to share some thoughts on how the funds could be used. One of my biggest hopes is to create a dedicated Forest Schools area that every class can enjoy. However, the two Jens can’t do it alone! They need more parents and carers to join them in making these plans a reality. If you’d like to get involved and help make a real difference to our school, please consider offering your support.

Foundation 1 Places

Do you have a child born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022. We are currently taking applications for places in our Foundation 1 provision. Please contact the school office for an application form.

PE days for next half term

No change to our PE day- it is still a Friday.

Please remember:

- All children should have a water bottle in school.
- Children should have a coat in school.
- Dogs should not be brought onto the school playground.

February

- Monday 24th February- Children return to school

March

- Monday 3rd March - Live theatre performance
- Thursday 6th March World Book Day (Children dress up as story book characters)
- w/c 24th March Parent/Teacher Week

April

- Wednesday 2nd April – Rock Steady Concert at 2.15pm (Invited parents/carers only)
- Friday 4th April – Easter Bonnet Parade and finish for Easter holidays
- Tuesday 22nd April - Children return to school after the Easter holidays

May

- Monday 5th May - Bank Holiday
- Thursday 22nd May - Children finish for half term holiday
- Friday 23rd May - Staff Development Day

June

- Monday 2nd June - Children return to school
- Monday 9th June - Breakfast Judo club begins (details to follow)
- w/c 9th June - Year 1 Phonic Screening Check
- Tuesday 10th June- Class Photographs
- w/c 23rd June - Healthy Body, Healthy Mind Week
- Thursday 26th June Sports Day - (9 -10.30am Yr2 and Yr1 parents, 10.45-12pm F2 parents)
- Saturday 28th June 12-3pm Summer Fair at Black Horse Hill Junior School
- Monday 30th June at 2.30pm Open Classroom - opportunity to look at your child's work
- Friday 4th July - Reports out to parents/carers
- Friday 11th July - School Disco
- Friday 18th July Finish for Summer holidays
- Monday 21st and 22nd July Staff Development Days.

Yours sincerely,

Julie Morris
Headteacher