

Hutton CE Primary School

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Newsletter 12

Dear Parents,

It is an exciting and busy time to be in school in the run-up to the Easter holidays. Lots of things are happening in school as usual and I wanted to keep you informed of forthcoming events as well as to reflect on the term.

Easter Week

This week some of our children will be taking part in sporting events at other schools. On Thursday some of the Year 5 and 6 children will be taking part in a Hockey and Arrows Archery event at Worle School and on Friday there is a rugby tournament for some Year 3 and 4 children at Uphill School. We wish them all the best and know that they will be fantastic representatives of our school. Thank you to Miss Harris for organising these events.

Next week is Easter Week and the children will be learning all about the Easter Story. On Monday 23rd March, Year 6 have their Dance Festival at the Playhouse, which they have been working on for many weeks.

On Tuesday 24th March, the children will be going up to church first thing in the morning for our Easter Service. This year, we are pleased to be joined by Reverend Jenny Langdon who will be leading the service in Reverend Lee's absence. This will involve Easter songs, poems and prayers. We will also be thinking about Reverend Lee and wishing her a swift recovery. Unfortunately, due to the size of the church, parents will be unable to join us for this event.

Thursday 26th March sees our annual Easter production, which will be performed by Year 5. This will take place at 2.00pm and I am sure that many of year 5 parents will join us to celebrate their hard work. I know that a lot of hard work has gone into this and they will make us proud. An afternoon tea will precede this event for the Friendship Circle, which Year 6 children will be putting on as part of their Archbishop of York work.

On the last day before the holidays, we will have our Easter Bonnet Parade at 9.00am. This is open to any child who would like to make an Easter Bonnet- the more creative the better! I am always impressed by the level of craftsmanship that goes into making the bonnets and I am sure that this year will be no different!

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At 2.30pm on Friday 27th, our Year 5 and 6 children will be congratulated at a presentation event for their Archbishop of York Young Leaders Programme. The children will be presenting some of the work that they have done on their award and talking about what they have learned and will be given a certificate and badge in recognition of this. This will involve all of the children who have taken part in the Key Stage 2 Programme and those that are continuing with the Key Stage 3 Programme. We hope Y5 and Y6 parents will come and join us in celebrating their hard work in helping their local community.

Reflecting on this term

It has, as always, been a busy and exciting term for the children here at Hutton. Many new initiatives have been set up and our school values have been revised. Staff, governors and children were all consulted about the Christian Values that they felt represented our school ethos the most. Amazingly, each group chose the same seven values: Trust, Thankfulness, Friendship, Hope, Koinonia (Community), Forgiveness and Compassion. This, I feel, demonstrates that these values are truly embedded in everything that we do already.

We have set up Circle Time groups in Key Stage 2 which are led by Year 6 children each week. This has been adopted brilliantly by the children and they enjoy the games and activities that take place. Their behaviour and respect towards the leaders of each group has been outstanding. These activities will not only encourage positive behaviours such as sharing and turn taking, but also encourages deeper thinking from the children, which is the focus of the new National Curriculum.

The staff have worked incredibly hard to plan an engaging and exciting curriculum for the children, around the topic of 'Who do we think we are?' The emphasis is on learning becoming deeper and more profound and questioning is key. We have been looking at using Bloom's Taxonomy to ensure that the depth of learning is progressive and that we are asking the right kinds of questions and planning the right kinds of activities to encourage this deeper thinking. The children have risen to the challenge and we are seeing this having an impact across school.

Twelve children in Years 5 and 6 have been trained as Prayer Leaders- you will find them wearing a dove badge. They now lead our Share a Prayer Club each lunchtime in the Dabaso Room, for any children who would like to pray, reflect or just want to take part in some fun, interactive prayer activities. The children are brilliant at planning and leading the activities involving playdough, prayer trees and writing or drawing. They start and end each session by lighting the candle and saying a prayer altogether.

In addition to the above we have had numerous successful sports tournaments (thank you Miss Harris), a fantastic E-Safety Week (thank you Mrs Lovely) and a fun and engaging World Book Day celebration where the children were given the opportunity to work with different teachers and friends from other classes (thank you Miss Pritchard). We have also had numerous successful Class Worships. We are lucky to have such a hardworking staff team who always put the children at the centre of everything they do.

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After Easter we say goodbye to Mrs Smith who will be leaving us for her maternity leave. We wish her all the best. In her place we have appointed Mrs Jenny Gooch to work with Mrs Lovely in Year 2. Please help us to make her feel welcome at our wonderful school.

Coming up

After Easter we will hopefully be saying goodbye to the cold weather and welcoming the new term with a whole host of exciting activities for the children. There will obviously be a focus on assessment as we move forward towards the end of the year, but in addition to this, we have the H Factor and Hutton's Got Talent, Year 6 Residential, Sports Day and other sporting events planned by the children and a range of other activities aimed to provide a broad, balanced and engaging curriculum for all of our children. I am sure that you will agree that it is never dull at Hutton! Please keep looking at the website- we add new information and photographs on a regular basis.

Have a wonderful Easter break.



Luci Amos



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