



Hyde Park Infant School

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14th February 2020

Dear Parents,

The first half of the spring term has been busy, eventful and exciting although I am sure that the children and the staff are looking forward to the half term break to refresh and energise themselves for the term ahead. **Half term will be from the 17th to the 21st February inclusive and the children will return on Monday 24th February.**

Staffing

Mrs Rose will be returning to school after half term following her debilitating inner ear illness and I know that Cedar Class children and parents will be looking forward to seeing her. Miss Strong too will be returning after half term following her excruciatingly painful ripped achillies which has been mending slowly. Miss Strong will be back in school, supported by Mr Horne as she will have limited mobility and will also need regular physio appointments too. It will be great to have both teachers back in our school. I wish them both a relaxing holiday so that they come back refreshed and ready for the exciting term ahead.

Healthy Child Quality Mark

Since September we have been involved in the Healthy Child Quality Mark which has culminated in a 25 page report detailing the school's achievements. I would like to include a few sentences from the summary which are as follows:- *"The following report describes a school that clearly has a nurturing ethos while fostering high educational expectations. The support and care programme that Hyde Park Infant School have embedded throughout the whole school is a real strength and shows that the welfare of children and their families is at the centre of school provision. The school has a dynamic and robust approach to maintaining and promoting positive mental health and wellbeing."*

The award will be presented to the whole school after half term and although every child has been involved in the process, I would like to pay particular tribute to the 9 children in Y2 who answered 20 questions (some based on the Ofsted questionnaire that you, as parents, have been completing) and gave very detailed answers to the assessor, Mr House, about what they liked about the school, how they are helped and looked after. They struggled with one question which was 'what did they not like about school' and all 9 decided that there wasn't anything!

Coronavirus advice

Please see an advice notice provided by David Bradford, our MAT CEO about the Coronavirus which is to be found on our school website. The latest information can always be found at

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>



Safer internet day and advice

Please see the letter and information dated 13th February which has been provided by Miss Easton and outlines the work of the school to protect the children and some tips on using the internet safely at home.

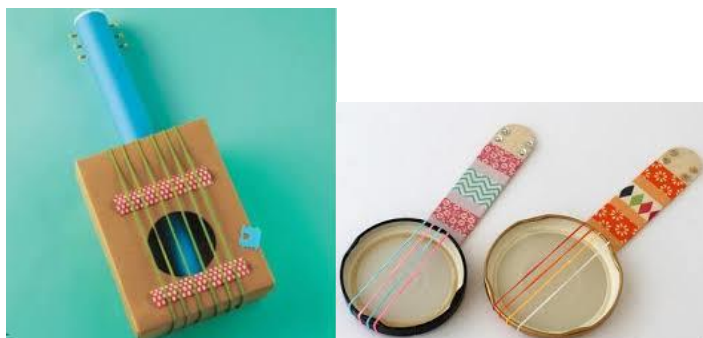
Making musical instruments at home

There will be opportunities to investigate music and sound next term and we will be joined by a musician and story teller from Plymouth University. In preparation for this event, I would like to invite the children to make an instrument from recycled materials and bring it into school after half term. Please stick to the year group themes of Shakers for the Foundation Stage children, Stringed instruments for Year One and Scrapers for Year Two. There are some pictures below to give you some ideas:-

Foundation Stage - Shakers



Yr 1 – Stringed Instruments



Yr 2 - Scrapers



Ofsted questionnaires

Thank you for responding to the Ofsted questionnaires. The results are being collated over the half term and I look forward to sharing the findings with you early next term.

Underwear returns

When your child has had an accident in school, we always try to send them home in clean, dry socks/tights and underwear provided by school. Please can I ask you to wash and return our school items so that we have a plentiful supply available. Thank you.

Complaints about dogs

Please refrain from bringing your dog on site and also please do not tie up your dog to the school gate or stand blocking access to the school playground. Some children and parents are not confident in close proximity to dogs and I am anxious not to cause anybody distress. Thank you to our dog owners for your consideration in this matter.

Eat more veg!

We are taking part in an eat more veg campaign where our children will have their usual 2 vegetables plus salad options as well as a 'featured' vegetable for them to taste. Colouring packs have been sent home already and stickers will be offered to children who 'try' a featured vegetable.

I do hope that you all have a great half term and I look forward to seeing the musical instruments that the children have managed to make. There will be lots of reading books in the school book bag for children to read over half term and if you run out, why not make a visit to the local library to find some more?

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "E.A. Hill" with a stylized flourish underneath.

Mrs E A Hill
Head Teacher