



Hyde Park Infant School

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20th October 2017

Dear Parents,

This week was very special for all the children in Ash, Cedar and Oak classes as they went on an adventure to Saltram and had lots of fun building dens, finding out about trees, visiting hidden places and playing in the play park. Thank you to all the parents who joined us for the trip and helped out with the children's questions, play and explorations. In school, all the children have been asking **Big Questions** and these questions and ideas are to be found displayed in the school hall. The children have been asking questions about facilities in their local community and they will be inviting in local people to help answer their enquiries. Please pop in to the main hall any time before school to have a look or use time during Parents' Evening if that is more convenient.

Half term activities and fun

- **Children from the Hyde Park Schools are invited to take part in a colouring/painting/collage competition** as part of historical celebrations that will be happening in Freedom Park. The event is to mark the Siege of Plymouth and the Sabbath Day fight which occurred between the Parliamentarians (Roundheads) and Royalists (Cavaliers) on 3rd December 1643. The event will be held near the Café at Freedom Park and will involve the Lord Mayor, her Consort and the Sealed Knot group who will be in costume and re-inact the scene that occurred 374 years ago. Displayed at the event will be the children's pictures which must not be bigger or smaller than A4 (the size of my newsletters when I send you a paper copy) I would like to receive all the pictures as soon as possible in the week we return to school after half term, please. The Mayor will award small prizes for pictures from children in different age groups and there will be a Head Teacher sticker for all entrants. This would be an ideal activity to try out during half term!
- The picture could be of a Roundhead, a Cavalier, a battle, a siege, King Charles I or anything connected with the Sabbath Day Fight. More information is available online by typing in **Plymouth Sabbath Day Fight** into your preferred search engine. A basic outline of a cavalier and a Roundhead is attached to this newsletter which can be used for guidance or just decorated if you don't have time for your own research. The event will take place in the Freedom Park on Sunday 3rd December where I hope to see as many children and families there as possible to enjoy finding out about our Plymouth heritage.
- The Hyde Park Explorers packs are proving very popular and will provide hours of free fun over half term. Children's photos, pictures, writing and reports can all be submitted to school and then I can share them on the school website for others to view. Please keep sending in accounts of explorations in Hyde Park.
- There are lots of opportunities to volunteer at Central Park where children and adults can make new friends, learn skills, give back and enjoy nature. Full details can be found at www.plymouth.gov.uk/centralparkmasterplan2017 On Thursday 26th October over half term there is a family event from 11-2pm with a bulb planting focus and some tree planting on Saturday 25th November 10-1pm. No need to book but all children must be accompanied by adults.



Sports for Schools Event

Every child and member of staff took part in this fun event at school and monies raised have been safely banked. The children who raised money will be receiving their bands and posters after half term. Mrs Rose is selecting new PE resources that can be purchased with our share of the money which will be accessed by the children during PE lessons and during our active playtimes. Well done to all the children and special congratulations to Miss Strong, our specialist PE student teacher who joined in with all 9 classes and did the full repetitions throughout!

Be Safe Be Seen

As part of Plymouth's road safety campaign for 2017, the children have been issued with a Be safe Be seen sticker to affix to their book bag. If you would like your child to be featured on Radio Plymouth's website showing them walking to school with their book bag and sticker, then please submit your pictures to neil.walker@radioplymouth.com

Dangerous parking

Please refrain from parking dangerously and illegally (on the zig zags) outside the school. Dangerous parking can cause accidents and at the very least is inconsiderate for pedestrians, other car drivers and residents. Please allow sufficient time to arrive at school and in the playground before the bell rings. If you need to park, then please park away from the school and walk in. It is both a healthy and a safe option.

Poppies

Poppies will be available to purchase next term. The children will learn about the significance of the poppy and our Y2 children will all have seen the poppies on the Hoe as part of their school trip.

Parent Directory Forms

The forms returned to date include a keen baker, an IT specialist, an historian and a medical practitioner. I'm sure that you all have a skill to offer or a hobby to share so don't be shy. I am preparing to keep bees so will share my knowledge, my bee outfit and some pictures with the children as part of this directory initiative.

Parents' Evening next term

Please submit your parents' evening request slips to school by 31st October at the latest so that appointment slips can be issued. Two of our classes already have 100% take up so well done!

Discos for the children

Booking slips and payment needs to reach the PTFA by Wednesday 1st November. Please send in your slips nice and early so that the children who want to attend can be accommodated and no child is disappointed. Information about the discos has already been sent as a paper copy to all parents.

School lunches

New menus have been sent home this week. You may be interested to know that panels of Plymouth children suggest meals, taste meals and contribute towards the meals that are selected for the menus. Christmas lunch this year is on 7th December. I shall be helping Paul serve the meals and our governors will all be invited to help out on the day wearing festive hats or aprons!

Thank you for all your support this term and for the encouragement you have given your child(ren). I hope you all enjoy a happy half term and I look forward to seeing you all back safe and sound on Monday 30th October. If you have some spare time, I do hope you have a go at the picture competition detailed above.

Yours sincerely,

E.A. Hill

Head Teacher



Be Safe Be Seen



