

Huish Episcopi Primary School Newsletter

9th December 2016

Mrs Dennis - Our New Head of School

From January, there will be changes in the way the school is lead and managed. As you are probably aware from previous letters, I will be working part time next term until I retire in April 2017. Mrs Dennis will be assuming her role as Head of School from January and so we will be job sharing for the Spring Term. I am very much looking forward to this opportunity and together we will work to make the transition as smooth as possible for everyone.

So what does this mean for HEPS?

From January, Mrs Dennis will teach Northmoor class on Mondays & Tuesdays of each week and then Mr Akers will teach the class on Wednesdays, Thursdays & Fridays. Mrs Dennis and I will share the leadership and management responsibilities. I will be taking the lead on Mondays and Tuesdays and Mrs Dennis on Thursdays and Fridays. On Wednesdays we will be working together.

I wish all the positive experiences of working at HEPS for Mrs Dennis. I am sure she will have the support and encouragement of the whole school community as she assumes her new role. For me, it has been a privilege to see the school grow and flourish and see at first hand all that the children achieve. I have loved working at Huish Episcopi Primary with the best children in the county! Taking 39 children to London, this week, was a case in mind. It was an absolute pleasure to see at first hand how positively they responded to the new experiences, surroundings and opportunities that were on offer. We received so many compliments along the way from adults that encountered our group. Now, with one week of term remaining, there is so much more to look forward to and I hope you will read the back page carefully so your child can enjoy all the many activities on offer. *Ms Islip*

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Special points of interest:

- * Isle Cake Sale today !
- * Thanks to the PFA for organizing the Christmas trees, the beautiful Christmas cards, mugs tea towels etc from the children's artwork. Thank you also for the donations to help with end of term festivities!

Good Luck Mrs Ward!

We would like to wish Mrs Ward every happiness as she leaves the school next Thursday. Mrs Ward has worked at the school for an amazing 21 years. For many years she has worked in Year 6 alongside a number of different teachers and has been instrumental in preparing so many children for their SATs. Already the word has got out that she is leaving and many ex-pupils have returned to say their goodbyes and given cards of thanks. Mrs Ward will be greatly missed. Mrs Ward has coaxed, nurtured, instructed and supported so many children to achieve their very best and make them feel good about their achievements. In fact just recently one boy in Year 6 made two years' progress in just 10 weeks thanks to her help. We would like to thank her for all the years of loyal service to the school and hope she enjoys whatever the future offers.

THANK YOU MRS WARD

London Residential 2016



Thirty-nine children from Years 5 and 6 set off to London on Monday, along with Miss Chadbourne, Mrs Meredith, Mr Welch and Ms Islip. Berrys coaches once again came up trumps and provided us with our very own coach, rather than the scheduled service. On the way, we saw lots of sights including Stonehenge and as we approached London there were a number of notable landmarks in the distance including Wembley stadium. After dropping our bags off at the hotel, which is located right next to the Natural History Museum, we headed off to St Paul's Cathedral. Travelling on the London Underground was great fun and the children became really adept at reading the underground map and navigating their way around London. After a guided tour of the cathedral where we saw some amazing sights including the 7 metre high doors and the beautiful dome, some of us took on the challenge of climbing to the Whispering Gallery. Others then took on the additional challenge of climbing right to the top of the dome, over 500 steps! The view

from there was breathtaking, but not for the faint hearted! After this, we returned and settled into the hotel. Next day was spent at the National Gallery, Downing Street and walking around London, seeing the sights. The children loved seeing paintings they had learnt about in school at close quarters and learning about the ideas and techniques the artists had used. The street art outside the gallery was equally amazing. After walking for a number of miles around the sights and having photos taken outside number 10 Downing Street we returned to the hotel to prepare for a meal at Pizza express followed by a night at the Theatre Royal Drury Lane to see 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'. For a lot of the children, this was their favourite activity of the whole residential. The colour, stage sets and performances were incredible and we all watched riveted by the performances on show. It was a very very late night by the time we returned to the hotel and there were some incredibly tired children and adults! The last day was spent exploring The Natural History Museum.

I loved the ice skating the most because although I fell over, I kept getting up and tried again. I got better and better.

Josh West



Enjoying a workshop called 'The Variety Show' and then ice skating in the pretty icerink that had been installed outside the museum. There were lots of bumps and falls before most children became confident and started to feel proud of their progress in skating. The residential finished with a delicious meal in the museum restaurant and then a very tired group of children and adults boarded the coach to make their way

home. Thank you to all the staff and children that made this such a special experience.

Strictly Come Langport and the Langport Christmas Fair

Last Saturday, new talent and dancers were on show to the public! In the packed ballroom of the Langport Arms, Langport's very own Strictly Come Dancing competition took place and Huish Episcopi Primary School was very well represented by two members of our school community who were competing. In total there were five professional dancers who worked with five members of the Langport community to create their own dance pieces. Among the contestants were Simon Sirius, father of Bella in Isle Class and Karen Harding who cleans for us in the school. Simon was performing a tango whilst Karen was doing a jive. All of the couples who danced were amazing and were complimented by the judges. Eventually when the audiences votes were counted, Karen Harding came out as the Strictly Come Langport Champion for 2016. Many congratulations to Karen and well done to Simon.....we were proud to support you both.

Kingsmoor News

Kingsmoor children had a wonderful time in London and were impeccably behaved throughout the trip.

As is true to form in Year 6 we have then got straight in to class work now they are back. As a class we have been writing a 'defeat the monster' story based on The Wolf Wilder by Katherine Rundell. The children's writing has been stunning and they should all be incredibly proud of what they have achieved. (Mrs Kenchington)

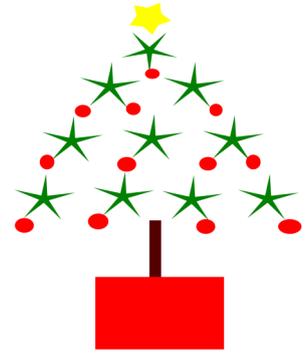
I agree Mrs Kenchington. A number of the children came along to read their writing to me. It was inspirational! Some of the best pieces of writing by any Year 6 ever in this school. Well done Kingsmoor.....you should be REALLY proud. (Ms Islip)

SCHOOL MEALS - SPRING TERM 2017

Order sheets showing the three week menu for next term were sent out earlier this week to **KS1 pupils** in Parrett, Aller and Sedgemoor for them to make their menu choices for all three weeks to run for the whole of next term. If any pupil wishes to opt out of the Universal Free School Meals, then please return the slip at the bottom of the form to confirm this. Otherwise, if neither the menu choices or opt out form are returned, we shall assume you are happy with the choice of 1A for each meal and will order food accordingly.

For **KS2 pupils**, the order forms for the start of term have been put up in the Hall Lobby. You will notice that you need to order for the first two weeks of term by the morning of Wednesday, 14 December as our first week back is only three days.

Last week of term reminders



Monday A treat for all! Image Theatre are in school to perform 'Jungle Book'. There is no cost to children as the PFA have kindly agreed to subsidise the cost of the performance. In the afternoon the Key Stage 1 children will perform their Nativity production 'It's a Baby' to the rest of the school and some residents from Portcullis House.

Tuesday Afternoon performance (2pm) of the Nativity production to parents. PFA raffle. Members of Isle class will sing carols at Portcullis House and The Angel.

Wednesday Evening performance (6pm) of the Nativity production for parents. PFA raffle.

Thursday Children can come into school wearing Christmas jumpers with the rest of their school uniform. Donations to the charity Save the Children are welcomed if you would like to contribute, boxes will be in the classrooms. End of term awards assembly followed by Christmas Lunch in the hall. In the afternoon there are class parties. Class teachers will let you know the arrangements.

Friday Last day of term. School Carol service at St Mary's Church. Parents are welcome to attend. Please arrive at 9.50am. School ends at 3.25/3.30pm

First day of the Spring term is
Wednesday 4th January

