



Hardwick Green Primary Academy

Newsletter



December 2023

Message from the Principal

Hello parents, carers and family members,

I can't believe that it is time to break up for the Christmas holidays once again!



This has been a busy Christmas time in school, and children have enjoyed event such as:

- Making Christmas cards and calendars
- Performing in the concerts and performances
- Visiting the school fair
- Watching a performance of 'Beauty and the Beast'

And so much more!

I hope that you and your family have a fantastic Christmas break, however you choose to spend it. We look forward to seeing you back in school on Monday 8th January!

Best wishes

Chris Story

Principal



Attendance Update

Our school attendance to-date is currently...

Year Group	Attendance
Reception	89.9%
Year 1	93.1%
Year 2	90.4%
Year 3	93.1%
Year 4	91.3%
Year 5	90.4%
Year 6	92.3%
TOTAL	91.7%

EVERY day in school is important – ensure your child in school every day unless it is unavoidable.

Please remember to phone the school office on 01642 677968 if your child is going to absent. Our safeguarding duties require us to know where every child is, on a day they should be in school. Please help us by communicating with us.

Don't forget to speak to Michelle, our Education Welfare Officer, if you need any support with attendance.



Remember that we have lots of key information about school, such as term dates and uniform information, on our website. Give the QR code a scan to visit!

www.hardwickgreenacademy.org.uk

What's happening at Hardwick?

Stockton Youth Climate Coalition:

On 1st December, Mrs Newton took a group of four Eco-Co club members to Stockton's first Youth Climate Coalition meeting, linked to COP-28.



There were great talks from inspirational members of the environmental community with lots of new ideas to bring back to try in school. The four eco members chosen were fantastic representatives for our school asking great, thought-provoking questions to the expert panel.

Well done Alexis, Amani, George and Aaliyah! Eco club runs every Friday dinner for KS2 children to join to help make our school more environmentally friendly.



Christmas Fair:

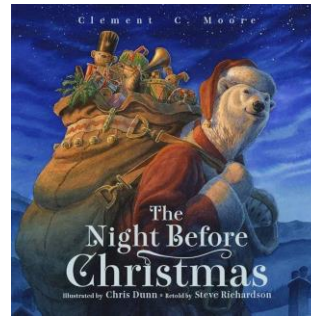
The Christmas Fair raised a whopping £1,328.33 for school. This money goes directly to our budget for things such as books, toys for our OPAL playtimes and subsidising school trips.

Chess:

Our school has just been awarded a grant from the Department for Education to deliver Chess in school. From January, Year 5 will be learning chess each week with a tutor from CSC – Chess In Schools and Communities. All of KS2 will also have access to chess club, and an online chess account so they can play against the computer and other plays from around the world. We are really excited to start chess in January!



What is everyone reading?



I'd recommend everyone reads 'The Night Before Christmas' just as they get tucked into bed on Christmas Eve! Here is a link to Mr Christmas himself, Michael Bubl , reading this classic tale...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g4Y1lpCGHss>

UPCOMING KEY DATES

- Tuesday 19th December – Theatre Performance & Last Day
- Monday 8th January 2024 – Children return to school
- Tuesday 6th February – Safer Internet Day

Remember, all key dates are on the website under the 'events' section and 'calendar' section. You can subscribe to the calendar on your smartphone, so you are always aware of what's going on.



Remember you can see on Class Dojo's Class Story and on X (formerly known as Twitter!) what's going on in each class! There are lots of exciting learning opportunities each day. The updates from X are also shared on our website too.

@HardwickGreenPA – School's X

@HardwickMrS – Mr Story's X

Information and reminders...

Toy request!

After Santa Claus has been, you may be thinking of clearing out some of the children's older toys that they no longer play with. In the new year, we would love donations of hardy, plastic toys for outside, such as superheroes, cars, dinosaurs, Paw Patrols, etc. These will go directly onto our playground to enhance our OPAL playtime and lunchtimes. Thank you for any donations!



Support with food:

During this difficult time of year, we would like to remind families of places that can offer support if you are struggling financially.

LOCAL FOOD BANK

Stockton Hope Community Larder (formerly known as St Andrew's Church food bank) run a food bank every Wednesday between 11:00am and 1:00pm. They are able to donate fresh veg, fruit, bread and cakes etc that have been donated as 'end of day' produce. For further information on the help and support available at the Stockton Hope Community Larder, please contact Glynnis McNaughton, 07810 521255.

THE BREAD & BUTTER THING

The Bread and Butter Thing offers high-quality, low-cost food to everyone in Stockton-on-Tees. For £8.50, you can pick up 3 bags of food worth roughly £35 including fresh fruit and veg, chilled food for the fridge, and cupboard staples like cereal. You can also pay just £5 for an individual bag or £17 for a six bag 'family' deal.

It's free to join with no commitment...

1. Text 07860 063304 with your name, postcode, and where you'll be collecting from: Stockton, Thornaby or New Life in Billingham
2. Select the size of order you want to receive: family - £8.50, individual - £5, or large family - £17.
3. They will send you a text two days before your collection day to see if you want an order. Just reply "yes" by 10am the next day and they'll deliver your order to the hub ready for collection.
4. Collect and pay for your goods. You can pay using cash or card, and we accept Healthy Start vouchers too.

Key staff:

If you'd like to speak to anyone in school, just give us a call or Dojo message. Some people you might want to speak to are:



Miss Howarth

Safeguarding
Officer



Miss Featherstone

SENDCO



Mrs Rankin

Education welfare
Officer

You can contact any member of staff by phoning the office on 01642 677968.



From everyone at Hardwick Green Primary Academy, we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!