



Hardwick Green Primary Academy

Newsletter



October 2024

Message from the Principal

Hello parents, carers and family members,

Another busy half term comes to a close.

Firstly, I'd like to thank you for your support with our big push on attendance. Our attendance this year has improved significantly, and we are currently above the national average. Please keep this up! Children who are in school regularly not only learn more but have the chance to socialise with their friends and take part in our exciting curriculum. Moments matter – attendance counts!

Speaking of our exciting curriculum – so much has gone on this half term. On the next page you can see a flavour of the activities different year groups have taken part in. Plus, our key dates section shows what's coming up soon.

This month, we have expanded the newsletter to include a dedicated section for our work as a 'Healthy School' and an 'Eco School' – check page four for our updates on this. I've also added a section for our 'sticky question' each month. As we are developing children's oracy, please do ask them what they think of the question each month.

I hope you have a great half-term break, and we will see you when school reopens on Monday 4th November.

Chris Story

Principal



Attendance Update

Here is our attendance for the whole year so far (i.e. since we returned on 4th September)...

Year Group	Attendance	
Reception	96.1%	
Year 1	98.2%	★
Year 2	96.9%	★
Year 3	94.7%	
Year 4	96.8%	★
Year 5	95.2%	
Year 6	95.0%	
TOTAL	96.0%	

Well done to EVERYONE for sustaining the great improvement this year. Years 1, 2 and 4 are comfortably above the national average, which is great to see. Year 1 - 98.2% is incredible! Keep it up!

Please remember to phone the school office on 01642 677968 if your child is going to absent, or complete the absence reporting form on the website.



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!



**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**



What's happening at Hardwick?

Book fair:

What an incredible turn out we had at the book fair! Thank you so much to everybody who came along. Because of your amazing support, we have been able to raise **£269.26** for school to spend on resources for our children!



Year 5 Trip to PGL:

Last week, Year 5 went to PGL in North Yorkshire for the annual Year 5 residential to explore Outdoor and Adventurous Activities, and as a great character building experience. Once again the children were brilliantly behaved and very brave, having the chance to try activities such as abseiling and canoeing. Thank you to Mrs Keegan, Mrs Wright and Miss Jowett for giving their time to take the children.



Year 3 and 4 art work:

Year 3 and 4 have been creating some beautiful charcoal animals in their art topic, which builds on their history learning about the Stone Age. Well done, Year 3 and 4!



Year 2 maths:

Year 2 have been learning how to use the inequality symbols to compare two-digit numbers. Super work, Year 2!



KEY DATES

- 21st – 25th October – Black History Month
- 21st – 25th October – Parents' Evening
- 28th October – 1st November – October Half Term
- 11th – 15th November – Anti Bullying Week & Primary Maths Challenge KS2
- 12th – 15th November – Year 6 Paris Residential
- 22nd November – School Photograph Day



We use **Instagram** to showcase the learning that goes on in school. Our school account is:

@HardwickGreenPA

Please give us a follow! There are lots of exciting learning opportunities each day. The updates from Instagram are also shared on our website too, so if you don't have Instagram, you can still see everything going on in school.

For the latest dates always check the website:
<https://hardwickgreenacademy.org/events>





Information and reminders...

HOLIDAYS ARE FUN

Free, fun activities for school age children from Reception to Year 11.

To be eligible, families must be in receipt of benefits-related free school meals, in receipt of Universal Credit or experiencing financial difficulties.

BOOK NOW!

Scan to register:

www.stockton.gov.uk/haf
 01642 527752
HAF@stockton.gov.uk

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

Academy Senior Wellbeing & Safeguarding Lead



Miss Featherstone

SENDCO



Mrs Montgomery

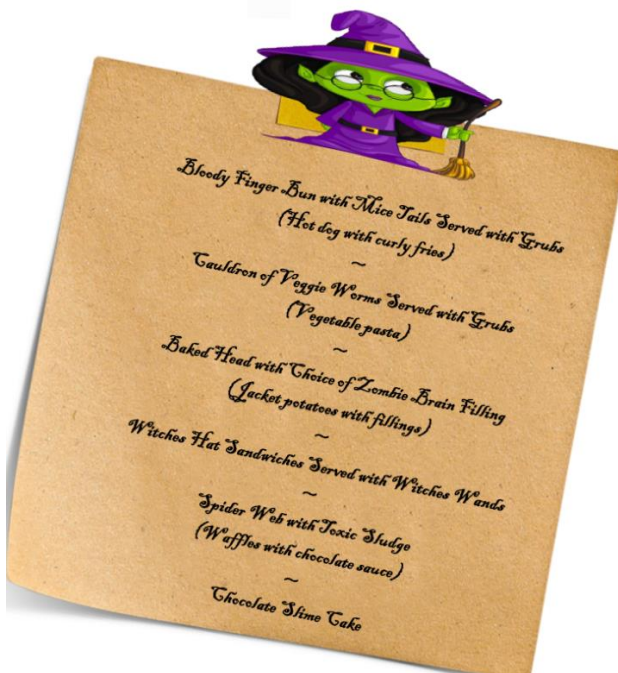
Education Welfare Officer

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

Halloween:

The last day before half term (Friday 25th October 2024) is our Halloween fancy dress day! On this day, children can come to school in Halloween fancy dress. Please remember that children of all ages play out together at lunch time so nothing too terrifying!

There is also a special Halloween menu for the day. If your child normally has a packed lunch but wants to join in this day, they just need to let the teacher know at register time on the morning. Remember this is FREE for all Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 pupils.



Online Safety

Just another reminder that we are part of National Online Safety – a service that can provide you with guidance and support in managing your child's use of mobile phones and online services. Use this link to register for free. <https://nationalcollege.com/enrol/hardwick-green-primary-academy>



Click here to view this half term's Online Safety Newsletter:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1xLI_ObV0aTuHrGcXXAZm7-PVSlurLEA/view

Healthy School Update:



In March 2023, we became one of the first accredited 'Healthy Schools' in Stockton-on-Tees. Each month, we will provide an update on our work to ensure we are promoting good physical and mental health for our young people and families.

Tees Valley 'Active School':

This year we have embarked on a journey to become an 'Active School' through the Creating Active Schools Project. Physically active children are happier, healthier and achieve more. Tees Valley Sport, working with local partners and school leaders aim to help children and their communities become active by adopting a whole school approach to being active. We are currently writing our action plan with our partners at Tees Valley Sport, and next month we will update you on our exciting plans for the year.



Eco Schools Update:

For the second year running, Hardwick Green Primary Academy achieved the Eco Schools Green Flag Award, with distinction. This is the highest level of Eco Schools award that it is possible to achieve. Here are some the highlights from our assessor's feedback:

"Well done for creating such a large Eco-Club! Pupils in your school are clearly very passionate about environmental issues and willing to go above and beyond to create positive impacts in their local community and beyond."

"You state that the most significant success of your Eco-Schools' work was the development of your school grounds through orchards, wildflower planting as well as allotment work and we agree that this is a phenomenal achievement!"

A very big well done to the Eco Club, and a big thank you to Mrs Newton for leading the Eco Club and putting so much time and effort into the submission.

You can read our Eco Club report here: <https://hardwickgreenacademy.org/our-school/curriculum/smsc>

Tesco Fruit & Veg Grant:

We have received a grant of **£8,000** from Tesco to provide free fruit and vegetables for our children. We are pleased to now be able to offer fruit and vegetables - such as carrots, tomatoes, apples, pears and bananas - to pupils of all ages at break times, breakfast club and after-school club. We are also providing samples of different and more exotic fruit and vegetables for children to try so that they can broaden their tastes! Thank you to Tesco for supporting our work as a 'Healthy School', and to Miss Carr for successfully completing the bid for the grant.




WOW – the walk to school challenge:

Hardwick Green takes part in Living Streets' WOW – the walk to school challenge to help encourage as many children as possible to experience the benefits of walking to school.

WOW is a pupil-led behaviour-change initiative where children self-report how they get to school every day. If they travel actively (walk/wheel, cycle, scoot or Park and Stride) at least once a week for a month, they get rewarded with a badge. It's that easy!





How much of your thinking have others done for you?

@Sticky Questions

