



Hardwick Green Primary Academy

Newsletter

September 2023

Message from the Principal

Hello parents, carers and family members,

Welcome back to the autumn term! The summer holiday already feels like a distant memory...

I hope that all of our new children and families joining us this year are settling in well. We have several new members of staff in school too; please see the next page in the newsletter to meet them.

There is lots going on as ever in school. Last week we welcomed DanceFuzion and SpeedStackUK in school to provide workshops in dance and 'speed-stacking'! The children loved these events and our visitors said how hard the children worked and how well-behaved they were.

We have also welcomed visitors from Stokesely Primary Academy who came to see what a fantastic learning environment we have in school, and visitors from Stockton's Initial Teacher Training programme, who came to learn about how to teach reading effectively. All of our visitors were blown away by the behavior of the children!

As always, you know where we are if we can help with anything.

Chris Story

Principal



Attendance Update

Our school attendance for the start of the year has been...

Year Group	Attendance
Reception	90.6%
Year 1	91.8%
Year 2	91.5%
Year 3	93.9%
Year 4	91.6%
Year 5	88.8%
Year 6	92.8%
TOTAL	91.7%

Well done to Year 3 for making a great start to the year.

We would love as any children in school as possible and for our attendance to be above 95%.

Please remember to phone the school office on 01642 677968 if your child is going to absent.



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!

What's happening at Hardwick?

We have several new members of staff in school this year. **Mrs. Michelle Rankin** is our new **Education Welfare Officer** ...

Hello!

I am thrilled to introduce myself to you! I am Michelle Rankin and I am Hardwick Green's new Education Welfare Officer. Being a parent, carer or guardian is hard work! Sometimes we all need a bit of advice, someone to answer our queries or even someone to just tell us if we're on the right track.



As your Education Welfare Officer, I am here to do just that! I can advise on a whole range of issues to help you with those niggly parenting problems that many of us face. In addition to this, I hope to help you to become more involved in your child's school and their learning.

Sounds good you say! - but what exactly do you do? Are you a social worker or attendance officer?!

No I'm not! I work solely for Hardwick Green Academy's parents and carers.

I can support with;

- Behaviour issues
- Housing issues
- Attendance concerns – helping you to avoid attendance proceedings
- Providing access to activities and adult learning
- Linking to other agencies
- Funding and benefits
- Home or school worries

I can arrange an appointment with you at school or visit you in the comfort of your own home – wherever is easier for you!

I am so happy to be part of the Hardwick Green Family and look forward to meeting you all soon!

Mr. Adams is our new **Deputy Principal and Year 6 teacher**. He joins us from Harrow Gate Primary where he has taught in Year 6 for a number of years. I know from working with Mr Adams previously that he will be a great addition to our team and he is really enjoying his new role at Hardwick Green!

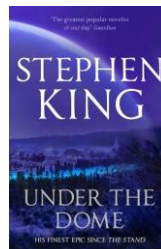


Our school has been awarded the **GOLD School Games Mark Award** for our fantastic PE and sports provision. Thank you to Mr. Laing for all of his hard work on this, including organising staffing and transport for all of the sports competitions that children from across school have had access to.



What is everyone reading?

Mr Story is reading **Under the Dome** by Stephen King.



Kelly from Little Stars is reading **Magpie** by Elizabeth Day

KEY DATES

- 3 October – Year 3 and Year 3/4 Class Trip to Durham Oriental Museum
- 4 October – Year 4 Class Trip to Durham Oriental Museum
- 5 October – Year 5 Trip to see Coldstream Guards
- 16 – 19 October – Parents & carers evening
- 23 – 27 October – Black History Month: Famous Person Study Week
- 27 October – Halloween Fancy Dress & Spooky Menu
- 30 October – 3 November – HALF TERM!



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...

Water bottles:

Please can we make sure that children's water bottles are made of plastic and not glass. This is as if a glass one gets knocked over it could shatter and pose an injury risk. Thank you!



E-scooters:

E-scooters are not allowed on school premises at all for safety reasons. Please do not bring these onto the grounds. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

National Online Safety:

We are part of National Online Safety – a service that can you 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>

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 Fawcett

SENDCO



Mrs Rankin

Education welfare
Officer

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



Did you know?



Miss Dunning

In school we have a specialist computing teacher, Miss Dunning, who teaches computing to each class from Year 1 to Year 6. Miss Dunning has helped the Enquire Learning Trust write their computing curriculum, and she ensures that our school uses the most up-to-date technology to allow the children to develop exceptional computing skills and to use technology to enhance their learning across the full curriculum.