



# Hardwick Green Primary Academy

Newsletter

September 2024

## Message from the Principal

Hello parents, carers and family members,

Welcome back to the start of another school year!

It has been a very settled start for the children who are all working hard and enjoying their new classes. We've been really pleased to welcome our new Reception and Nursery learners, plus our new members of staff too. We know they all already feel like part of the Hardwick Green family.

As you can see from the statistics opposite, you have made a fantastic start to the year in terms of attendance too, and we really appreciate you working with us to ensure that children are in school every day, as much as is possible.

There's lots going on in the next few weeks, including residential trips and a new book fair – see the next page for key dates and remember you can subscribe to our school website calendar so you can see upcoming events on your smartphone.

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

Chris Story

Principal



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!



## Attendance Update

Our school attendance for the start of the year has been excellent. Take a look...

| Year Group | Attendance |
|------------|------------|
| Reception  | 97.8%      |
| Year 1     | 98.9%      |
| Year 2     | 97.2%      |
| Year 3     | 94.2%      |
| Year 4     | 96.2%      |
| Year 5     | 95.6%      |
| Year 6     | 95.1%      |
| TOTAL      | 96.0%      |

Well done to EVERYONE for making a fantastic start to the school year. This is much higher than the same time last year and a significant improvement since last year. Keep this up!

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

**MOMENTS  
MATTER,  
ATTENDANCE  
COUNTS.**

# What's happening at Hardwick?

## Meet our new Education Welfare Officer:



### Hello everyone!

My name is Ally Montgomery and I am the new Education Welfare Officer for Hardwick Green Academy Primary school. I am looking forward to getting to know you all and supporting you and your child/children through their school journey.

Before becoming the EWO for Hardwick Green I was a classroom teacher for 24 years, teaching all age groups from Reception to Y6. I am also a mother of 4, grandmother of 2 and a foster mum so there is very little I haven't dealt with over the years!

I understand very well that 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 that we're doing a great job.

### So how can I help you?

- Provide a listening ear for your worries
- Offer guidance/ support around behaviour
- Give support and advice around starting school and transition to secondary school
- Help signpost to resources / services within the community offering support for example: financial concerns, health, parenting courses
- Provide strategies to help you get your child/children to school on time

### Where can you find me?

You'll see me on the playground every morning between 8:30 and 8:50 so please feel free to approach me with any issues. If I can't answer your queries straight away, I will certainly do my best to find the answers for you. I am also in the office every day until 12:00 and you can always leave me a message if I'm not in.

It is a pleasure to have become part of the Hardwick Green Family and I look forward to getting to know you all soon!

### OPAL Award:

As you will know, in September 2022 we became an OPAL (Outdoor Play And Learning) school. This means we have significantly invested in our play and lunch times and provide a wide range of exciting activities and opportunities for play for all children.

On Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September we had our final visit from Andrea, our OPAL mentor. Andrea was incredibly impressed with the quality of our lunch time play opportunities and has awarded us with the OPAL Gold award!

We are so proud of our achievements and would like to say a big 'thank you' to Mrs Kitchener who leads our Play Team, Mr Adams who co-ordinates OPAL and all of our Play Team and TAs who work hard to make play times fun and accessible for all.



### KEY DATES

- 10<sup>th</sup> October – Scholastic Book Fair – 3:20pm – 4:00pm
- 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> October – Year 5 PGL Residential
- 21<sup>st</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> October – Black History Month
- 21<sup>st</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> October – Parents' Evening
- 28<sup>th</sup> October – 1<sup>st</sup> November – October Half Term
- 11<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> November – Anti Bullying Week & Primary Maths Challenge KS2
- 12<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> November – Year 6 Paris Residential

For the latest dates always check the website:

<https://hardwickgreenacademy.org/events>



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.

# Information and reminders...

## Reminder - After-school clubs and wrap around care:

Clubs are open to book on MCAS. Please don't book your child into two clubs on the same night! And also check that they really want to go - if children's names are down for clubs they don't attend it takes spaces from others.

There's loads to choose from including our new martial arts club with Yarm Martial Arts. My two boys go to this outside of school and love it! We also have wrap around on each night; this is on until 6pm now if you need it.

## Reminder - 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

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.

## Stockton-on-Tees Parent/Carer Coffee Mornings:

Do you live within Stockton-on-Tees local authority? Do you have concerns that your child, who is 0-18 years old has autism, sensory processing, ADHD or FASD?

The drop-ins are friendly and welcoming but feel free to bring a friend, partner, relative or anyone else for support if you would like. Please note, these are group sessions and 1:1 support can't be provided at these drop-ins. To access 1:1 support, please contact [family.support@daisychainproject.co.uk](mailto:family.support@daisychainproject.co.uk)

No diagnosis is needed, the service can be accessed if you have any concerns, regardless of diagnosis/neuro developmental pathway status.

### Upcoming dates:

From: Monday 9 September 2024 – Monday 21 October 2024

When: Mondays (term-time only) 10am – 12pm

Where: Billingham Family Hub, Ochil Terrace, TS23 2QL



**DAISY CHAIN**  
Autism & Neurodiversity



### Did you know?

After school wrap-around care is now available each day from school, up until 6pm. Prices are £3 until 4:30pm, £8 until 5:30pm or £10 until 6pm. Please book via MCAS if you'd like to access this.

Breakfast Club remains FREE and is open from 8am each day – no need to book.