



HILLTOP INFANT SCHOOL



Harvest Celebration

Our Harvest Celebration Assembly will be taking place tomorrow and there will be two separate performances, one at 9:15am and the other at 2:30pm. We are still asking for donations for The Gateway Project foodbank and toiletries for Basildon Women's Aid. Please bring donations to the school office.

Thursday 6th October 2016

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National Poetry Day

Today is National Poetry Day and we had a wonderful whole-school assembly to start the day. Each class recited a nursery rhyme together performed beautifully. Nursery rhymes are an important part of the literacy and cultural history of Britain and our assembly was a very special way of sharing them. Reading, writing and reciting poetry is part of the National Curriculum at Key Stage 1 and Poetry Day is one way that we celebrate this literacy genre.

Letters sent home this week:

Parents Evening Booking

Collection of Ethnic Background

EYFS Reading Books

Friday EYFS Workshops

These workshops will be held in the school hall and pre-school children are welcome.

7th October, **AM following Harvest Assembly** - Mrs Bower

14th October, 2:25pm - Resilience - Kerry Westbrook

21st October, 2:25pm - Phonics - Mrs Boroughs

4th November, 2:25pm - Maths - Miss Field

Craze of the Week Year 1 & 2

The craze for next week will be Yo Yo's .

Change to dinner next week

Due to unforeseen circumstances the dinner menu for next Wednesday will have a slight change. Instead of Roast Gammon it will be a Roast Chicken breast.

Complaints and Concerns

It is very easy for all parents and carers to raise issues with school staff. We welcome communication in person by phone and via email. Teachers, Teaching Assistants and Office Staff are always happy to talk to with you and will aim to resolve difficulties as soon as possible. We do ask that parents and carers do not shout at school staff or use any kind of intimidating behaviour. It was disappointing that a parent chose to raise her voice at several members of school staff yesterday. This was upsetting for the children and some parents who were present. Staff were attempting to assist but it is not easy to do this whilst being shouted at.

Rainbow Day

Last Friday Mrs Mackenzie and Mrs James took a group of children to the CLC for Rainbow Day. We were incredibly proud of our children, they were polite, well behaved and mixed beautifully with children from several other Wickford schools.

Parent lunches

We have been delighted that a number of feedback forms from the parent lunches have commented how friendly and helpful our school staff are.



Please see next page for further news.

Consultations

Thank you to everyone who has given us feedback about the Parent Consultation booking system. One of our parents has said she would prefer a paper-based system but everyone else has been overwhelmingly positive about the on-line booking. Thank you for taking the time to respond.

Lost property

Staff all have systems in place to ensure that clothing and other belongings are stored safely in class. Children are given increasing responsibility to care for their own belongings as they move through the school. It is essential that all clothing and other belongings are named so that we can return them immediately. A large amount of unnamed clothing is disposed of every term in school. If it is of good quality it is added to our bank that is organised by our Eco Committee. Parents and Carers can help themselves to any of these items at no cost; please see the office staff for help with this. Despite our systems, a small amount of named uniform does go astray. On most occasions this has been taken home by another child in error and is eventually returned. We have 275 people (children and adults) working in our building every day and it is impossible to ensure that nothing ever gets lost but we will always do our best to recover missing items.



School Council

Hilltop Infant Schools New School Council Representatives introduced themselves to the school during Assembly this term. After their first meeting the Year 2 Representatives attended a School Council Conference at the Collaborative Learning Centre in Wickford. Here are some of the things they told us about the day: "We learnt that we look after the school", "We have an important job", "We help the school to get even better".