

## Polling Day – Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May...

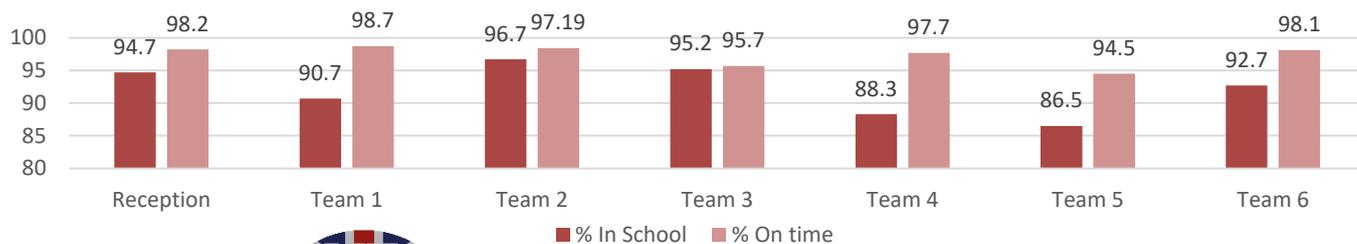


There will be a Police and Crime Commissioner election on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2020 and we have been informed that our building is required as a polling station. So, we will need to close the Team 3/4 bay. To avoid inconvenience to you all we will be making arrangements so that school remains open.



## Attendance and Punctuality...

Well done to Team 2 for attendance this week and Team 1 for punctuality!!



## VE Day 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in Helsby...



On Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May, Horn's Mill will be involved in the Helsby VE Day Celebrations. A day of fun is planned along similar lines to Ho HO Helsby. There will be a parade starting at Helsby High at 1pm, which will culminate at the playing fields in the village. I would like as many of our children to be involved in the day as possible so have allocated an activity for each Key stage. We are working closely with Pre School so our Reception, Team 1 and Team 2 children are invited to ride on a float with pre-school. There will be thirty places allocated so if you would like a place for your child, please email the office

([admin@hornsmill.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:admin@hornsmill.cheshire.sch.uk)) or let them know in person to add you to the list.

Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. In keeping with the war theme, the children will need to be dressed up as evacuees on the float. To ensure as many children are involved as possible, there will sadly be no places for parents on the float this time, but we will be asking for volunteers to walk alongside to be safety marshals.

Team 3 and 4 will be working with 'Twig Twisters' in school on 24<sup>th</sup> March to create some willow poppies. These will be carried by the children in a walking parade behind our float. They can all take part in the walking parade on the day if they wish. We will ask you for a better idea of numbers nearer the time.

Team 5 and 6 will all be given the opportunity to learn to dance the Maypole this year so that we can have a bigger team to perform the Maypole at the playing fields in the afternoon after the parade (approx. 3pm). The school choir and community choir will be singing on the stage at playing fields too. (2pm)



**"BUILD your VOCABULARY"**

Please ask your child about the word "DEVOUR"



## Reading Workshop for Parents...



As some of you will be aware, there has been a big change in the home reading books in the infants. Staff have worked extremely hard to ensure that the 'Home Readers' are more aligned with the books we use for reading lessons in school.

In addition to this, (and with a BIG thank you to Emma Foster for her Marathon donation), we have spent almost £2500 on READ WRITE INC's Book Bag Books to compliment the review that staff have already done. This is a significant investment for school and as such we want to ensure the maximum impact on children's progress. So, on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March at 9am and repeated at 5.45pm, a workshop will take place to support you to understand how we teach children to read and in turn, how you can help with reading at home. This will be most useful for children in Reception, Team 1 and 2, but all are welcome.

## Dates for your diary (Updates in RED) ...



Choir visits in Helsby	16 <sup>th</sup> and 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Twig Twisters in Team 3 and 4	Tues 24 <sup>th</sup> March
<b>READING Parent WORKSHOPS</b>	<b>Wed 18<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Horn's Mill's Got Talent!	WB 30 <sup>th</sup> March
Cross County in Delamere	Wed 18 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>NON UNIFORM DAY- Please bring an Easter Gift for the Hamper Drawer</b>	<b>Fri 27<sup>th</sup> March</b>
Down Syndrome Day – Stripy Socks	Fri 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Easter Fun – Egg Hunt etc – Hampers	Tues 31 <sup>st</sup> March
Musical Extravaganza	Fri 20 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>SCHOOL CLOSED FOR EASTER</b>	
Parent's Evenings: 3.15 - 7pm	Mon 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Last day on Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup> April (Pick up as normal at 3/3.15pm)	
3.15 - 5pm	Wed 25 <sup>th</sup> March	Back to school on Mon 20 <sup>th</sup> April	



## Parent Questionnaire...



Thank you to everyone who has completed the online questionnaire that was sent out to you last week. We are very grateful for the feedback as it allows us to evaluate and improve our systems each year. Can I please make a plea that as many of you as possible take the time to complete it? At the last count only 25 had been received. Even if you are fully satisfied and have no comments or suggestions to make, this would be useful for us to know so that we can be sure that the collated results give a fair reflection of our families views. If you are unable to log on, please contact Deb Waterson in the office and she will be happy to help you.

Team 6 children found out last week about their high school places. This year it seems that almost all of the children are going to Helsby High. They have asked us to share the following transition dates with you.

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Transition Activity:</b>
Monday 20 April - Friday 22 May 2020		<b>Transition Visits by Mrs K Jones to Primary Schools</b>
Monday 8 June to Friday 26 June 2020	3.30pm to 5.00pm	<b>JIGSAW (additional transition project for identified cohort)</b>
Friday 19 June 2020		<b>Induction Information Pack posted to families</b>
Tuesday 7 July 2020	5.30pm to 7.30pm	<b>Year 6 Induction Evening</b>
Wednesday 8 July 2020	5.30pm to 7.30pm	<b>Year 6 Induction Evening</b>
Thursday 9 July 2020	8.40am till 3.05pm	<b>Year 6 Induction Day 1</b>
Friday 10 July 2020	8.40am till 3.05pm	<b>Year 6 Induction Day 2</b>

  **Transition Project...an update...**

As you know, this year I have been leading a Transition Project one day per week funded by the Cheshire West Education Improvement Board. (CWEIB). The latter part of last term and most of this term has been spent meeting with colleagues from primary schools and the high school to develop a better understanding of the learning that occurs in Y6 and Y7 in all subjects across our Frodsham and Villages cluster of primary schools. The learning from all of these workshops, which concluded with Maths last week, will allow us to look at ways to make the transition to high school even stronger in terms of students' learning. Eventually this work should lead to agreed curriculum expectations across our primary schools, which the High School curriculum will then be built upon. Equally, at Horn's Mill, during the process of gradually developing our own curriculum, we are using the information gained through these workshops to inform our expected outcomes for Y6 in each subject. This ensures we can work backwards from this to create a progressive curriculum that allows children to build on their prior learning effectively. Students going to Helsby from all of the partner primary schools in the future will therefore benefit from a 'joined-up' curriculum in all of their subjects in a unique way as a result of this pioneering project.



## Our lovely Mrs Sian Stuart...

As many of you may already know, Mrs Sian Stuart sadly passed away just over two weeks ago. Sian was an extremely valued member of the Horn's Mill Team, working in the school office long before and since my appointment as head teacher here. Many of our current staff worked very closely with her and considered her a friend as well as a colleague. She gave so much of her life and heart to Horn's Mill as a pupil, parent and staff member and will be very sadly missed by our team and the community in which she lived for many years. Some of our team will be attending the funeral on Friday this week, where we will pay our last respects to a proud, strong and passionate Miller. Our thoughts, love and sympathies are with Sian's family.



## And Finally - myHappyMind ...



Our relaunch of myHappyMind is going really well in school this year. We are just embarking on our third unit called 'Appreciate'. Children are regularly using 'Happy Breathing' in school to help them be calm and ready to learn. Remember you can use these techniques to support your child's mental health, behaviour and sleeping patterns by downloading the FREE parents APP. To access the App just go to [https://myhappymind.org/parents\\_2](https://myhappymind.org/parents_2) and you'll be guided through the process.

Thanks everyone,

Sharon Wyatt (Head Teacher)

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