



Huntington Community Primary School Newsletter

December 15th, 2023

Diary Dates Addition

15 th Christmas break
January
2 nd INSET (pupils not in)
3 rd School re-opens
8 th Open Day (YR Sep '24)
25/6 th County Football Finals
February
5/6 th Y3 Parents' evenings
6 th Safer Internet Day
7 th Young Voices (choir)
10 th Chinese New Year
12-15 th Parents' evenings
12-16 th Y3 residential
16 th Half-term break
26 th School re-opens
March
7 th World Book Day
15 th Red Nose Day
20-22 nd Y4 residential
28 th Easter break
April
15 th INSET (pupils not in)
16 th School re-opens
19 th <i>The Selfish Giant</i> play
22-24 th Y5 residential
May
6 th Bank Holiday
13 th Y6 SATs week
24 th Half-term break
June
3 rd INSET (pupils not in)
4 th School re-opens
10 th Y1 Phonics check wk
Y4 Times Tables wk
12 th <i>Shrek the Musical</i>
13 th Class photos
<i>Shrek the Musical</i>
14 th Infant Sports (am)
17-21 st Y6 residential
19 th Nursery Sports (am)
27 th Junior Sports (am)
July
9-11 th Parents' Evenings
23 rd Y6 Leavers' show
24 th Summer Break

Here we are at the end of the autumn term – has it flown by for you too? Next term may well begin with similar disruption to that experienced at the start of this one, with the recently announced Sandy Lane road closure from January 8th (all year!) likely to pose many problems – we will be in touch during the first week back with any additional information. In the meantime, I hope you all have a lovely Christmas, and wish you a happy and successful 2024.

Time Capsule Competition: Making History!

We are creating a time capsule for people of the future to learn more about our lives in 2023/4. A copy of a competition entry form is being sent home with every child: all they have to do is draw an item that they would be happy to donate to the time capsule, if their entry wins. All entries must be handed to teachers by 9th January - winners will be announced on 19th January.

Children in Need



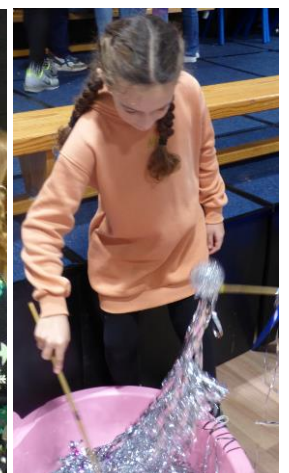
We welcomed a very special visitor in the run up to *Children in Need* day in November. Pudsey visited all our classes, and was greeted with excitement wherever he went – many thanks to parent Kate Jones for arranging his visit.

The School Council also arranged a Bake Off competition, which attracted more than 40 entries. These were judged and then sold to raise further funds. Altogether, more than £1,100 was raised – a fantastic total. Thanks everyone!



PTA

Pudsey also visited the PTA Quiz Night, which was a very enjoyable evening and succeeded in raising more than £1,000 for the school. Used clothing donations, via *Rags2Riches4Schools*, also raised almost £200 and supported a good cause, and more recently, a busy Christmas Fair also proved very popular, with a performance from the choir and Santa in his grotto adding to the festive fun.



Scenes from the PTA Christmas Fair

A sample of recent school activities



KS1 visit from *The Owl Man*



Using a viewfinder in art



Video link to South Africa



Y4 as Roman soldiers



A Christmas Carol



Y6 safety training (*Crucial Crew*)

Junior Christmas Shows



Sport

The second half of the autumn term was packed with sporting opportunities and success.

Our pupils took part in tournaments in both hockey (for the first time) at Upton High and basketball at Ellesmere Port Sports Village, in which they reached the semi-final.

Hockey squad

Ethan Foster, Zoe Gilbert, Poppy Griffiths, Noah Sanderson, Eban Thomas, Amy Wentel



Y6 Hockey squad

Basketball squad

Jason Cheung, Sam Gilbert, Zoe Gilbert, Oliver Hope, Seth Jackson, Archie Lacken, Marcus Leung, Fletcher Pullman, George Roberts, Eban Thomas, Charlotte Woolley

In football, while the league fixtures have yet to commence, three English Schools FA tournaments were recently held at Christleton High School. Our Year 4 girls thoroughly enjoyed their event, and our Y5/6 girls **reached the final** of theirs, without conceding a goal in open play and only losing the final in a penalty shoot out. As a result, they qualified for the county finals in January.

The Y5/6 boys were similarly impressive, also not conceding a goal in the group stages, and going on to **win the whole tournament**, defeating Saughall in the final in extra time. Some very excited boys arrived back at Huntington that afternoon, clutching the trophy, and they too have qualified for the county finals.

Many congratulations to both teams!



Y5/6 Girls football team – Chester area finalists



Y6 Boys football team – Chester area winners

Y4 Girls' Football Squad

Isabelle Chadwick, Lilah Duncan, Millie Dunne, Sarah Hennessy, Lucy McConnell, Chloe Roberts, Tabitha Stenning, Isadora Kapps Sutter

Y5/6 Girls' Football Squad

Zoe Gilbert, Poppy Griffiths, Emilia Hughes, Annie Knights, Elizabeth Marsh, Ella Peers, Dotty Bell Rowe, Elissa Sayer, Amy Wentel, Ami Williams

Y6 Boys' Football Squad

Alex Durband, Oscar Gutkowski, Oliver Hope, Seth Jackson, Archie Lacken, Nathan Li, Oli McMillan, Fletcher Pullman, Gabriel Render, George Roberts, Eban Thomas



Y4 Girls Football team

Martin Jones

Mr Jones, our KS2 PE tutor and sports coach of many years, and latterly Forest School teacher, is leaving at Christmas to take up a new position in Crewe. We wish Martin well in his future endeavours, and thank him for his contribution to the school's sporting successes (including a treble winning football team in 2013, second place in the district athletics in the summer, and our recent victory in the Christleton High football tournament).

Behaviour Awards

The winners of the KS2 individual behaviour prizes for the last term are as below - and well done to the other children whose behaviour has been exemplary, including those who have received a seat at the Golden Table today.

Second half-term

Y3 Birch: Zack Payne

Y4 Hawthorn: Elissa Price

Y5 Larch: Mya Hooper

Y6 Alder: Riley Foster-Lovell

Y3 Hazel: Chloe Anderson

Y4 Lime: Leo Griffiths

Y5 Rowan: Gabby Morris

Y6 Sycamore: Alex Durband

First half-term

Y3 Birch: Marni Williams

Y4 Hawthorn: Lara Kumral

Y5 Larch: Zakary Roberts

Y6 Alder: Charlotte Woolley

Y3 Hazel: Elizabeth Hunter-Jones

Y4 Lime: Ellie Hay

Y5 Rowan: Mellissa Pei

Y6 Sycamore: Marcus Leung

Music in School

Year 4 pupils impressed their parents in guitar concerts held at the start of December, showcasing their learning from whole-class lessons provided by *Music for Life* tutors.

Considerable musical ability and dedication to practice was in evidence from Will Hay's piano pupils when they entertained an audience of parents and children in a special concert at the end of November.



Y4 Hawthorn guitar concert



Will Hay's piano pupils



Making music online: KS1

Curriculum

This last half term our teachers have received input from *Literacy Company* advisors to develop their teaching of writing – this has been sourced both via CWAC (Y1-4) and directly by the school (Y5/6). In addition, we have also worked with our partner schools within CENS (local school network), and *Literacy Company* advisors, on the judgement of written work.

Maths Week raised the profile of mathematics once more, with a range of activities throughout the week, plus (+) a competition with trophies awarded for the best A3 maths posters.



Our new Art scheme has also been supported with teacher training, both on one of the INSET days at the start of the term from the scheme author, and from Mrs Pauline Kent, our Family Support Worker, who delivers watercolour workshops on a professional basis.



Maths Week Competition Winners

Health, Safety and Wellbeing

Wellbeing Dog

A very popular new addition to our team at Huntington is Rodney, Mrs Nicholson's dog. Rodney has been building up time in school to familiarise himself with our site and the children, and it has been a delight to see him make lots of new friends.



Medicines: antibiotics

Please note that advice states children on a course of antibiotics taken **3 times** per day should be able to take these at home, with a dose before school, one immediately on return home, and one before bed. School will therefore not administer in such cases, unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Staff Wellbeing Week

Governor Beth Hennessy devised a very gratefully received Wellbeing Week for staff, sourcing treats and gifts from generous local companies and surprising the staff with them on a daily basis. This went down a storm, as you can imagine – thanks Beth!

As part of the week, a fundraising day for the mental health charity MIND took place, and we thank you all for your generous donations towards this, on *Wear It Happy Day*.

*A very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
from all the staff and pupils at Huntington Primary*



Children who took part in the Santa Dash

Additional Open Morning

We have had further requests for appointments to visit the school from prospective parents looking at September 2024 Reception entry. As a result, we will be holding an additional Open Morning on January 8th.

Please note that [applications for the Reception classes](#) for next September must be submitted online to CWAC by 15th January 2024.