

# Houghton Primary School Newsletter

Issue

Friday 7 October 2022

We have had an action-packed fortnight in school with many exciting events happening in and around our classrooms. Please read on for a round-up of recent events and news...

## Harvest Festival

On Friday 30 September, we held our school Harvest Festival. We were blown away by the generosity of all the pupils and parents who donated so many items of food, drink and other vital supplies. After our special assembly, Year 6 collected the food ready for collection by the Foodbank on the Monday morning. The Foodbank representative was amazed by the quantity of our donation which filled his van. He wanted to pass his thanks on to everyone for the generosity of the school community.



On the morning of Sunday 2 October, 36 members of KS2 went to St Mary's Church to sing as part of the village's Harvest Festival Service. Everyone enjoyed listening to the children who all behaved and sang beautifully. Thank you to everyone who came and thank you to Mrs Smith for preparing our choir for this event!



## Busy Robins

Our Robins have had an incredibly busy fortnight, playing outside with the older children, enjoying their first yoga session and creating autumn dough models.



The children have also been creating their own self-portraits!



## School Development

Over the last fortnight we have continued to develop and hone our new systems for assessing and monitoring pupil progress.

This week we are reviewing subject leadership responsibilities and will be covering aspects of safeguarding in our staff meeting.

## Kestrels Gymnastics

Kestrels have been developing their gymnastics skills in PE over the last few weeks. They are working on a range of holds and are trying to create routines of their own.



## Owls Explore Neverbelieve

Owls recently had a letter from Norman Messenger inviting them to explore The Land of Neverbelieve. To prepare for this adventure, they had to take part in some problem solving and teamwork activities. They had to collect seeds from the extraordinary trees, rescue a magical creature from across the swamp, lead each other through the Spooky Dark Mountains and build a waterproof shelter to stay in. They successfully completed every challenge and are now ready to explore the island.



## Playground Update

You will have seen that we have begun to remove some of the play equipment on the main playground in readiness for the installation of a new trim trail. The remaining equipment is due to be removed during the half-term break and we hope to have the new apparatus installed by the end of this term.

## Open Evening & Progress Updates

Next week we will be opening our classroom doors to parents and carers as we invite you in to take a look at work books and learning environments. I know that the children will be very excited to share their learning with you and it is a great opportunity to see your child's work ahead of parent consultations next half-term.

Should you have any questions about your child's progress or would like to see the work in their books, there are opportunities to do this outside of the cycle of parent consultations and open evenings.

Please speak to your child's class teacher and they will be happy to arrange a meeting with you at a mutually agreeable time in order to give you an overview of work and progress.

## Diary Dates

Please be aware of the following dates for your diaries:

**Open Evening:** Thurs 20 October (1800 – 1900)

**Y5/6 Tag Rugby Tournament:** Tues 18 October

**Friendship Run Week:** 17 – 21 October

**Half-term:** 24 – 28 October

**Individual School Photos:** Tues 1 November

**Parent Consultations:** Tues 8 and Thurs 10 November

Thank you for your continued support,

Mr Andrew Spencer

Headteacher