

Autumn Term first half newsletter 2023

Message from Mrs Buckley

Hello and welcome to our first newsletter of the new school year. We have had a wonderful first week seeing all of the children back and ready to learn. As always, if you have any concerns, please contact the office. Just a reminder that Mrs Rogerson is not in school on a Wednesday, so please email either harbottle@hfs.cheviotlt.co.uk or myself that day. Any telephone messages or emails will be picked up when I am in the office.

We have gathered back your responses to the Breakfast Club and Play Date Club. The responses for a Breakfast Club were very few and not enough to make it viable at present. However, there were a lot of requests for the "Play Date" one and we will therefore commence this next Tuesday (12th September) - 3.15 until 5.00pm. The cost will be £5.00 and this payment can be made via the MCAS app, under the clubs tab.

We have also been asked about extending this offer to another evening and we are therefore sending out another form to see what the interest is to hold another one on a Thursday after school.

The "Play Date" Club is in addition to our normal Monday After School Club which will commence on Monday 18th September. There will be further information coming about this next week with a form to sign. The weekly contribution for this remains at £2.00 per session with cash being sent in as we use this money to cover materials required for the sessions.

School contact details and pupil consent forms are attached to be completed and returned to school as soon as possible so that we can ensure all our details are up to date.

School meals - Year 3 and 4 children lunch money. School meals are £12 per week or £91.20 up to half term. Payments to be made on the My Child At School app - please ensure that your account does not go into arrears.

Milk - If your child is five years of age and you wish them to receive milk at school during their milk and fruit time, it will be £10 per term, payable on the My Child At School app.

Are you entitled to Pupil Premium?

If you think you may meet the current criteria - here is a link -

https://online.northumberland.gov.uk/citizenportal/form.aspx?form=free_school_meals

If you are eligible for Pupil Premium you will then have access to the following benefits:

Paid residential year 3 and year 4.

One pair of school shoes per year, two jumpers/polo shirts and bottoms per year and 1 set of PE kit (up to the value of £125).

All school visits, Breakfast club and After school club costs will be met.

School uniform - we have had a few requests for uniform items and I am going to be placing an order as we have run out of some sizes. If you are going to be needing any new school sweatshirts or cardigans can you please let me know as soon as possible so I can include those in my order.

Reminder - please name all items of school uniform to save any confusion.

Bistro - resumes **Thursday 14th September**. The cost of a two course meal followed by tea/coffee is £7. If you would like to book a place then please let us know.

Parents' Meeting - you are all invited to attend a meeting with Mrs Buckley, Mrs Archer and Mrs Henry on **Monday 11th September at 4.30pm**.

This meeting is intended to discuss various items such as -

- Attendance
- Uniform
- Homework
- Behaviour
- Reading
- Curriculum
- School values
- Parent Academy Councillor
- Friends of Harbottle School

It will also give you a chance to ask any questions you may have.

Reminder - Online Safety Education session for parents to be held on **Monday 18th September** 2023 at Dr Thomlinson Middle School, Rothbury - 5.30pm - 6.20pm.

Evening Prayer sessions - Celtic-style evening prayer will resume on Thursday 14th September - 4.00pm in our yurt next to the school and will continue every Thursday until the end of term. These sessions are led by Catherine Iley, where all are welcome to attend.

Celebration assembly - We will be holding our first celebration assembly of the new year on **Wednesday, 25 October, at 2.15pm**. Everyone is welcome to come along and see what the children have learnt over the half term.

Bag2School - there will be a bag2school collection on **Thursday 9th November** at 9.00am. If you have anything you would like to donate, then can you please have the bags to the school gate for the collection by 9.00am.

Academy Council - the next meeting of Harbottle Academy Council will be **Friday 13th October** at 1.00pm.

Harvest festival - will be held in Alwinton Church on **Sunday 22nd October** at 10.30am. The children have been asked to participate in this event and we hope as many of you as possible will be able to attend.

Half term holiday - school breaks up on **Thursday 26th October** and resumes on **Monday 6th November**. (Friday 27th October is a teacher training day). Attached is a list of the 2023-24 term and holiday dates.

History Cafe - Every term we hold an afternoon based on a specific school subject. We invite parents to come in and take part in activities with their children. Our first one will take place on **Friday, 10th November at 2.00pm** and will be history based.

Uniform - We are waiting for a few more sizes of new uniform to arrive which will be available to purchase from the office. We also have some good quality second hand uniform items available in the office. If you are interested in this, please contact Susan and she will let you know what sizes we have available.



Harbottle C of E First School News