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Dates for Diary 2022- 2023

See HWPS Annual Calendar for in school activities and events.

Monday 28th November: INSET DAY no children at school

Tuesday 29th November/6th and 13th December: Gloucester GLOW STAR sessions with Year 5

Wednesday 30th November: Y5 Class Assembly - Parent/carers sign in at the office at 2.30pm

Thursday 1st December: Y2 Class Assembly - Parent/carers sign in at the office at 9.15am

Wednesday 7th December: Christmas Jumper and Dinner Day!

Thursday 8th December: Reception and KS1 (Y1 and Y2) Christmas Performance at 2pm

Friday 9th December: Reception and KS1 (Y1 and Y2) Christmas Performance at 9.15am

Friday 9th December: Boy's Brigade Christmas Fair – details to follow

Monday 12th December: KS2 (Y3-Y6) Christmas Performance at 1.30pm

Tuesday 13th December: KS2 (Y3-Y6) Christmas Performance at 9.15am

Thursday 15th December: FOHWPS Film Event for the children after school – details to follow

Friday 16th December – Last Day of Autumn Term 2022

Tuesday 3rd January 2023 – First Day of Spring Term 3 2023 – 8.50am start

Monday 28th November 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you to our parents/carers for always sending the children into school, so smartly, in their uniforms. There will be a text sent out regarding second hand uniform, this week, if anyone needs any.

SOHO Coffee Co – 'Cardboard to Coats' Initiative

We would like to say a huge thank you to SOHO Coffee Co. for donating £4,000, as part of their 'Cardboard to Coats' recycling initiative. The man who collects and send off the cardboard, has worked really hard as part of this project. He came into school and handed out a logoed school coat, for every child. The children look so smart and love being a TEAM in the same coat. THANK YOU SO MUCH FROM THE CHILDREN!

<https://sohocoffee.com/cardboard-to-coats/>





It all adds up!



Attendance

We are on a mission to improve our attendance. We would like to re-introduce our attendance "Bouncy Castle" reward in January 2023. The time spent on the bouncy castle will depend on the child's attendance. Every child will have a bounce but if their attendance is higher they will have more time and bounces! We are looking for improved attendance from now onwards. TEAM HWPS can do it! <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/media/2102837/attendance-leaflet-srh-nov-2020.pdf>

Children who have 90% and below attendance are deemed to be persistent absentee pupils. We will be sending out warning letters so that you know your child's attendance needs to improve.

Behaviour Reward – Into Film Festival

Every week the children fill up our whole school marble jar. Each class can earn up to 10 marbles. They count in different ways, including different languages. The children reached a line and as a whole school behaviour reward, they attended the cinema. Reception and Year 1 watched Zog and another short film, whilst Year 2- Year 6 watched Sonic 2. The cinema ensured that these sessions were autism friendly, so that the children were comfortable e.g. lights not totally dimmed, volume reduced and no trailers. Thank you to Cineworld who gave us free tickets. School paid for the coaches, to enable the reward to happen.

Children in Need



The children and their families raised £100 for Children in Need, this year. It was lovely to hear that Wentworth Court raised money (£140.40) for our pupils



18 November

Today we enjoyed Children in Need-themed art, puzzles and conversations. The team wore pyjamas to work in return for a donation, raising £140.46 in total. We will donate the money to our friends at Hesters Way Primary School, who we work closely with on intergenerational projects. #childreninneed2022



Y5 Road Safety

Year 5 had Road Safety lessons with our PCSO, to highlight the best way to cross the road and keep safe. Avoid crossing at junctions and by parked cars. Now that the winter evenings are drawing in, it gets dark early. If out in the dark, try to wear bright colours or reflectors to be seen. <https://www.think.gov.uk/education-resources/>

Cheltenham Town Football Trust "City Fibre" Workshop for Year 5 & 6

Last Friday, we welcomed the Cheltenham Town Football Trust representative into school. They talked to the children about how the internet works and had an internet safety session. The children also designed their own online game. Thank you to the CTF Trust for this workshop and the "goody" bags! Our pupils really enjoyed the session. <https://www.ctfc.com/news/2022/february/cityfibre-and-cheltenham-town-community-trust-launch-fibre-fans-a-new-internet-project-for-gloucestershire-schools/>





Friends of Hester's Way Primary School – FOHWPS

The FOHWPS group have been working hard to organise a Christmas Raffle. If you know of any prizes that could be donated by local businesses please contact Mel Richards Deputy Head, who will contact the FOHWPS. The children had a brilliant time and they are looking forward to the FOHWPS Film Event at the end of term! Thank you to everyone on the group and to those who contribute.

Welcome New Pupils



Welcome to our new pupils and their families! We are still welcoming new pupils this term. Our pupils are very mindful of how difficult it can be to start a new school, especially if children have moved homes or even countries. They often 'buddy' and show the new children around class and school, making sure that they know where everything is and what to do, during the school day. All of the children who started with us in the Summer or Autumn Term 1 have settled in so well. We are a school community and family.

If you have read this letter please can children say AMAZING to Miss Ashman for a reward! 😊

Parent Governor Vacancy

We are still looking for a Parent Governor on our Governing Board. We have meetings each month, held in school. The role is interesting and strategic, in shaping and guiding the school's development and improvement. If you are interested and would like to either speak to a member of staff or the Chair of Governors, Penny Manuel Pmanuel@hestersway.gloucs.sch.uk. Governors are more than happy to come into school and talk to you about what the role involves.

Educational Visits, Visitors, Class Assemblies and Performances

We are so pleased to be able to open up school and activities again, post Covid measures. Classes will be inviting parent/carers into school, for a class assembly this year. The children and staff are busy rehearsing for the Christmas performances. After the fantastic parent/carer attendance of the Harvest Festival, we are putting on two performances for Reception and KS1, as well as two Christmas KS2 productions. See above for dates and times.

Year 2 Trip to London

Our Year 2 class had a fantastic trip to London to see 'The Great Fire of London' exhibition at the Museum of London. They have been sharing interesting facts and describing items that they saw, as historical primary sources, such as a Fire person's hat, a fire bucket and burnt shoe, from the time in 1666.

<https://www.museumoflondon.org.uk/museum-london/great-fire> and there are also links to The Great Fire of London Minecraft Games here: <https://www.museumoflondon.org.uk/discover/great-fire-1666>

As always, the children have been brilliant learners this term. We have had many comments to say how polite and well-mannered our pupils are and how smart they look in their new coats!

Kind regards,
Kirsti Ashman (Head Teacher)

