



Hartest Primary School

Hartest Church of England Primary School

The Row, Hartest, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk. IP29 4DL



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THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
Diocese of St Edmundsbury
and Ipswich

“Developing the whole child”

24th November 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

Christmas preparations are well underway at Hartest! This week the children in Hedgehogs and Squirrels have been practising hard for their forthcoming ‘Wriggly Nativity’, and Key Stage 2 pupils have been preparing for the end of term assembly and church service.



To mark the start of Advent and our ‘countdown to Christmas’, children this week all took part in an RE activity day about ‘The Jesse Tree’. The children heard stories about the descendants of Jesus and responded to this with crafts, working in their colour house teams.

In the run up to Christmas, we would like to have the inside and outside of the school looking as festive as possible! Next Friday, 1st December, we would like to decorate the school and for this we would appreciate any spare Christmas decorations (preferably non-returnable) sometime next week. I am also looking to borrow a large inflatable snowman (yes really), life-size reindeer, or similar for

outside the school! Please bring any donated decorations to school next week.

A reminder of events coming up – as well as decorating the school next Friday, we are having a ‘dress down day’. Children may come to school on Friday 1st December in non-uniform, in exchange for a chocolate selection box for the Christmas Fair on 16th December. Friends of Hartest would like as many selection boxes as possible!

Also, on Thursday 14th December, the day of the school Christmas lunch, we are having a ‘Christmas Jumper Day’. We are giving you advance warning of this so your child can get their Christmas jumper before the shops sell out!

Well done once again to our Pupils of the Week. This week Henry, Callum and Annabelle received a certificate and a prize for their excellent learning behaviour and conduct.

May I remind you that we are responsible for our own admissions policy and procedures, and as a new academy, have published a draft version of our Admissions Policy for 2019-20 on the school website. Our policy is subject to a six week public consultation period, ending now on 29th December 2017. Please do have a look at the policy, as it contains information as to the procedures we would follow in allocating school places, should any year group be oversubscribed. Hard copies of the policy are available on request.





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Next term, we are delighted to be working with ‘One Life Suffolk’, who promote health and fitness in schools as part of the Government’s commitment to tackle childhood obesity, encourage healthy eating, and highlight the benefits of regular exercise. They will be delivering a *6 week* programme in Kestrels and Squirrels on living a healthy lifestyle. They will run a weekly lesson for each class to promote healthy lifestyle choices. The parents will also receive helpful tips and advice around the topics covered to use at home.

As part of the programme Onelife Suffolk will be recording children’s height, weight, date of birth and postcode. The information will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of the programme and for research purposes. All information about your child will be kept secure and confidential. **If you do not want this information recorded please inform your class teacher and the school office.** If you would like more information please do not hesitate to contact, Kat Wilson, the Onelife practitioner delivering the programme on 07826518100 or email catherine.wilson@onelifesuffolk.co.uk.

On a very sad note, you will all no doubt be aware that earlier this week, Mrs Jo Clarke passed away. She had been very unwell for some time and had retired from the school in July after 14 years here. The lovely new outdoor classroom donated by Mrs Clarke is a poignant reminder of how important Hartest School was to her. She will be greatly missed by us all, and our thoughts and prayers are with her husband Jonathan, her son Louis, and her wider family and friends.



Lastly though, I am delighted to announce the return of Mrs Brown to Hedgehog Class, following her hip replacement operation in October. Mrs Brown visited the school today and is keen to return and is making a full recovery. It will be great to have her back in school.

Wishing you all a happy and restful weekend,

Matthew Coombs
Head Teacher