

FROM THE HART



HART MEMORIAL PRIMARY SCHOOL

WHAT'S HAPPENING?



BOOK FAIR

Many thanks to all of you who supported the Book Fair this year. A big thank you also to all the pupils who ran the Fair under Mr Poots' direction. We took in a whopping £1125.91! The school receives commission which is used to buy books for use in school. We take it in turns as to which classes will benefit—this year it will be P5-7

SPECIAL ASSEMBLY

Each class puts on a Special Assembly during the year for the pupils' parents as well as for pupils in other classes. Many thanks to P5DK for getting us started this year with a lovely assembly on Friday 5 October. Next up will be P6H on Friday 30 November. Parents of pupils in the class are warmly invited to attend.

AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

After school activities are well underway and most are well supported. Here are a few reminders:

⇒ **Hockey, soccer and cross country**

are **winter sports** and will carry on outside even in inclement weather. Please ensure your child has a **hat, gloves, track bottoms and a light weight coat** with them



their full potential in school. Remember that you can arrange a meeting with your child's teacher at any time during the school year at a mutually convenient time.



WEBSITE & APP

⇒ Parents **collecting children** from after school activities should wait by the **main gate** (P5-7 pupils) or by the **Junior exit** (door opening onto ramp) for P1-4 pupils. Drama Club and Young Harts use the Surestart exit at the top of the Junior playground. Please do not buzz to come in to school.

PARENT TEACHER MEETINGS

Many thanks to the vast majority of parents who have arranged their affairs in order to meet with their children's teachers next week. A strong working partnership between school and home is vital in order for children to achieve

As I'm sure you have noticed, we are experiencing significant difficulties with our website and associated app. These are connected with the domain name as well as other technical issues. In light of this, we are going to use the opportunity to re-build the website to make it more stream-lined, easier to navigate and more useful to you, the parents. It will also link with the app so you get updates straight to your phone. We estimate that this will take about 6 weeks. Many thanks for your patience. In the meantime, we will try to keep you as up-to-date as possible via Seesaw, the school's Facebook page and the text message service.

QUICK REMINDERS

- **Peanuts** are no longer allowed in school due to the severe allergy of several of our pupils
- Please make sure **EVERY item of clothing and footwear** that comes in to school is **clearly labelled** with your child's full name. Check out www.mynametags.com

DATES FOR THE DIARY

NOVEMBER 2018

Back to school	5
Nursery parent teacher meetings	5
P6 Viking trip to Navan Fort	6
Anti-bullying Week	12-16
Nursery photographs	12
REACH workshops: better mental health	14
Online safety workshops P5-7	19-20
Parent Online Safety talk 7pm	20
P7T Play in a Day: 'Anti-bullying'	23
Cross-country team to Palace Stables, Armagh	30

LET'S GET READING!

Our school focus for Literacy this year is **Reading** and the aim is to get all the children, and perhaps adults as well, to **read more** in their daily lives.

Parents have received some information already on the **benefits of reading** and how to **encourage their children to read more** and so make better progress at school.

We had a visit from the chief librarian in **Portadown Town Library**. The children showed a great interest in this and those who are not yet members are always welcome to join—remember, it's free!

The children will need you to go with them to sign up. They may then borrow books as often as they

like every week. There is a **huge selection of fiction and non-fiction books** for all interests and tastes.

Very soon we will be sending you some information on our charity fundraiser for this school year—'**Readon**' - to **raise money for families in N Ireland who have a child with cancer**.

Our chosen charities are always well supported by you, our parents, so **many thanks** in advance for your generosity towards this worthy cause.



Parent Meeting

CROSS COUNTRY

The cross country team recently participated in Round 1 of the Northern Ireland Athletics Cross Country league at Lurgan Park. Mrs McLeod was very proud of all of those who took part in both the fun and competitive races. Each child completed the course, with some achieving decent finishing positions, which bodes well for the next legs.



STAY SAFE

The PSNI spoke to P1-P7 pupils on Thursday 18 October about staying safe over the Hallowe'en break. Please remind your children of the dangers of **fireworks** and ensure they NEVER handle them, even used ones. Also, please ensure your children understand how to stay safe if out 'trick or treating'.



ROAD SAFETY
IS EVERYONE'S
RESPONSIBILITY

PARKING

Please **do not park on the footpath**—you are blocking the path for **pedestrians**, parents with **buggies** and **wheelchair** users. There is no shortage of parking along the length of Charles Street.

ACTIVE TRAVEL

Ways in which you can support this are:

- * Encourage your child to walk, cycle or scoot to school each day. If you live out of town, try a combo journey where you drive so far then the walk the last leg (this helps you avoid all the traffic congestion outside of school too)
- * Every pupil in the school was issued with a fluorescent vest to go over his/her coat. Make sure it is worn even in daylight—it can make all the difference when it comes to being spotted by motorists



Be bright, be seen!



WE'RE **NOT** ON THE WEB!

Thank you for your patience whilst we rebuild our website.

eSafety Awareness—information for parents

Tuesday 20 November at 7pm

Assembly Hall in school

- **What are the dangers when your child is on a pc, laptop, ipad, tablet, phone?**
- **What can you do to keep your child safe?**

It is **VITAL** that one parent from each family attends this information evening—technology is ever changing which, as well as added benefits, brings new dangers.



UP CLOSE WITH DIPPY!

On Tuesday 16th October, pupils in P5DK had a fantastic day out at the Ulster Museum in Belfast. They took part in a workshop on the ancient Egyptians and got to see Takabuti, an real life Egyptian Mummy!



This really brought the topic work they have done on the ancient Egyptians to life.

It was an added bonus that Dippy the Diplodocus dinosaur was on tour from the Natural History Museum in London. He made a **huge** impression on the children!



F.F.F.B. AWARDS so far

P4B Katelyn Crowe, Kaden Smyth, Natalie Henderson

P4A Katie Foster, Ollie Love, Eva Hands

P5P David Wilson, Eloisa Valeira, Poppy Blevins

P5DK Edie Osborne, Bethany Bell, Ethan Hughes

P6M James Grant, Dylan Hunniford, Caitlin McNickle

P6H Zack Mullen, Cassie McKee, Jack Lyness

P7T Carl Murphy, Ellie Calvert, Logan Boyd

P7MM Daniela Abilova, Ryan Millington, Bradley Blevins

...and in case you're wondering, **F.F.F.B.** stands for...

Freddo For Fine Behaviour



ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

The class rankings so far this year are:

1st: P5DK (97.8%)

2nd: P5P (97.6%)

3rd: P2FH (97.2%)

Please have your child in school **every** day....

miss school, miss out!

PUNCTUALITY MATTERS!

The class rankings so far this year are:

1st: P1TC (2 late marks)

2nd: P6H (3 late marks)

3rd: P5DK & P3TT (5 late marks)

Please have your child in school **ON TIME** every day..... (but **NOT** before 8.40am!)

miss school, miss out!