

Houghton Conquest Lower School and Pre-School Newsletter 9 (27th April 2018)

Value of the Month: Patience



THANK YOU

A huge thank you to the Friends of Houghton Conquest Lower School for organising and running the Easter Egg Hunt just before the Easter Holidays.

The school and pre-school children had a fabulous time searching for hidden eggs and then getting to choose a chocolate egg for themselves.

The whole school community really do appreciate the extra mile the Friends go to to enrich the lives of our children.

Sports Festival Update

The children in Hawks and Eagles have been representing the school in a variety of sporting events recently competing against other schools in gymnastics, swimming and athletics.

Gymnastics

In the run up to the gymnastics festival the children worked very hard to learn a challenging routine. Thank you to all the children who took part for showing the value of perseverance and for the co-operation of their parents when helping with practice at home. On the day of the competition the children performed some lovely flowing routines and executed the elements with confidence, well done to you all.



Swimming

The Swimming Gala at Flitwick Leisure Centre gave the children the opportunity to demonstrate their fantastic swimming abilities, it is great to have so many children that swim outside of school. Two teams, one in the small pool and one in the large pool, took part in different events including relay races, diving for objects, wobble rides and underwater swimming. The small pool team placed 8th and the large pool team placed 6th overall, a brilliant result!

Continued...

Sports Festival Update continued....

Quad Kids

Most recently 16 children from Hawks and Eagles visited Holywell Middle School to take part in the Quad Kids event. Every child participated in each of the four events; the 400m, 50m sprint, standing long jump and howler throw. There were some outstanding performances and demonstrations of great determination and courage. The children really supported each other throughout the competition, encouraging their team mates and showing their values. The team received a Value of the Month Award for showing their values of co-operation, caring, friendship, perseverance, courage, unity and respect in today's assembly.

Reminder to all Parents

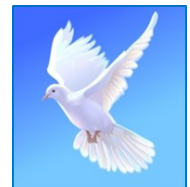
When your child is invited to a sporting festival the letter details all of the items your child will need to have to attend the festival. Unfortunately we are noticing that children are turning up without water bottles, correct PE kit, suitable clothing for the weather conditions or packed lunches. When representing the school at a festival your child should always have a white PE t-shirt with school logo, burgundy PE shorts, and a school cardigan, jumper or fleece (ideally a different one to the one they wear with their school uniform).

Please read the letters carefully and ensure your child is sent to school with all the items they will need for the event in order that they can attend the festival. Please also ensure permission slips are returned on time, to ensure your child's attendance. If your child is unsure about attending or does not want to attend a particular event please speak to their class teacher. Thank you for your co-operation.

Ms Thompson
Sports Champion

Phonics Screening Check

Thank you to parents of Year One children who joined us for the Phonics Screening Check information session yesterday after school. I hope that you found the session informative and find the resource pack helpful in supporting your child at home in the lead up to the check.



The resource pack will be in children's book bags today for those parents who could not attend the session. Please do have a look through the pack as it contains very important information about the check and how you should support your child.

Parent support has ensured our Phonics Screening Check results remain in the top 10% of schools nationally so please do speak to me if you have any queries whatsoever.

Many thanks
Miss Hill

School children bringing money into school

If your child needs to bring money into school for lunch, extra sports clubs, etc please ensure that this is placed in a **sealed** envelope. Please make sure that you put their name on the front together with what the money is for and the amount. Your cooperation would be appreciated. Envelopes will be available to purchase from the school office in the very near future. This will be communicated to you asap.

Friends of Houghton Conquest Lower School



Due to low numbers we had to postpone this week's open PTA meeting at the Knife & Cleaver.

If you'd like to be involved in organising fundraising events for the school but haven't been able to attend our meetings, please get in touch. They're usually on a Tuesday evening at the Knife & Cleaver, but if there's enough interest for a different day, even at the weekend, we can do it then.

Some examples of events are: after school sales, tea parties, summer fete, panto, discos, film nights. Funds raised will go towards things like play equipment, the annual panto, supporting the trips like the Peterborough Country Show, annual leavers' year books, to name a few.

As some of our committee members have moved on recently we really need more help to keep things going. The level of commitment is up to you, from selling cakes or ice lollies after school to organising the Christmas Fayre, or anything in between. You may even want to consider an official role at some point, such as chair, secretary or treasurer, it's up to you, the new year will bring new opportunities.

You could gain some extra skills or share those you already have to benefit the children at the school and meet new people. Any help will be gratefully received and we're a friendly group, always happy to see new faces.

Please consider offering a bit of time, as much or as little as you can spare to help us and get in touch.

Thank you.

Lisa Guinness
Chair of the Friends of Houghton Conquest Lower School
admfohcls@gmail.com

Finer Diners

In order to encourage the use of our values during break and lunch time, all children can now earn 'Finer Diner' tokens during these breaks - these can be handed out by any staff member. The two children from each class with the most tokens at the end of each week get to have a 'fancy' lunch on the Finer Diner table during Friday lunchtime. Has your child had the chance yet... ask them all about it! All children who have been given a token during the week will bring them home following our Friday afternoon assembly.

Pre-school news



We will be having a busy half term! We have had lots of new children join us, and we are looking forward to getting to know them all and their families.

We are looking at lifecycles and currently our frogspawn have just hatched into tadpoles, the children have been watching them closely for signs of limbs!

Later in the term we will be growing plants and learning about how to take care of them.

This week we have been celebrating St George's Day by making flags.

We are currently working on the transition plans for children moving up to school in September 2018. More information coming soon.

Julie Mahoney
Pre-School Leader



Celebration Assemblies

Here you will find the awards that have been given out in our Friday Celebration
Assemblies

Friday, 23rd March 2018

Star of the Week for:

Robins: Isaac Barral for working hard and focusing on developing his handwriting.

Doves: Emily Brett for brilliant effort with her handwriting.

Owls: Amelia Sutton for working really hard with her reading this week.

Hawks: Grayson Collins for his focus in literacy.

Eagles: Shania Holmes for super dedication to her learning.

Values Award: Callum Curl for having great courage when beginning swimming lessons.

Golden Certificates: Laila Peck, Cody Riley, Lilah O’Gorman, Grace Lane and Reece Worts.

Reading Rewards: Laura Guinness, Brandon Thomas, Nathan Davis, Grayson Collins and Abbygail Fisk.

Headteacher Awards

Jason Starr: Successfully completing the Kids Play Climbing Wall.

Cherry Edwards: Swimming Water Skills 1 and Learn to Swim 1.

Finer Diners: Sam Matthews, Tony Starr, Gene Tobin, Harry Exworth, Ruby Dobson, William Middleton, Eliza-Beth Semple, Eden Suddaby, Rosie Davies-Smith, Niamh Davis, Rex Laundon and Callie Edwards.

Thursday, 29th March 2018

Star of the Week from:

Miss Granelli: Rosie Davies-Smith for always being consistent with her work.

Mrs Sebborn: Mikey Bathers for joining in beautifully with your music lessons.

Miss Dancer: Holly Lane for great teamwork during intervention.

Golden Certificates: Lilah O’Gorman, Zoe Robinson, Max Williamson, Holly Vaughan, Jamima Fraser and Evie Busbridge.

Reading Rewards: Taylor Riley, Lilly Whitfield, Blaise Barlow, Danielle Guinness, Faith Poultney, Hannah Starr, Holly Vaughan, Ruby Dobson, Jasmine Robinson, Lily Baker, Zoe Robinson, Eliza-Beth Semple and Evie Busbridge.

Headteacher Awards:

Chloe Macrdechian: Making your Rainbow promise at 1st Houghton Conquest Rainbows.

Maddy and Lilly Whitfield: Taking part in Le Club Francais.

Tommy Spencer: Top Rugby Player Trophy.

William and Arthur Middleton: For joining in the Wixams community litter pick.

Maddy Whitfield: Competing a quad bike course at CenterParcs.

William Middleton: Completing a 10K fun run.

Dylan Edwards: Swimming 15 meters.

Niamh-Mairé Furey: Making your Rainbow promise at 1st Houghton Conquest Rainbows and for receiving your Wild-life Watch Badge.

Handwriting Stars of the half term: Barney Money, Ruby Dobson, Sam Matthews, Leo Graves and Jason Starr.

Finer Diners: Lily Davies-Smith, Barney Money, Grace Exworth, Emily Brett, Cerys Sebborn, Ella Walker, Charlie Brown, Grayson Collins, Reece Worts, Hannah Starr, Leo Graves and Esme Stewart.

Congratulations to the **Green Team** for gaining the most team points this half term and to **Doves**
Class who are now taking care of our Attendance Bear.



Friday, 20th April 2018

Star of the Week for:

Robins: Lily Davies-Smith for working extremely hard in phonics

Doves: Chloe Macrdechian for super rhyming skills in literacy.

Owls: Ruby Dobson for consistent effort in lessons.

Hawks: Kaitlyn Shade for fantastic focus in literacy.

Eagles: Millie Gibson for being very helpful.

Values Award: Jason Starr for being an excellent role model to his class mates.

Golden Certificates: Scarlett Curl, Dylan Edwards, Olivia Pilsbury, Abbygail Fisk and Danielle Guinness.

Headteacher Awards

Lilly Whitfield: Swimming, Learn to Swim 4.

Jasmine Robinson: Player of the week at Judo.

Sian Thomas: Gymnastics proficient award level 2.

Finer Diners: Isaac Barral, Faye Lovell, Cherry Edwards, Tony Starr, Kimberley Crowe, Katherine Birch, Sway Hyndman, Blaise Barlow, Taylor Riley and Evie Busbridge.

Diary Dates *(new items in bold)*

May 2018

8th Y4 Transfer Sports Event (letters will be sent to individual participants nearer the time)

11th Doves Class 'Pop Up Shop' (after school)

21st Kwik Cricket Competition (letters will be sent to individual participants nearer the time)

W/C 28th Half Term

June 2018

4th INSET Day (school and Pre-school closed)

7th Class Photographs by Tempest Photography (am)

W/C 11th Phonics Screening Check for Doves class

18th Tennis Festival (letters will be sent to individual participants nearer the time)

27th am Sports Morning (back up in case of inclement weather on Tuesday, 3rd July)

July 2018

5th Owls Class Assembly: parents and grandparents from Doves class welcome to join us (9.15am)

10th Doves Class Assembly: parents and grandparents from Doves class welcome to join us (9.15am)

13th Transition Day for children joining Alameda Middle School in Sept 18.

16th Year 4 Leavers Assembly at 2pm (parents and grandparents from Eagles class welcome to join us (2pm))

17th Step-Up Day (all children including those in the Pre-school who are starting with us in Sept 18)

17th Transition Day for children joining Marston Vale Middle School in Sept 18.

18th Transition Day for children joining Marston Vale Middle School in Sept 18.

20th Last day of Summer Term

Ways to get in touch or find out information

School and Pre-School Telephone: 01234 740202

Our Website: www.houghtonconquest.beds.sch.uk

Email address for parents (Mrs Browne): office.hcls@cbc.beds.sch.uk