



Herbert Strutt Primary School

Thornhill Avenue
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**Spring 1
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NEWSLETTER

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Friendship!



Friendship: Being People Smart

This term we have been exploring the theme of friendship through Assemblies and PHSE lessons. The Year 2 councillors took the term's theme very seriously, when they followed through with their class's idea of a friendship bench for the KS1 playground.

After comparing the prices, shapes and sizes of different benches, they choose the one pictured. They worked out how much it would cost with fittings and wrote an order out for the school office. Reception and KS1 children have all enjoyed meeting friends on the bench.

Well done and thank-you, Maya and Ellis!

Multiple Intelligences: how "smart" are you?

We have launched the idea that we can be intelligent in different ways, starting off with "People Smart", to link into our theme of "Friendship". In Friday assemblies, some of your children will have received a "smart award" for being good with people, whether that is as learning partners or in the playground.

A "House" competition was run, with children designing a logo for "People Smart"; this will be judged by the school council and Mrs Mackney, our Art and Design leader. The designs of the finalists will be published on the website next term. Every entry will have earned points for their "House", with the winning designs earning extra points and being used in school.

Mrs Core

House Netball Competition for Y1 - Y6 (Friday, 27th November 2015)



Ashleigh from Premier Sports joined us again to help referee our House Netball Competition. She is currently playing Netball for Nottingham City and she commented on the great standard of play in Years 5 and 6. As a result of this event, we already have a list of players to pick from for the competition against other schools in the summer term. The winning house for each stage was:

Y1/2 – Air

Y3/4 – Fire

Y5/6 – Air

Amber Valley Basketball Finals Y5 and Y6 - (Thursday, 10th December 2015)

Following our win in the Belper Area Basketball competition in November, our team of Esme, Amy, Katrina, Luca, Ben, Billy and Bradley competed in the Borough finals at Aldercar Community College, Langley Mill. With 6 teams winning through to this event, both small school and large school winners played against each other in a league format. The standard of competition was very high; the games were fast paced and competitive. We finished respectably as the 3rd best large school in the borough and 5th out of 6 teams on the night. It was good to see the team respond well to the challenge of playing at a higher level.

More details and competition reports can be found on the website under School Sport.

Mr Banks

Dates for next term

February 22: Back to school

February 24 - March 4: Assessment weeks

March 2: Y4 Parent lunches

March 8: Parent Hub with Mrs Oliver (2:15 pm)

March 11: House Hockey Competition

March 16 & 17: Parents' Evenings

March 18: Hockey House competition

March 23: Last day of term for children

March 24: INSET Day 4 for staff: New maths' scheme

April 20: Y3-4 Cross Country (AVSSP)

April 11: Back to school

April 11: Forest School starts for new groups of Y2/Y5

April 25: Hi-5 Netball (AVSSP)

Our School Vision

The school's vision below has been drawn together by a group of governors, after we have talked to the children and adults in school about what they value and what is important to them. The Governing Body's role is to monitor and evaluate how the School Development Plan supports this vision.

Aim high and be **PROUD** of yourself!

P – Persevering

R – Respectful

O – Open-minded

U – Understanding

D – Determined

Herbert Strutt Primary is:-

“Full of exciting and challenging experiences, where pupils develop a love of learning and a determination to be their best. It is a caring and safe community, where everyone is respected and included. Pupils’ achievements are celebrated and the whole community is proud of themselves and of each other.”

We care: challenge: achieve: and open minds.

The school's priorities are:-

PERSEVERING - Raise attainment in English & mathematics, so that 85% of pupils reach age related expectations.

RESPECTFUL - Pupils feel safe and are safe from all types of bullying.

OPEN-MINDED - Improve pupils’ understanding, appreciation and respect of different faiths and cultures.

UNDERSTANDING - Improve resilience and reflectiveness of pupils as learners.

DETERMINED - Improve the curriculum to meet the needs of our children as well as the new national expectations.

School Car Park

Parents are reminded that the school car park is for staff and visitors only (*unless a parent has notified the school that they have a disability or their child has a disability*).

Children must not be dropped off in the school car park. Parents should direct their children through the correct pedestrian gates either at KS1 or KS2; children should then follow the path to their respective playgrounds.

We have arranged with Catering Services that deliveries to the school should not be made between the hours of 8.30 am – 9.05 am and between 3.15 pm – 3.30 pm.

Parents must not under any circumstances drive through the car park and drop their children near the steps. Not only is this dangerous for pupils entering via the pedestrian gate, it is also our access for emergency vehicles.

We are still in consultation with Derbyshire County Council concerning the ‘adoption’ of Thornhill Avenue which we are assured will be at the end of the month when the road markings can then be placed outside school.



The Year 5 and 6 topic has been based on the book, Varjak Paw, a Mesopotamia blue cat, who has to make use of skills such as, "shadow walking" and "slow time" to survive in the outside world. A big thank-you to one of our parent governors, who ran a yoga session with the two classes, exploring the themes.

Y1/2 Toy Museum

"Were grandma and granddads toys better than ours?"

The children in Year 1 and 2 took on different roles, such as a museum curator, when they organised and ran a toy museum this week. This end of term project, not only acted as an assessment to see what the children had learnt in their topic, but it gave them a real purpose as they had real visitors to their museum-thank-you parents and grandparents!

They created displays, set up stands, prepared refreshments for the visitors and organised the classroom. Well done to you all!



Using ICT to develop mathematical skills in school. A group of Y6 pupils receiving on-line tuition via a webex in the ICT suite.