



# Honiton Primary School

14th March 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope this newsletter finds you well. Below are some important updates and reminders for the coming weeks.

## **Uniform Expectations:**

We would like to remind all families of the importance of our school uniform. Wearing uniform helps foster a strong sense of belonging, pride, and equality among our students. It removes pressure to wear branded or fashionable clothing, allowing children to focus on their learning without distraction.

Please ensure your child follows our uniform policy, which includes:

- No jewellery (except small stud earrings if necessary)
- No makeup or nail varnish
- Appropriate footwear that supports safe and active movement throughout the school day

We greatly appreciate your support in maintaining these standards.

## **Punctuality Matters: Be on time or early!**

Arriving on time is vital to ensure children make the most of their learning. Lateness not only impacts the child who is late but can also disrupt the wider class. Lessons often begin with key instructions or explanations, meaning late arrivals may miss important information, affecting their understanding and progress.

Please support your child in developing good habits by ensuring they arrive at school on time each day.

## **System Transfers – Thank You for Your Patience**

We are currently in the process of transitioning some of our old DCC council systems over to newer platforms. While this will ultimately improve efficiency and communication, we ask for your patience during this changeover.

To avoid any issues, please take extra care when following instructions in emails or letters we send. If you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to contact the school office for guidance.

## **Doodle Maths Program & Home Reading**

We would like to remind families of the importance of regular engagement with both the Doodle Maths program and daily home reading. Think of these activities as a "daily brain workout" — short, consistent practice that strengthens key skills over time.

Just like physical exercise helps improve fitness, daily reading and maths practice significantly boosts long-term progress and confidence. We encourage all students to build these important habits into their daily routine.

## Community 3G 11v11 Artificial Grass Pitch to East Devon District Council.

Following on from our message yesterday regarding the 3G Floodlit Artificial Grass Pitch, meetings this week have been positive and productive.

### Plants for School – Donations Welcome:

We are looking to brighten our school environment with colourful plants, both indoors and outdoors. If you are able to donate houseplants, flower seeds, or potted plants, we would be extremely grateful. Every contribution, big or small, will help us create a welcoming and vibrant learning space for our students. Please bring any donations to the school office or Mr Tribble, and thank you in advance for your generosity.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us create a positive and enriching learning environment for all our students.

### Polite Reminder

We are aware that Clapper Lane can be congested during drop off and pick up times. Please do consider walking and leaving the car at home. If you must drive to school, consider using the ample parking on high the street, which is free.

Finally, please remember to exercise patience with other road users and when parking, do consider the safety of pedestrians.

Mr Tribble

### Main Diary Dates

**Please remember that you can see our term dates on our school website and app.**

Date	Time	Event
Fri 21 Mar		Comic Relief
Fri 28 Mar		Non-Uniform for Easter Bingo Donations
Thurs 3 Apr	3.30pm onwards	Easter Bingo

### SPORTS NEWS:

#### 🌟 PTFA Sponsored Event - Friendship Friday Fun 🌟

We are always proud of the kindness, support and friendships that are built and nurtured at Honiton Primary School and this could not have been more evident when every child across school, from our youngest 3 year olds in nursery to our oldest 11 year olds in year 6, took part in our Friendship Friday Fun Sponsored Event in February. To start with, the children chose the special friend that they wanted to work with and they were then able to put their friendship skills and qualities to the test! Challenged to complete a 'Lap of Trust', the children took it in turns to be blindfolded and had to place their trust in one another to ensure a safe circuit could be completed - this proved to be much harder than it seemed and really did push some of our comfort boundaries! The 'Lap of Connection' was considered to be 'easier' despite having to cope with the drizzle and windy conditions: the children were securely bound together and many ran non-stop for the duration of this station! Such incredible commitment and effort from everyone! Well done 🙌

All friendships are, of course, full of laughter and smiles and fun times too, and, with many thanks to our PTFA who had booked a bouncy castle from 'Churchy's Castles', it was a pure delight to see every child's beaming smile and hear the joyful laughter when it was their group's turn to enjoy this activity too! Great thanks go to all of our dedicated, hardworking PTFA volunteers for ensuring the bouncy castle was manned at all times throughout the day and that no pairs of shoes were lost or left behind!! 😊

All of this fun was, of course, in aid of raising much needed funds for our curriculum - a HUGE thank you to all of our school community, families and friends for all of the generous donations: an incredible total of £1545.05 was raised! Thank you so much! 🥳



### 🎯 KS1 Coordination Festival 🎯

A variety of activities awaited Gypsy-Rose, Darcy, Nancy, Isabella, Ryan and Bertie (representing Year 1) and Christopher, Kaydon, Lucas, Arthur, William and Layton (representing Year 2) when they attended the KS1 Coordination Festival at Honiton Sports Centre. All of the games and activities were designed to improve, develop and challenge the children's hand-eye coordination, balance and their ability to focus and aim at a target. Boccia and Corn Hole were hugely popular but also took a lot of perseverance and determination. As their accuracy improved, targets were hit more consistently as did the smiles of joy that stretched across everyone's faces! What a fun morning - well done years 1 and 2! 😊



### 🟡 Year 5 & 6 Tag Rugby Cluster Tournament 2 of 3: 🟡

We were lucky enough to have the sun shining on us for the second of three meetings of the inter-school tag rugby tournament. The hard work and efforts in training were starting to pay good dividends and the teams found themselves improving in all game play. The 'reds': Laurie, William, Myles, Billy, Jensen W, Evie F, Ava and Amelia moved the ball well, supported each other on the attacking runs and scored a plethora of tries leading to 4 wins, a draw and a loss by a narrow margin which saw them move up to 2nd place in the table. Well done Reds! 🙌

The 'yellows': Max T, Korbin, Sol, Kian, Oakley, Eliska, Kara and Lauren C worked incredibly hard defensively with many turnover balls. This fantastic effort led to the team scoring a total of 16 tries across the event - enough to keep them fighting for a top 3 position! Superb effort Yellows - keep it up! 🙌

With the last fixture not until April, the teams have plenty of time to keep working hard during their training sessions, with the aim to improve on current standings in the league table - good luck everyone! 😊



### 👤 Tae Kwon Do Taster Sessions 👤

Children from years 1 - 6 had a very successful visit from Honiton Tae Kwon Do, where they learnt to count in Korean as they put a series of moves together: punching and kicking safely against the pads was one of the greatest highlights of the session! Such fun was had by all - what a great morning everyone!





Following on from this session, we have been asked to pass on the following information to you as they are offering free taster sessions for children of Honiton Primary School during March to try Tae Kwon Do.  
*Free sessions to improve your child's success in life*

*Successful children:*

- *Are polite and courteous, have respect for others and themselves*
- *Are honest and have good integrity*
- *Have good self-control, which allows them to make good decisions in difficult situations*
- *Persevere to finish the things they started, refuse to quit when the going gets a little tough.*
- *Have courage and bravery to move out of their comfort zone in order to grow.*

*We have been teaching children in Honiton for over 25 years to be the best version of themselves.*

*Our class times are:*

*Tuesday*

*6pm - 6:30pm Tigers (Aged 5-8)*

*6:45pm - 7:30pm Senior class (Age 9 and over)*

*Friday*

*6:30pm - 7:30pm Family class (Age 5 to 125 😊)*

*Our tenets are courtesy, integrity, self-control, perseverance and indomitable spirit, alongside the benefits that being more physically active can bring. Martial arts are not just self-defence and definitely not 'fighting'.*

*If you want to find out more or book a place on the free trial, please email us at [honitontkd@gmail.com](mailto:honitontkd@gmail.com)*

*Helen is looking forward to hearing from you. 😊*

*🌟 Year 5/6 Bee Netball East Devon Schools Finals 🌟*

*As you know from previous newsletters, the 'red' bib HPS team were delighted to know that they had qualified for the East Devon Schools Finals and would represent the Honiton cluster at this next stage of the pathway, and so, off to Kings School we travelled, for a cold and long afternoon, but it was worth it! The children played some great netball, moved the ball through the court smoothly, made some crucial interceptions and the attacking play resulted in many goal scoring opportunities. Winning all their games and having topped the table at the end of the group stages, Lauren, Evie F, Emily, Eliska, Alf and Fred were thrilled to be through to the semi-finals! This proved to be a very tightly contested match and, unfortunately, the team were sadly on the wrong end of the 10-7 scoreline. A further game followed for the play-offs ... nothing but full focus and determination was needed, and the children did not disappoint! With the final result of an 8-2 win, the team were well-deserving of 3<sup>rd</sup> place for all their efforts throughout the afternoon! A fantastic afternoon of netball was enjoyed by all - ably supported by the injured Evie P, cheering from the comfort of her chair, propped up by her crutches - your support made all the difference Evie! 😊*

*And to top off a great afternoon, we have since learnt that HPS were awarded 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Spirit of the Games Fair Play Award averaging a score of 9.8 across all of their games. Respect and honesty,*

teamwork and passion, determination and self-belief are life-long qualities that each and every one of the team should be really proud of displaying - well done to you all! 🙌 🥳



### 🌟 🌟 **Exciting Update** 🌟 🌟

The news gets even better for the Y5/6 netball team as we have now been invited to represent East Devon at the **Devon Games Finals** which is to be held in Paignton next week! What an achievement - well done and we wish you the very best of luck! 🍀

### 🍌 Y3/4 Tag Rugby Festival 🍌

Our year 4 tag rugby team of LillyAnna, Elif, Lili, Chloe, Louie, Samuel, Brook and Dexter headed to the sports centre for a local school's cluster competition. They quickly settled into the games and worked really hard to chase down the opposition and cover ground towards their own try line. It soon became clear that we had some strong defence and the key tags taken meant that they kept the number of tries scored against them to a minimum. Strong attacking runs helped the team to gain ground and the try-line was crossed on numerous occasions! Finishing the morning unbeaten, left the team in 1st place - the team's effort and energy was brilliant and they are certainly players to keep an eye on for the future! Well done everyone

