



Honiton Primary School

14th February 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

Friendship Friday- PE, Teamwork, and Kindness in Action

This week, our school came together to celebrate Friendship Friday, a wonderful event that highlighted the power of collaboration, kindness, and teamwork. PE played a key role in the day, with children engaging in team-building activities that encouraged them to communicate, support one another, and share success. It was fantastic to see pupils demonstrating great sportsmanship -cheering on their peers, offering encouragement, and working together to achieve their goals. The spirit of cooperation was truly inspiring, reinforcing the values that make our school community so special.

High Standards - School Uniform Expectations

We continue to take great pride in maintaining high expectations around school uniform. Looking smart and ready to learn sets the tone for a positive and focused school environment. A gentle reminder to all families that uniform standards must be upheld, this means appropriate school shoes, no nail varnish or makeup, and ensuring that soft toys remain at home. These small but important expectations help ensure that every child is prepared for learning and represents our school with pride.

The Value of Home Learning and Family Engagement

Home learning is an essential part of our pupils progress, and we have been so impressed with the fantastic efforts from children and families alike. Half-term is the perfect opportunity to continue this enthusiasm, whether through creative projects, reading challenges, or practising key skills together. Learning doesn't just happen in the classroom; it thrives when families take an active role, turning everyday moments into valuable learning experiences.

The Power of Reading at Home

Research shows that children who read regularly at home develop stronger literacy skills, a wider vocabulary, and a lifelong love of learning. According to the National Literacy Trust, children who read for pleasure are five times more likely to achieve above-average reading scores than those who don't. Just 10-15 minutes of reading together each day can make a significant difference. Whether it's a bedtime story, a shared book, or even reading a recipe together-every little bit helps build confidence and success.

Enjoying Nature and Family Time This Half-Term

As we head into the half-term break, we encourage families to take time to relax, explore, and enjoy the great outdoors. Whether it's a walk in the woods, a visit to the beach, or simply playing outside, spending time in nature is proven to boost well-being and strengthen family connections. Fresh air, exercise, and shared experiences create wonderful memories and provide the perfect balance to busy school life.

We wish all our families a restful and enjoyable half-term break!

Mr Tribble

Main Diary Dates

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

Date	Time	Event
Fri 14 Feb	3:20pm	School Closes for Half Term
Mon 24 Feb		Non Pupil Day
Tue 25 Feb	8:50am	School Reopens
Fri 28 Feb	3.30-4.30pm	Yr6 SATS Meeting – Small Hall
Fri 21 Mar		Comic Relief
Fri 28 Mar		Non-Uniform for Easter Bingo Donations
Thurs 3 Apr	3.30pm onwards	Easter Bingo

Atom Learning

We're pleased to let you know that Honiton Primary School has been offered access to [Atom Learning](#), the leading 11+ preparation and Key Stage 2 learning website, to provide free additional KS2 learning and 11+ support to primary school children **who are eligible for Pupil Premium**.

Eligible students will receive access to Atom Home for free (normally £575.90 a year).

There is a free trial of Atom available for non-pupil premium families also. Atom Learning is a viable child-centric alternative to private tuition that provides a non-stressful and enjoyable way of making progress at KS2 and, when relevant, preparing for exams.

What is Atom Home?

Atom Home is an online learning and exam preparation platform for ages 7-11. Covering English, maths, verbal reasoning and non-verbal reasoning, children can practise 11+ questions and explore learning resources, mock tests, video tutorials, and exam preparation materials.

If you are interested please click on this link to access the form on the Atom Learning website:

<https://atomlearning.com/pupil-premium/primary-schools>

After completing the form on this page, the school will receive a notification to verify their pupil premium eligibility. Once confirmed by their school, their Atom Home account will be created.

Please ask if you have any questions.

Atom Learning

Learn Track Test

Hi Georgie!

What's a monster's favourite day of the week?
Chews-day!

Georgie's exam prep plan Week 16/48

English	4/8	→
Verbal reasoning	3/8	→
Maths	6/8	→
Non-verbal reasoning	5/8	→

MacBook Air

Free 11+ preparation and KS2 support

Honiton Primary School & Atom Learning

Trustpilot ★★★★★

HPS Year 6 Youth Speaks team triumph.

Two teams of speakers from Year 6 last week took part in a public speaking competition against schools from across the learning community. The standard was impressively high across the board and the speeches were incredibly well researched, constructed and presented. It is therefore a great testament that one of our Year 6 teams placed first and once more left with the Youth Speaks shield for the second year running. A huge well done to both teams for a fantastic team ethos and all the hard work they put in preparing and rehearsing their speeches.





Sports News

⚽ Year 5/6 Boys Futsal Tournament ⚽

The energy and excitement levels were high amongst our two year 6 boys teams who faced a round robin tournament at the inter-schools futsal competition. An indoor sports hall was the location and the ball itself slightly weighted as all futsal balls should be. This meant that accurate passing, finding space and making dynamic runs in both attacking and defending positions was going to be paramount to the success of the teams.

Dylan, Charlie, Alf, Laurie, Ed and Niranjan worked tirelessly throughout the morning and, even when faced with penalties, kept a clean sheet! Well done 🙌

Max T, Myles, Jensen, Billy, Korbin and Wyatt also maintained great focus, played some superb football and kept their composure when under pressure. A superb effort 🙌

Plenty of goals were scored by both squads: these proved to be vital when both of the HPS teams finished the morning in the top two spots ... they were only separated by goal difference! 🌟

A highly adrenaline-fuelled morning!





⚽ KS2 Girls Football Tournament ⚽

Anything the boys can do, the girls can do better! 😊

That can only be said because the girls football competition was one which led onto the level 2 competition pathway - something that was sadly stopped over the last couple of years for the boys. But nevertheless, the girls had to face a morning of tough games against the local primary schools. The squad was strong, the team spirit and comradery equally so which led to some great communication so that the passages of play up and down the pitch were dynamic and effective. Six games played, six wins under their belts, with six clean sheets meant that **Lauren, Evie P, Evie F, Summer, Lana, Evie S, Kara, Eliska, Zoe C** and **Thea C** finished the tournament with the top score and qualification to the East Devon Schools Finals in March. 🌟 A fantastic result - one which was truly well deserved! Well done 🙌



🔗 Whizz Kids Visit 🔗

As many of you will remember, we were approached last year by Whizz Kids (the UK's leading charity for young wheelchair users) to provide a venue for a morning of wheelchair skills - this was so successful that they requested to make another visit for the second year in a row! How exciting! For all of the children that had been invited to attend, it gave them the opportunity to meet other youngsters in wheelchairs. So, the social aspect of the morning was just as important as the physical training of learning how to go forwards, how to go backwards, how to use their arms so that shoulders don't get hurt - how to use the tool that will be their means of mobility for the rest of their lives. Games were played and the smiles on the children's faces said it all - what a truly fantastic morning! Well done everyone and see you again next year! 😊

🏈 Year 5 & 6 Tag Rugby Cluster Tournament 1 of 3: 🏈



This week saw the HPS field swamped with boys and girls from years 5 and 6 within seven different teams at the first of the inter-school tag rugby competition - nearly 60 children were full of energy and enthusiasm, aiming to put their many hours of training in to practice! The games included some strong attacking game play and some key defensive tagging was not only evident but crucial at times! Our two teams: 'reds' - **Billy, Laurie, William, Jensen, Evie F, Evie P, Amelia** and **Ava**: and 'yellows' - **Myles, Max T, Korbin, Kian, Oakley, Lauren C, Kara** and **Eliska** showed just how effective it can be when a team works positively together, when communication is clear on the pitch and when passes are swift and accurate. There is great promise across the squads but there is still plenty to work on in practice before round two after half term! Keep up the good work everyone! 😊

It was great to have parents, families and friends supporting from the touchlines as well - thank you for giving up your time to support us. 😊

