



# Honiton Primary School

20th January 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope this message finds you well as we move through another productive and exciting term at school. At this time, I would like to take this opportunity to share some updates and express our appreciation for the wonderful contributions made by our pupils and the support shown by families.

## **Celebrating Good Manners and Kindness**

We are incredibly proud of the children for the kindness and good manners they consistently demonstrate around the school. It is heartwarming to see their respectful interactions with staff, peers, and visitors. These qualities make our school a welcoming and positive environment for everyone, and we deeply appreciate the role families play in encouraging these values at home. Where these standards do occasionally lapse, the children are quick to correct each other which shows that they are growing to know what a good example society expects. Modelling is the key tool for growth so the more "Please and Thank You's" they hear the better.

## **Thank You for Supporting Learning at Home**

A heartfelt thank you to all parents and carers who are supporting their children's reading at home. Developing a love for reading is a cornerstone of learning, and your efforts in sharing stories, listening to reading, and encouraging book exploration make a significant difference. We would also like to thank you for upholding our uniform expectations, which help to foster a sense of pride and belonging in our school community. Additionally, I have been treated to a wonderful bout of home learning winding its way into my office. Thus far, I've had: posters, a model water cycle, several volcanoes, the Blue Danube and even the River Nile has meandered in! Many thanks for the precious hours spent at home investing in our children.

## **Preparing for Snowy Weather**

As the winter season progresses, we still encourage everyone to be ready for the possibility of further snowy weather. Please ensure that children are dressed warmly, with appropriate footwear, coats, hats, and gloves. Additionally, please keep an eye on school communications for any updates regarding adverse weather conditions that may impact the school day. We cannot help the weather but we can be prepared.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership in making our school a wonderful place for children to learn and grow.

"Be the change you want to see in the world! - Mahatma Gandhi

Many thanks and best wishes,

Mr Tribble

## Main Diary Dates

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

Date	Time	Event
Thurs 23 Jan	3:30-4:30pm	PSHE parent information evening
Fri 31 Jan	3:20-4:00pm	Year 3 Cake Sale
Fri 14 Feb	3:20pm	School Closes for Half Term
Mon 24 Feb		Non Pupil Day
Tue 25 Feb	8:50am	School Reopens

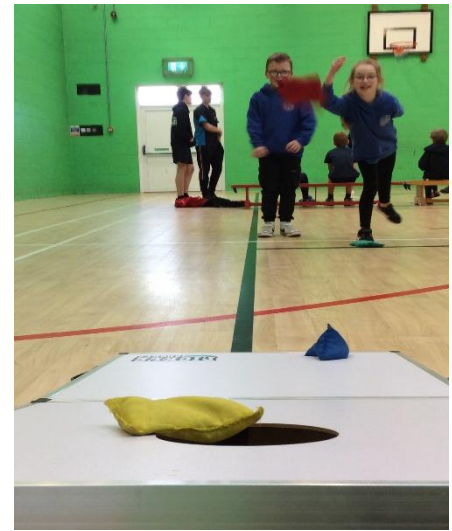
## Sports News

### KS2 Coordination Event

The start of the new year and new term saw a team of year 4 and 5 children visit the sports centre for a morning of activities designed to target all aspects of coordination skills. Year 4 were brilliantly represented by **Yousif, Ellis, Charlie, Bentley, Eve** and **Emily** and were joined by **Zach, Mo, Harry, Kai, Leo** and **Ella** from Year 5.

Learning how to play Boccia was great fun - although it did get frustrating at times when the boules didn't roll where it was planned! Crazy catch and target games were set up to deliberately bring a competitive edge and it wasn't long before the children took on the personal challenges. Throughout the morning, they all proved that they could throw to a target with accuracy, maintain their balance whilst negotiating a variety of obstacles and navigate their way successfully through and across a range of challenges. Collaboration and teamwork among the group was in abundance and the smiles and laughter proved that there was a high level of fun too! What a great morning - well done everyone! 🌟





### Year 5 & 6 Bee Netball Cluster Tournament 3 of 3:

This was the third, and final, meeting of the local schools for the Bee Netball tournament. This meant that, by the end of the evening, there would be an overall winning team who would represent the Honiton cluster at the East Devon School Finals at Kings School in March. This was it, and the HPS teams knew that it was all to play for!

And, despite the icy wind and bitter temperatures, our two teams persevered and battled hard in some well contested games. Improvements in their game play, positioning, strategic thinking and accuracy of shooting was evident and every player should be feeling very proud of their development throughout the competition.

The black bib team of: **Emily, Amelia, Letty, Lois, Charlie** and **Laurie** knew that they had a lot to do, and put out some great performances and it was great to see their play become more consistent. With finishing the series on 56 points, it was a 5th place finish for this team. Well done everyone! 🙌

Starting the event in second place, the red bib team of: **Lauren, Evie F, Evie P, Alf** and **Fred** worked incredibly hard in order to try to keep near the top of the leaderboard, despite missing a valuable team player in **Eliska!** They soon proved that they had the stamina, the teamwork, the passion and determination to cope with the string of games without a break - and their hard work paid off! Accumulating a great total of 88 points - enough to keep them in 2<sup>nd</sup> place - it was a very well-deserved result and has earned them a place representing the Honiton Cluster at the East Devon Finals in March. Congratulations! 🙌 Everyone has represented HPS brilliantly this term and Mr Watson and I are very proud of the progress you have all made and the confidence with which you have now been playing. And a HUGE 'thank you' to our wonderful team of parent, friends and family supporters too! 😊

