



# Harestanes Primary Newsletter

## MARCH 2022



Dear Parent / Carer,



As we come to the end of Term 3 the weather has improved and it has been great to see the **days become lighter and the temperature rise**. All of this has further encouraged much of our **learning to move outdoors** with its **proven benefits for good health and mental wellbeing**. This has been a very challenging term indeed for our school community. We have experienced **extremely high levels of staff absence this term** due to Covid 19 isolation guidance and I am so grateful to the staff team who stepped up and helped **maintain the service for our pupils**. Hopefully Term 4 will be more settled for all of the classes.

**T**ogether  
**E**veryone  
**A**chieves  
**M**ore

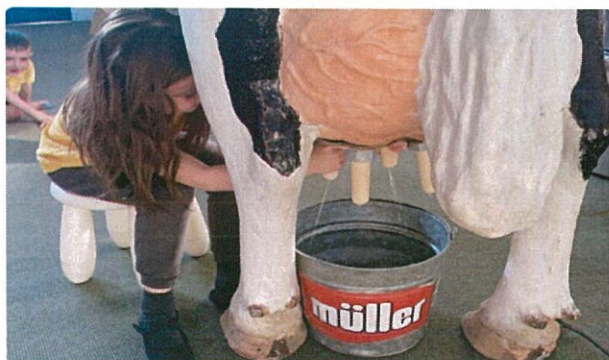


Thank you to all parents and carers who were able to join us for our recent **online Parent Appointments**. There was a very positive response to this approach and both staff and parents reported that it was great to actually see each other! We will send out our final **Pupil Progress Reports on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> June**.

We strive to make the curriculum as engaging and relevant as we can and in doing this **much of our learning is taken outdoors**. Recently Mrs Hudson applied for and secured a **grant from The Gwen Mayor Memorial Trust** (in memory of the class teacher who was sadly killed at Dunblane Primary) and we now have a fantastic **outdoor orienteering course** which can be accessed and **used by all age groups**. Mrs Hudson led staff training to ensure staff are now confident in using this resource to enhance class learning.



Primary 2 recently went on an excursion to The Natural Museum of Rural Life and linked their learning in class to real life experience. It was also arranged that a model cow – called Bella – came to visit us in school! We all had great fun with the milking activity!

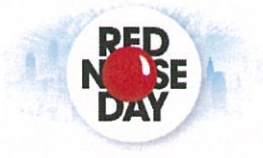






We have also been able to meet as a whole school to celebrate learning and recently **P3 shared their learning on Romans**. They even designed and used their shields to demonstrate '**The Tortoise**'. We all learned so much and parents of P3 children were able to enjoy and share in the Assembly via **a link sent** to them afterwards.

We continue to strive to provide as normal a school experience as we can. **World Book Day and Comic Relief** are always very popular with the children. This year the children celebrated World Book Day with lots of competitions and class activities and our **P7 House Captains** organised events and raised an amazing **£383.35 for Comic Relief!**



March has been a busy month for the classes in the ELR. Our **Assembly presentation** was all about the **Rainforest**. The children researched lots of interesting information about the rainforest and completed some fantastic art work to **share with the other classes in school**. Our class topics have included Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, the Romans, Caring for Pets and Fairy Tales. Using **the maths IZAK9 materials** really challenged our problem solving skills and our **Animation Club** are working on some great 'stop motion animations'.



Kind Regards  
Ms. Jackie Gillespie (Head Teacher)

#### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**25<sup>th</sup> April: P5/6 Trip to Bannockburn**

**26<sup>th</sup> April: P1 and P7 Class photographs**

**29<sup>th</sup> April: P2 Whole School Assembly**

**5<sup>th</sup> May: SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS – STAFF INSERVICE**

**9<sup>th</sup> May: P7 Led Bike Ride**

**12<sup>th</sup> / 17<sup>th</sup> May 3.30-6pm: Online Parents Night (P4/5 Rescheduled)**

**12<sup>th</sup> May: 3.30-6pm Online Parents Night (P3 Rescheduled)**