Howbridge Church of England Junior School

Howbridge Headlines

Our weekly newsletter to keep you up to date with all the happenings at Howbridge

www.howbridgejunior.co.uk

27th January 2017

HEAD’S LINES

Another excellent week of challenging learning and high quality educational experiences. Year 5 enjoyed their African drumming workshops so much on Wednesday that I have agreed to two extra sessions for each class and six pupils did an amazing job representing the school in an SEN Panathlon at New Rickstones Academy on Thursday (more details next week). Teachers and LSAs have had some excellent training this week from an Educational Psychologist on supporting children with literacy difficulties and today I am visiting the Bett Educational Technology Show in London to find out about all the latest technology and how it can be used to improve and enhance learning. Rather bizarrely last week we ended up as Witham and District Indoor Athletics Champions (for the third year on the row) but this time without having to run a single race as no other schools turned up! Have a great weekend,

Mr Wade

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Thinking Positively!

On Thursday 19th January a group of our Year 6 pupils went to Maltings Academy to take part in a special workshop to boost their confidence and help them think more positively: ‘During the afternoon, we worked through a booklet which taught us how to think and feel more positive about ourselves. By doing this we discovered that we can do activities that others can’t and that they can do other things that we can’t yet; this is what makes us all unique. We had a great time and really benefited from the session.’

Upcoming Dates

30.1.17  5NC Swimming
1.2.17   Drumming workshops for Year 5
2.2.17   Selected G+T children to Maltings Academy for an Art and D+T Workshop
3.2.17   Year 3 Roman Day
          Selected G+T children to Maltings Academy for a Maths Workshop

Attendance Matters!

Attendance for the week commencing 16.1.17

Highest class attendance: 4CO with 100%
Most improved attendance: 4CO

Well done 4CO
Keep it Up!

Aspire  Believe  Succeed

A caring school, built on Christian Values, where every child is a happy, confident and successful learner.
Sporting News: Witham District Indoor Athletic Champions!

Last week our Indoor Athletics Team took part in the Witham Schools Indoor Athletics Championship. Unfortunately we were the only school from Witham and the surrounding area to turn up but that does mean that we are automatically Witham District Champions and through to the North West Essex finals next month; Mr Howlett says we would have won anyway!

Two of our athletes, Lydia Dines and Charley White, stated, "Even though the other teams didn't turn up it was very useful as we still tried our hardest and had a go at all of the events. This means we got lots of practice ready for the next round which will be tough against the best schools from the Braintree, Halstead and Hedingham areas."

Livewell Child Project
As you may be aware, because of our commitment to sport, exercise and healthy eating we have been invited to develop a project with Braintree District Council to improve the health and well being of families in the local area. Our School Council have taken on an active role in trying to promote healthy living at school and Braintree Council would love to hear from any parents or carers who have an inspiring story to share with others about how they have overcome their barriers to get fit and healthy. They want to encourage others to live well in 2017 with examples showing "If I Can, You Can". For more information please visit the Livewell Facebook Page or www.livewellcampaign.co.uk. Another useful website that contains information about sports clubs and activity sessions in the local area can be found at: www.getactiveessex.com

Two new clubs at Witham Library
The library is a great source of information for children from finding new and exciting books to learning about a topic that they are studying at school. Witham library have started a couple of new clubs which some of you may find interesting:

- **Block Builders Construction Club**
  - Witham Library
  - Every Tuesday
  - 4pm to 5pm
  - Join us for some block building fun!

- **Harry Potter Book Night**
  - Witham Library
  - Thursday 2 February, 5 – 7pm
  - Stories, Games, Activities and quizzes

Further information from Witham Library on 01376 519625

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Hoosh
We offer our parents a heavily subsidised before and after school child care facility, Hoosh, which is available to all children in the school, subject to the availability of a place for that session and booking in advance. If interested in your child attending Hoosh please contact Miss Barrett, Hoosh Manager, in the first instance either via the school office or by email: hooshclub@howbridge-jun.essex.sch.uk

Once your booking has been confirmed by Mrs Barrett, you will be sent a prospectus to fill out and return and only then will your child have a place. We cannot accept any child without previous booking as Hoosh is completely full at the moment for some sessions.

In the case of an emergency where ad hoc childcare is required we ask that you give us at least 24 hours notice and we will do our best to look after your child if at all possible.

Hair Bows
Last week we wrote an article in the newsletter reminding parents about our uniform expectations. However, we have noticed that some girls are still wearing hair accessories which are unsuitable for school.

Any bows, bobbles or hair bands need to be modest and either black or dark blue.

We would also ask that children with long hair have it tied back so that it doesn’t get in the way of their work. Thank you for your support.