



Christian theme: Friendship, love & respect

God with us, Lighting the way to love & respect

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this newsletter finds you well. What a busy few weeks we have had at Horwich Parish!

School Harvest

Another huge thankyou to everyone for donating food items for our school harvest collection in aid of Urban Outreach. As always, we made it into a competition with 5R winning the tub of Heroes chocolates. The class collected 220 items! We were staggered at the sheer amount of donated food, 1844 items in total across the school, more than we have ever collected before. Three children will visit Urban Outreach on Monday afternoon to deliver the harvest goods and to see how the food is distributed across Bolton. We held our service in Church on Friday morning and it was lovely to be able to see so many parents and families in the balcony supporting the children.



Y6 leadership teams

As part of our British Values day focusing on Democracy, everyone in school was given the opportunity to vote for a year 6 child who had applied to be in our senior leadership team. A total of 19 year 6 children applied to be in the team and delivered a presentation to the whole school. Children then visited polling booths (thank you to Bolton Town Council for the loan) in our school library and posted their vote in the black ballot box!

Congratulations to the following children, elected to be part of the senior leadership team:

Frankie Topham

Harrison Crossley

Nathan Barrow

Belle Chapman

Mbali Ndlovu

Toby Zarins

A further 27 children applied to be given a role of responsibility within school. Each child will be given the opportunity to be in the junior leadership team for a term during this academic year.

It is amazing that so many children want to be part of the leadership teams and they are an absolute credit to the year 6 cohort. Thank you! I am looking forward to working with them this year.

Please see the attached for the list of children appointed.

All the children have also been voting for class representatives in our different councils.

We have: a school council, a safety council, sports ambassadors and Eco warriors.

On Friday 8 October, all the children will be presented with their council and leadership badges at our celebration assembly in Church at 9am. Parents and friends are welcome to join us.

Visitors

The children thoroughly enjoyed their remote visit by Michael Rosen last week and were inspired to write some great poems!

French Day

The children celebrated French day last Friday to support European languages day on the 26 September. It was fantastic to see the children dress in the French flag colours. Every class was visited by Madam Kakesa and enjoyed speaking French throughout the day!

Jeans for genes

A huge thank you for donating to our Jeans for Genes day. We collected an amazing £286.00.

Parent questionnaire

Thank you to those parents who have completed the questionnaire on our School Spider, we are delighted to have received over 200 responses already, please keep them coming in, your opinion is important to us. The survey will close on Friday 15 October.

Parent Consultations

These will take place remotely via Microsoft Teams throughout next week (week beginning 11th October) with each year group allocated a day during the week. Mrs Green has sent the information out to parents already and the appointment system goes live from today. Please ensure you make an appointment to see your child's class teacher. They will let you know how your child has settled into their new class.

Parent Forum

Mrs Washington is hoping to restart the parent forum this term. This group is open to any parent who would like to represent their child's class. The purpose of the forum is to meet informally every term and discuss ways that we can improve life at Horwich Parish! Please email awashington@horwichparish.net if you are interested.

PTA

The Parent Teacher Association has played a tremendous part in fundraising for our school over previous years, raising large amounts of money for our library, IT equipment for the children and class reading corners to name just a few. Recently, we have seen the number of PTA members decrease as children have left therefore the fundraising efforts have rested on a small number of valued members. This year, I would like to reach out to all parents, grandparents, families and friends of Horwich Parish and ask that you join and support our PTA.

We are looking to relaunch the PTA and they will be holding a meeting in the next couple of weeks. Even if you are unable to commit to attend all the meetings (usually a meeting every 6 weeks) we are more than happy for members to sign up to support one event each year. We are looking to continue to organise school disco's, movie nights for the children, Bingo, a Christmas fayre and anything else that might be suggested to help raise funds for the children.

Please do support your school for the benefit of all the children.

Volunteers

As always we welcome parents, carers, friends of Horwich Parish and grandparents to come into school to help out. There are always lots of activities that can support and enhance life at Horwich Parish whether it be hearing readers, supporting in a classroom, helping out in our library, practising times tables with the children, to name just a few ideas. If any volunteer has a particular talent / skill that they are happy to share with the children then please do get in touch. We are in the process of contacting existing volunteers and completing all the necessary checks and DBS applications.

Design a skip competition

A huge well done to Leonie Fielding who won the skip design competition and a £50 Smyths toy shop voucher. Leonie's design will be displayed on local charity skips. Keep your eye out for the winning design!

Celebration assembly

Every Friday at 9am we hold our whole school celebration assembly. Now we are back in Church, parents and families are invited to join us. Please can we ask visitors to sit in the balcony due to the lack of space downstairs. Any visitor unable to climb the stairs may sit at the back of Church.

Mobile Phones

Please could we remind parents that year 3 - 6 children may bring a mobile phone to school if it is required to keep the children safe travelling to and from school. In line with our safeguarding policy children know that phones MUST NOT be switched on whilst on the school premises. School takes no responsibility for children's phones.

Social Media

Please could I encourage parents to contact school (phone or email) if they have any concerns rather than using social media as a platform to share them.

Uniform

Please can all children bring a named coat to school. As we know the British weather is unpredictable! Please could we remind parents that children MUST wear the correct school uniform including no black trainers. Boys must wear black school shoes. Please could children with stud earrings cover them on PE days. In regards to School PE kit, to clear up any confusion regarding PE tops, children may wear a plain black tracksuit top for outdoor PE over their white polo shirt or their red school jumper.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Mills

Events at Horwich Parish in October:

Week beg 4th - Governors in school monitoring standards

5th October - Visitor from International aid to present assembly – we will be filling shoe boxes again this year to support this charity alongside Holy Trinity Church

SCHOOL OPEN DAYS – Reception 2022:

Tuesday 5th 10-11.30am

Wednesday 6th 1.30-2.30pm

Thursday 7th 3.45-4.45pm

7th National poetry day

7th October - Big Breakfast day – Children may come dressed in pyjamas. No more lunch bookings can be taken.

8th October - Presentation assembly in Church for new Y6 Leadership team and council members.

8th October Safer Internet Day

8th October Year 5 start swimming lessons – every Friday afternoon during the autumn term.

Wk beg 11th – Parent Consultations via Teams.

13th October - School individual photographs

13th October - Online author (Joseph Coelho) visit for year 5 and 6 children

Wk beg 18th – International aid (shoeboxes) assembly

22nd October – Head Teacher drop in 2.30pm

School closes on Friday 22nd October for half term

Future dates (November):

1st - School reopens

5th - Shoeboxes due in for International Aid

9th - National social media kindness day

11th - Remembrance Assembly 9.00 am led by Y6 in Church

Wk beg 15th - Friendship week (anti-bullying)

16th - Class open afternoon for parents 2.45pm

18th - British values day

Friday 20th - non uniform day for school chosen charity – more info to follow

23rd - Immunisation flu programme (Rec – Year 6)

26th - Head Teacher drop in 2.30pm