EMBARK FEDERATION

Howitt Primary Community School
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Head Teacher: Mrs A Spencer

10.11.26
Howitt Primary School Newsletter no.6

Dear Parents and Carers,

If you visit your GP…
If you see your GP about anything that may affect your child while they are in school, please let us know. This is particularly important if there are any changes to medication, a new diagnosis or referral for SEND or medical needs, advice about physical activity, or anything else that staff need to be aware of. Keeping us informed helps us to make sure we can support your child safely and appropriately throughout the school day. GPs and hospitals very rarely inform school of any matters, so we appreciate it if you keep us in the loop.

🧦 **Odd Socks Day and Anti-Bullying Week**
Next week is Anti-Bullying Week, and we will be kicking things off with Odd Socks Day on Monday 16 November.
We invite all the children to come to school wearing their brightest, funniest, most mismatched odd socks! Odd Socks Day is a simple and fun way to celebrate what makes each of us unique and to remind children that it is okay to be different. Throughout the week, children will be thinking about kindness, respect and speaking up when something isn't right. There is no need to buy anything special. Just choose two different socks and wear them proudly under trousers or over tights!

🌺 **Thank you for supporting the Poppy Appeal**
A huge thank you to everyone who supported this year's Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. Our collection pot is certainly feeling very heavy, so we are hopeful that we have raised a fantastic amount!
A special thank you goes to Alice, Cory and Abigail, who have visited classes each day to sell poppies and the other Remembrance items. They have done a brilliant job.
We look forward to finding out our final total and how much the Howitt community has raised to support the important work of the Royal British Legion.

⚽ **Gregg Cup Success: Howitt win 2–1!**
What a fantastic result for the Howitt football team, who won their Gregg Cup match 2–1!
Huge congratulations to Riley, Dolly, Sophie, Stanley, Kian, Seth, Oliver, Charlie, Roux, Leo and Miss Beard. We are incredibly proud of the whole team for their skills, determination and positive attitudes.
A very big thank you also goes to Miss Beard, who supported the event in her own time and did a fantastic job coaching and encouraging the team.
We are now looking forward to Round 2 this Friday. Fingers crossed for another great performance and, hopefully, a place in the finals! Whatever the result, we know the team will represent Howitt with determination, teamwork and pride.

Nursery requests…

Book donations: Do you have any books at home your children have outgrown? If you have any books in good condition that are suitable for 2-4 year olds, we would be very grateful to give these a new home in nursery! In particular, Julia Donaldson books, traditional tale books, non-fiction books, or seasonal/themed books would be much appreciated.

Nursery refurbishment: Are you having a clear out at home before Christmas? Nursery would also gratefully receive any donations of the following items to help create a homely, welcoming environment in the newly refurbished spaces: real/artificial plants, lamps, rugs, blankets, cushions. Thank you very much for your support.

Dates for your diary

12 Nov	**Reception and Nursery Open Evening** for children starting in 2027, 4–5.30pm. Call the office to book 01773 713217
13 Nov Get sporty for Pudsey!	- **Tough Rower**; KEY STAGE 2 sports event using rowing machines - **Children in Need Day;** children are welcome to bring or wear Pudsey accessories ensuring that the key stage 2 children can row! - **Sportswear non-uniform day;** please **donate chocolate** for our Christmas Fair. Thank you! - Mr Tomlinson begins a six-week health and wellbeing course for Years 3 and 4. Children will be wearing sportswear for this on the day. - Reception Children in Need bake sale for parents 3pm
16 Nov	**Anti-Bullying Week** - Odd Socks Day – wear odd socks to celebrate difference. - Local police constable Jennifer will lead an anti-bullying assembly for Years 1 and 2.
20 Nov	- Mr Tomlinson's six-week health and wellbeing course continues. Years 3 and 4 should wear PE kit on Fridays for the rest of the course. - **Matt Crawford,** Trust Leader, will visit our school in the afternoon. - Local police constable Jennifer will lead an anti-bullying assembly for Years 3–6.
24 Nov	Years 1 and 2 handball competition at Heanor Leisure Centre, after school.
25 Nov	Reception Parents / Carers 'stay and learn' (fine motor skills focus), 9am -10am in the classrooms.
27 Nov	NHS visit to measure heights & weights for Year 6 and Reception pupils
2 Dec	Mrs McBean's family coffee morning in the small hall, 9-10am 😊 **Howitt Christmas Fair, 3.30 to 5pm**
3 Dec	Christmas dinner (for school dinner) Wear your Christmas Jumper (with uniform trousers/ skirts)
9th &10th Dec	Reception classes will perform the Nativity for parents at 2.30pm. Details to follow.
11th Dec	- **Year 1 only:** Christmas Breakfast for parents and carers, 9.15–10.15am. Details to follow. - 7pm, Howitt choir at St Luke's Church, Loscoe – **any raffle prize donations will be gratefully received**
14th Dec	**Wear Christmas jumpers all week** (with uniform trousers/ skirts / PE kit where needed)
16th Dec	**Year 2 only:** Christmas Breakfast for parents and carers, 9.15–10.15am. Details to follow.
17th Dec	**Party Day with a special visitor!** Children are welcome to wear party clothes. Please ensure they are warm and wear sensible shoes. No make-up, please. **Nursery:** Santa's grotto – parents and carers will be able to book via ClassDojo.
18 Dec	Last day of term 2
4 Jan 2027	INSET day 4 -school and nursery closed
5 Jan 2027	First day of term 3 for pupils
25 June	Final INSET day -school and nursery closed

Best wishes

Mrs Alison Spencer, Headteacher ***email;*** ***headteacher@howitt.derbyshire.sch.uk***
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