



Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2017

Dear Parents and Children

Haydonleigh School takes seriously its responsibility to protect and safeguard the welfare of the children and young people in its care and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is:  
Mrs Frances Billinge  
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead is:  
Miss Debbie Peart  
Our Safeguarding Governor is: Mrs Tracey Pickering

The Governing Body takes seriously its responsibility under section 175 of the Education Act 2002 to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, and to work together with other agencies to ensure adequate arrangements are in place within our school to safeguard pupils in our care. We recognise that all adults, including temporary staff, volunteers, governors and extended service providers, have a full and active part to play in protecting our pupils from harm, and that the child's welfare is our paramount concern. All staff believe that our school should provide a caring, positive, safe & stimulating environment that promotes the social, physical and moral development of the individual child.

#### Our Aims

- To ensure that all staff working within our school who have access to children have been checked as to their suitability, including verification of their identity, qualifications and a satisfactory Children's Barred List or DSB check according to guidance, and that a central record is kept for audit.
- To ensure that all volunteers and contractors working within our school who have access to children and are present on a frequent or intensive basis, have been checked as to their suitability, including verification of their identity and a satisfactory Children's Barred List or DSB check according to guidance, and that a central record is kept for audit.
- To raise awareness of all staff of Safeguarding procedures and of Safeguarding areas of responsibility

All safeguarding concerns will be investigated, recorded and reported as necessary. **Our recently updated policy is available on our website.**



***Just what have the children been up to this week?***

### Foundation Stage

It's a glitter frenzy in Foundation Stage with Christmas preparations in full swing. Rehearsals for 'It's a Baby' are going well and the children are so excited to perform to their families next week. We have also been enjoying the story of Peter Pan and the children have been making treasure maps and fairy wands. We have even been counting the steps to walk the plank! Ahoy there me hearties!

### Year 1

The children have been sooo busy this week! They have been flying high with superheroes, thinking about what their powers and gadgets would be as well as who their real heroes are. Some grown-ups were spotted in the classrooms on Tuesday doing some creative writing and creative crafts with the children. They looked like they had a really super time! On Thursday the Year 1's were lucky enough to have been given a sneak preview of the Foundation Stage children's Christmas Play. I hope they've saved a space for me!

### Year 2

I was awoken from my cat nap by the sound of jingling; my ears pricked up at the hope of someone opening a tin of cat food but in fact it was the Year 2 children counting money. They spent the week looking at all the different coins and finding different ways to make certain amounts. The children have even been solving money addition and subtraction problems too. As I was out on the playground I watched the Year 2 children play a game of Stuck in the Mud, I later realised they had been writing instructions of how to play this game in their English lesson. They learnt how to make their instructions more exciting by adding adverbs and conjunctions.

### Year 3

Year 3 seemed to have got their whiskers in a twist this week, when they were "FUR-bidden" from entering the music cupboard in the theatre. Mr. Young had boarded it up for their own safety as it is believed to be a portal to a New World – Where could it be? PURRHAPS a world with loads of mice and balls of string to chase? They have since been creating their own imaginary places and coming up with "pawsome" adventure, portal stories - I cannot wait to read them!

### Year 4

Year 4 children have been busy creating their own worlds in order to write fantasy stories in English. There are some purty wild imaginations there. In topic, the children have been looking at map skills with a focus on the 8 points of a compass and map symbols. Christmas performance rehearsals are in full swing and there has been lots of singing. I still can't believe how the children have learned songs in other languages in the space of a couple of weeks.

## Year 5

In year 5 we have been focusing on finding out about how life for Victorian children improved. We discovered that at the beginning of Victoria's reign, life for children was paw-ful; many of them had to work in dangerous and paw-ly paid jobs. We found out that children as young as four had to work in mines and as chimney sweeps! Fur-tunately things got better by the end of her reign, or did they? Children then had to go to school!!

## Year 6

Curling up in my favourite spot beside the year six book corner, I dipped into the opening chapters of the litter-ary classic - A Christmas Carol. I was ap-paw-llled to learn about the miserly behaviour of Ebenezer Scrooge. What a tight-fisted, penny-pinching, money-grabbing man he was!

Purr – son –ally, I hope his behaviour improves. Furr-tunately, the children inform me that three ghosts will visit and guide him to make better choices. Next week, the children are looking forward to writing their own Christmas Carol inspired stories. They will use figurative language and the skill of foreshadowing to build a ghostly atmosphere and to create tension. I've been warned that they will write some spine-tingling tales. I'm sure their paw-some stories will get me purr-fectly into the Christmas Spirit.

**Let's**

**talk**

What is Road Safety and how can we help others to stay safe?



Classes 10-20 Christmas lunch Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December; please order online in the normal way.

Classes 1 to 9 Christmas lunch Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December; please order online in the normal way.

**art**

Thank you to the children who entered the Art Self Portrait Competition. I am pleased to announce that Evelyn in Year 1, Alfie in Year 3 and Raneem in Year 6 won this competition and their art is currently on display in the North Swindon library. Well done!



The Cross Country club have run 219 miles collectively in the last 4 weeks. That's enough miles to reach parts of Belgium and France! Wow!



There was some great fun and sportsmanship demonstrated at the recent Dodgeball festival at Lydiard Park Academy. Both teams were impeccably behaved and did the school proud.

### **Applying for a school place September 2018**

If your child is born 1<sup>st</sup> September 2013-31<sup>st</sup> August 2014 you need to apply for a Primary or Infant School place by 15<sup>th</sup> January 2018.



### **Family Holidays in term time.**

A reminder that the Headteacher may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Any request for leave must be made in writing. A response will be returned indicating whether leave is authorised. Any absence not authorised may be liable to a local authority penalty notice.



Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December is Christmas Jumper Day! As last year, children may swap their school jumper for their Christmas jumper, with all other school uniform remaining the same, please. A small donation may be made if you wish towards Save The Children.

Yours sincerely,

Frances Billinge

Headteacher