



Newsletter

February 2023



The Hathersage Hurtle

A **Voluntary Aided School** (VA school) is a state-funded school in England and Wales in which a foundation or trust (usually a religious organisation), contributes to building costs and has a substantial influence in the running of the school.

VA schools are paid on a similar basis to other categories of school, but the governing body must usually pay at least 10% of the costs of capital work. Responsibility for work to VA school premises is shared between the school's governing board and the Diocese. Our governing board together with a dedicated group of our parents are organising The Hathersage Hurtle to fundraise the 10% this year.

It's that time of year again! Children will be bringing home a Hathersage Hurtle poster design sheet.

Children are being asked to create a design to advertise the 2023 Hathersage Hurtle Run. We will discuss and share ideas in school initially, children need to complete their designs at home from **Monday 13th**

February and return them to school by Monday 27th February. The Hurtle team will select the best design from each class/ year group and the whole school take part in a democratic vote to find the winner whose design will be made into posters and a banner to advertise this year's event which will take place on Saturday 20th May 2023.

ECO Council



Thank you for your contributions to our 'Recycle to Read' plastic and IT collections. We have now filled our boxes and are awaiting collection. We no longer require any further donations.

School Website

We have been revamping our school website to make for a better user experience. The new look website should launch tomorrow.

Mental Health Week

This week is National Mental Health Week. The theme is 'Anxiety' and using ways of being outdoors/ caring for the environment to combat anxiety. We are discussing this in school and there are lots of good tips on our school website (See link below) or take a look at the videos on the dragonfly link.

<https://www.st-michaels.derbyshire.sch.uk/curriculum/children/mental-health-wellbeing-2020>

<https://www.dragonflyimpact.com/MHweekvideos>.

PTFA Update

We are trying to fundraise to re-furbish the KS1 and Nursery Outdoor play areas. Following the AGM on January 11th 2023, we still have positions on the committee to fill. Without a full committee, we will really struggle to enable fundraising for the benefit of all children to take place this year. Please see Laura John if you are able to support us. If you are not able to help and you wish to donate, here is the Justgiving page:

<https://www.hathersageptfa.org.uk/donate/>

PTFA Disco



The PTFA held two consecutive discos on Friday 3rd February. This was a thoroughly enjoyable event for all the children from Nursery to Y6. We have some great little 'movers and shakers'! I'm sure they can teach us all how to get into the groove. A huge thank you to Mr McNiece for offering to be the DJ and playing a good mix of music to meet all tastes. Many thanks also go to the volunteers who helped with the KS1 and KS2 Discos. We couldn't do it without you.

Sporting Events

On 26th January our Y6 pupils attended the mini basketball tournament at HVC. They learnt many new skills to improve their game and tactical approach to basketball. Both teams got through to the semi-final/ final with one team finishing 3rd and one team finishing 2nd. Well done!

On 31st January the RDSSP Cross Country Finals took place at Whitworth Park, Darley Dale. This was a team event however; individuals were able to run but not gain a place as a team. We entered a team of KS2 girls whose outstanding performance earned them a team 1st place and a medal each. The girls team have now qualified for the County Finals at Mount St. Mary's School on Monday 6th March.

Two KS2 boys entered as individual runners. Both did extremely well with one coming home in 2nd place overall and receiving a medal. We are very proud of all our runners. Keep on running!

On Thursday 2nd February, Year 6 enjoyed a Sports Hall Athletics session at HVC. Events included: vertical jump, soft javelin, speed bounce, standing chest push, long jump and triple jump. Year 6 demonstrated great skill, speed and agility and there were some outstanding performances. Pupils enjoyed the experience and were quick to congratulate each other for some praiseworthy achievements.

Uniform



Please note the requested school uniform to look smart and stay safe whilst in school and representing our school whilst out and about.

Our school uniform can be purchased from any store or supplier of your choice or you can use an online supplier if you would like the embroidered badge added - [School Trends](#)

Nursery Children wear their own clothes or a blue sweatshirt if they wish.

Caps, hats and hoods should not be worn indoors unless for religious reasons. Long hair should be tied back.

All School Children wear:

- Red School Sweatshirt
- White or red shirt (polo style preferred)
- Black or grey trousers (no jeans please)
- Black/grey jogging bottoms
- Black or grey shorts of a reasonable length (no black lycra/ sports shorts please)
- Black, grey or white socks
- Any sensible plain **black** footwear

Additionally

- Grey skirt or pinafore.
- Plain tights – grey, black or red.
- Red checked or striped summer dress.

P.E. Wear – Many children do not have the correct PE in school to enable them to safely access the PE Curriculum. Children should wear black shorts, a plain white T-shirt and black plimsolls and have a pair of trainers for outdoor PE (**not to be worn as footwear for school**). A long sleeved sweatshirt style top and jog bottoms are good for colder days. This should not be a school sweatshirt. All items must be labelled with the child's name. These items should be kept in a suitable (sturdy) named bag, which will hang on the child's cloakroom peg and be taken home for washing at the end of each Half Term/ returned on the first day back.

Holidays & High Levels of Absence

May I remind you that Headteachers cannot authorise holidays during term time unless time out of school is essential due to Exceptional Circumstances. Holidays during term time will be unauthorised and it will be up to the Local Authority as to whether they issue Penalty Notices to each parent who has responsibility for the child/ children being taken out of school. Please do not ask teachers to set work if you decide to take children out of school for a holiday as this negates the process of a school 'unauthorising' a holiday during term time when children should be learning in school.

Schools are under increasing pressure to ensure high levels of attendance to allow pupils to reach their full potential following the Covid Pandemic. I understand that we have all been affected by some awful reoccurring viruses during the Autumn Term but if your child's absence falls below 90%, your child is considered a persistent absentee. I will be inviting you to meet with me to discuss how we can work together to improve the situation to ensure your child continues to make progress and raise their level of attendance.

Easter Story Books

Elisabeth Madden, on behalf of Hope Valley Youth Association has offered to provide each class with an Easter Story Book to support understanding of and celebrations for Easter in a C of E school. Thank you for this kind gift.

Diary Dates

09.02.23 Full Governing Board Meeting 6.30pm
14.02.23 Brookfield Class Assembly to the school
15.02.23 Brookfield Class Assembly to parents, 9am
16.02.23 School closes at 3.40pm.
17.02.23 **INSET Day – School closed**
27.02.23 School re-opens 8.40am. Return completed Hathersage Hurtle poster designs
02.03.23 World Book Day. Dress as your favourite book character or loungewear & bring your favourite book to share
13.03.23 Parents Evening Week 1
14.03.22 Millstone Class Assembly in the school hall for pupils
15.03.22 Millstone Class Assembly in the school hall for parents
17.03.23 Comic Relief/ Red Nose Day
20.03.23 Parents Evening Week 2
28.03.23 Class photographs.
31.03.23 School closes at 3.40pm for Easter.
17.03.23 School re-opens 8.40am
19.04.23 Y6 Bikeability Session
01.05.23 **Bank Holiday – School closed**
08.05.23 **Bank Holiday – School closed for Coronation Day**
09.05.23 Y6 SAT Week
20.05.23 The Hathersage Hurtle
25.05.23 Y6 Bikeability Session
26.05.23 School closes at 3.40pm for Half Term.
05.06.23 **INSET Day - School closed**
06.06.23 School re-opens 8.40am. Y6 pupils may wear Leavers' Hoodies. Keep uniform for events.
12.6.23 Y6 Bikeability Session
19.6.23 Y6 Bikeability Session
30.06.23 Y6 Bikeability Session
06.07.23 Y6 Transition Day at HVC
21.07.23 Leavers' Service, 2.15pm, School closes at 3.30pm for the Summer Holiday

Head Teacher: Mrs Fiona Jackson

Tel: 01433 650434