



# Harrowbarrow School Newsletter

**Wednesday 14th  
December 2022**

*For up to date information and copies of all letters sent home, please view the school website at [www.harrowbarrow.cornwall.sch.uk](http://www.harrowbarrow.cornwall.sch.uk)*

## Super Singing



### CHOIR AT CALLINGTON COLLEGE SINGING MORNING

On 22nd November, all of the choir went to Callington College for a singing morning. With other schools, we learnt three different short songs. While we were there four people, which were in a singing group called The Sixteen, came and sung with us. After we learnt the songs, all the schools were split into six groups to create a harmony and make a story with different actions. While we were there, we got to see and get

used to our surroundings for when the Year 6s go up to secondary. We hope we will be able to do another singing morning in the future. By Taylor Crawford and Florence Carne

### Family Support

As well as being an exciting time, we know the Christmas period can also be challenging for families; we always see a spike in the number of families accessing different support services. This year, the financial difficulties will add an additional challenge for many.

If you need someone to talk to because you are experiencing difficulties, there is a free service called Family Line that some may find helpful: [www.family-action.org.uk/what-we-do/children-families/familyline/](http://www.family-action.org.uk/what-we-do/children-families/familyline/)

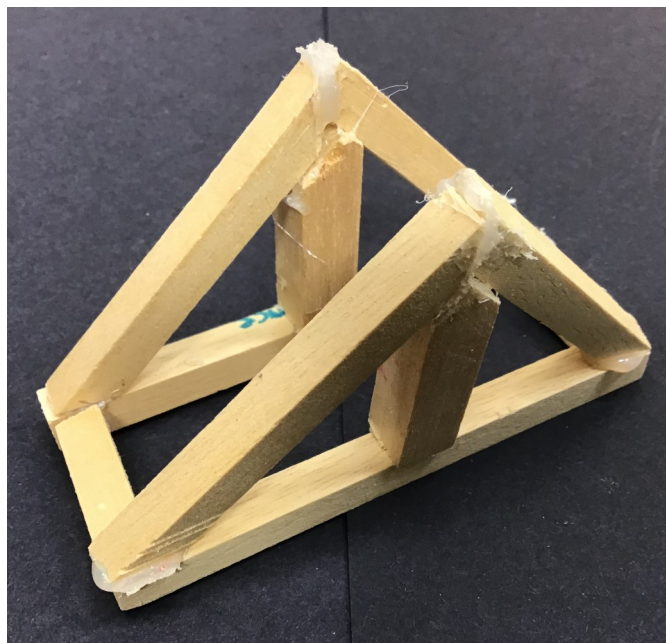
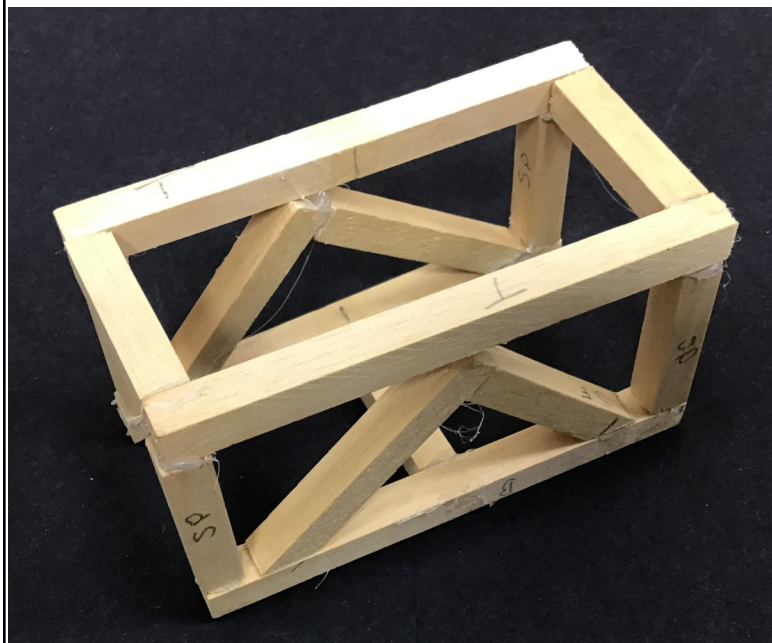
Family Line is there to provide a listening ear, answer particular parenting questions or help with guidance around more complex family issues. They can also provide longer-term support through regular sessions with their Befrienders and Counsellors. All support takes place via telephone, text message, web chat or email and is free.



# Achieve Believe Enjoy

#### Class 4 Design Technology

Last week, Class 4 children completed their bridge building project. After researching bridges, testing different shapes, designing prototypes, which were tested to destruction, the children made their final design out of wood. They learnt to cut mitre joins using saws and bench hooks.



## Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

Thank you to all those who have been able to attend our end of term nativities and concerts. These always feel very special and once again the children rose to the occasion to deliver some wonderful performances. Special thanks to Rachel Lane, who leads on these, and to all supporting staff.

Thank you also to the PSA for organising the tea towel fundraiser and the Christmas fair at the weekend. The tea towels look brilliant and will make some lovely gifts this Christmas. The fair was well attended, so thanks to all those able to attend. Unfortunately, due to the icy conditions, the local luncheon club had to postpone their Christmas event this week, which the juniors normally sing at. However, a new date has been set for January so we look forward to the juniors singing to some of our older community members then.

We know how challenging the current financial climate is for many of our families, so hope everyone is able to have a warm and wonderful Christmas with their family and friends. We continue to work with the local authority to provide support where we can. We hope to distribute food hampers again this year and provide the winter payment for families with children eligible for free school meals. If you are in receipt of benefits and your child is not currently receiving free school meals, please contact Elaine Moyle as she can guide you through the registration process.

From the staff at Harrowbarrow School, we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

#### Staffing Update By Andrew Hunt

I am delighted to share news that Laura Littlewood has been appointed to the Emotional Health & Wellbeing Support Worker position following Abi Nicolle's resignation. Many of you will know Laura as a parent. She has undertaken some work, in other roles, in the school since last April. In the 17 years Abi has worked at Harrowbarrow, she has undertaken a significant amount of training and secured several qualifications. Laura has already started Emotional Literacy Support Assistant training and will be doing more in the near future. However, to begin with, we will have a slightly reduced offer of what we can provide. In the meantime, if you have any concerns about your child's mental health, please contact me so that we can discuss the most appropriate level of support: [head@harrowbarrow.cornwall.sch.uk](mailto:head@harrowbarrow.cornwall.sch.uk)

I am also delighted to announce that Colleen Metters has agreed to continue teaching Class 1 during Tom Ottewell-Taylor's adoption leave. This provides continuity for the children, who have responded very well to the change in teacher. Colleen has successfully continued the great start for your children that was established by Tom.

The final word has to be for Abi Nicolle. She has created a role at Harrowbarrow that is truly unique in Cornish primary schools. Her vision of providing support for young people's mental health goes beyond what you would find in any other small primary school. We are indebted to her for her passion to make a difference and wish her all the very best for the future.

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#### Dates for your diary

- 3.1.23 - Staff training day (school closed to pupils)
- 4.1.23 - First day of spring term for pupils
- 9.1.23 - Junior children to sing at Luncheon Club Christmas meal
- 13.1.23 - Next cross country race after school (details to follow)