



# Harrowbarrow School

# Newsletter

**Friday 13th  
January 2023**

*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)*

## New Year, New Garden



It is great to have finally cut through the tarmac to kick-start the commemorative wellbeing garden project. We have placed the order for the wire gabions that will act as retaining walls for the raised beds. Once they arrive, we will invite our school community to contribute interesting items to fill them. Please start setting aside old bricks, bottles, rocks, slates etc that we might use. Also, please look out for a source of top soil that can be used to fill the beds. Provisionally, we are planning a working party day on Saturday 11th February to start doing this work. Please keep this day free in your diaries as all help will be gratefully received.

On the 11th of January 2023, we Year 6s (Ellie, Annabelle and Taylor) did a 10 minute survey on the incomplete well-being garden. We did not find much but we happened to find some mini beasts. Such as a very small beetle, a very small spider, many cobwebs and a snail. Once the garden is complete, we will do another 10 minute survey on the garden later in the year. By Ellie Sleep, Annabelle Bushell-Crane and Taylor Crawford.

# Achieve Believe Enjoy



### **Ready, Steady, Cook!**

We are excited to announce that after half term we will be taking Classes 2, 3 and 4 to Callington College on three separate Fridays to use their food technology rooms. We want to improve our design technology offer to the children, which food technology is part of. Using Callington College's facilities means we can do a whole class cookery lesson, which is impossible at Harrowbarrow. Being a much smaller group, Class 1 will have their food technology lesson at Harrowbarrow. We may require a voluntary contribution from parents/carers towards ingredients, but will share this information nearer the time.

### **Department for Education funded broadband upgrades**

Cornwall is an Education Action Area, which means it receives additional government funding to improve standards. An aspect of this we are due to benefit from is a significant upgrade to our broadband connectivity. Harrowbarrow School has been approved for a full fibre connection to the school and to have all our cabling, switch gear and access points replaced with uprated alternatives. Currently, we are supposed to have a 20mbps download speed but, when tested, this varied between 3-6mbps. With all the upgrades we should run at 100+mbps. This work should be completed by Easter. This will not only improve connectivity for staff but also for children who naturally get frustrated when the system can't cope with a class trying to access online content at the same time. We have been told by our technical advisors that when a school is given a full fibre connection, the community around it also gets connected by the provider.

### **Proposed changes to school start and finish times**

Thank you to all those who have followed the SurveyMonkey link sent earlier this week to complete the survey. For those who haven't yet done so, you have until Friday 20th January to choose which change of school start and finish time you would prefer for September 2023. The choices are:

8.40am - 3.10pm (start 10 minutes earlier)

8.50am - 3.20pm (start 10 minutes later)

8.45am - 3.15pm (start 5 minutes earlier and finish 5 minutes later)

In the meantime, our school day still starts at 8.50am. This is when the register is taken in class and children are asked what they would like for lunch. We are seeing an increase in the number of children arriving after 8.50am, which means teachers have to stop lessons which they have started to go back and add these children to the register and ask them what they would like for lunch. This is unfair on both the class who have to wait and the children walking in to a lesson that has already started. Please make every effort to get your child to school before the gates close at 8.50am. Thank you.



### **Dates for your diary**

17.1.23 - Class 2 farm visit

18.1.23 - Class 3 trip to Discovering42, the Bodmin science and art museum

1.2.23 - PSA AGM from 7pm at school (all welcome)

3.2.23 - Landrake cross-country race

10.2.23 - Last day before half term