



# Harrowbarrow School

## Newsletter

**Friday 28th April  
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)*

# Brilliant Barton Hall



Earlier this week Year 3, 4 and 5 children participated in their long awaited Barton Hall Residential trip. Feedback from those attending has been very positive. For some, this was their first overnight trip away with school, which is a big achievement in itself. Then, they had the challenge of trying new things, some of which will have tested their courage, determination and trust in others. A huge thanks to Sam Watts, Rachel Lane and Lesley Connell for giving up their time to care for the children on this trip. A special thanks too to parents Ricky Watson and Lance Allen, who supported the children as volunteer helpers.

We will give staff time to recover before evaluating the trip and making a decision for next year. Porthpean Outdoor Education Centre, where we have historically run these trips, has now reopened under private ownership. One of the factors that will contribute to any decision will be the cost to families; we are mindful of keeping the cost down as much as possible.



### Reading for Pleasure Update

In our ongoing mission to ensure all children develop a love of books, we have resurrected the Reading Yurt. In a change to how it was previously used, volunteer Year 6 Learning Ambassadors will be taking it in turns to read a book to younger children at break times. The 'book of the day' will be displayed on a blackboard outside and younger children will be invited to join them in the yurt where the book will be read to them. It is worth saying that our Year 6 Learning Ambassadors give a lot of their time to support younger children across the school and they do a tremendous job.

# Achieve Believe Enjoy



# What have you done for the first time?



A huge well done to Edith, who just participated in her first gymnastics competition and came 3rd on bars. Annabelle, who was also competing for the first time came 2nd on bars and 2nd on beam, so big congratulations to her too. They were both very nervous at performing in front of over 30 other competitors and all the parents.

*If you have done something for the first time, or want to share an achievement, please let us know and we can put it in the newsletter. It is lovely to celebrate achievements together but it may also inspire someone else to follow in your footsteps.*



## Wellbeing Garden Update

Thank you to all those who have taken seeds to grow at home for the wellbeing garden. We hope, with the collective effort being made, to have the garden open by the end of term. Of course, it will take years to establish fully but we hope it should start to resemble a garden as we go through the term.

## Staffing update

It is with great sadness that we will be saying farewell to Hilary Walker at the end of term. After over 20 years at the school, Hilary has made the decision to retire. She has been a significant contributor to the early years experience that Harrowbarrow has become renowned for, first with Louise Marsh and more recently with Tom Ottewell-Taylor. We will ensure a fitting farewell for Hilary at the end of term. Tom Ottewell-Taylor has decided to take his full adoption leave entitlement and will be returning at the start of November. He will be returning in a part-time capacity. We are in the process of advertising for a cover teacher from September and then a job share partner (this may end up being the same person).



The children were kept busy at Barton Hall with a varied range of activities. For some, this proved exhausting and caught up with them on the journey home!



## Dates for your diary

- 1.5.23 - May Day festivities from 12pm at the village hall. Harrowbarrow children will be maypole dancing.
- 2.5.23 - Mini Marathon day - PE kits for all children please.
- 8.5.23 - Additional bank holiday for coronation of King Charles.
- 9 - 12.5.23 - Year 6 SATs week
- 15.5.23 - Class 4 trip to Harlings Farm
- 16.5.23 - Class 2 trip to Paignton Zoo
- 17.5.23 - Year 6 kwik cricket tournament at Werrington Cricket Club