



## Principal's News

### Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back to Term 2! It has been great to already see Neanderthals, ancient Greeks, kings and queens and dinosaur explorers kick off their topics in style this week!

This term our Condition for Learning is 'Leadership and Responsibility'. This is an important part of our curriculum as we want all of our pupils to have a voice and to take responsibility for making decisions to make their learning, friendships, school community and environment as positive as it can be. This term, in line with Leadership and Responsibility, we are launching the Harriers Parliament. Every child from Year 1 to Year 6 will have the opportunity to become a councillor in a council that is close to their hearts: Eco, Wellbeing, Aspirations, Safety, Health & Fitness, Break & Lunch. Each council will have at least one or two representatives from each class. If your child would like to be a councillor, they must prepare to speak in front of their class and to explain why they should be chosen to be a councillor. Classes will then hold elections to choose their councillors next week.

Every child will have a voice, even if they do not become a councillor. Before every council meeting each class will discuss the council's themes and send their class councillor to the meeting with the class' thoughts. These thoughts and ideas will be discussed in the council meeting and decisions will be made. Any decisions will then be taken to the cabinet where they will be ratified. Democracy in action!

As part of the launch of the Safety Council, we will be relaunching the Student Travel And Roadside Safety Team... better known as the STARS Team! So if you have been driving up Harriers View, parking on pavements or on our

beautifully repainted chevrons, watch out! They'll be coming to speak to you!

We're taking part in ROAD SAFETY WEEK



www.brake.org.uk/road-safety-week.org.uk @brakecharity #RoadSafetyWeek



*The whole school will be learning about staying safe during National Road Safety Week.*

We are chasing families that have not returned their GDPR permission forms. As soon as these have been received we hope to be able to send out the recordings of our Harvest Assemblies. We are delighted to confirm that we are currently planning on inviting parents/carers to attend our Christmas performances, but this is liable to change based on Covid rates. We are also pleased to confirm that this term we are going to be holding Celebration Assemblies again, after the Principal Awards assembly was forced online, and we will be inviting parents/carers to attend these too.

We hope all our families, pupils and parents have a lovely term. This is always a special one in a primary school and we hope to be able to share the fun and festivities with you all.

Kind regards,  
**Alex Pearson**, Executive Principal



## A Letter to the Earth

With COP26 currently taking place in Glasgow, and climate change being in many people's thoughts, it seemed a good time to set Year 5 pupils a voluntary task of writing a letter to the Earth.

As young people who will inherit the future of the Earth, this is their chance to say what they want their world to look like. Letters can be shared to the Earth at

<https://www.letterstotheearth.com/>

Think about our planet's future and write a...

# Letter to the Earth

With the United Nations Climate Change Conference beginning in Glasgow, Scotland, on 31 October, many people are thinking about the future of the planet. The meeting is known as the Conference of the Parties (COP26), and governments will come together to take action to fight climate change. Climate change refers to long-term changes in world weather patterns, including rising temperatures, that are caused by human activity.

One way you could get involved is by writing a letter. Letters to the Earth is a campaign that started in 2019. It encourages people to write down their feelings and thoughts about the Earth and its animals and plants, as well as environmental problems.

For example, your letter could start with "Dear World", followed by some words about how you hope positive change will happen. Your letter doesn't have to be written from you, so have fun and use your imagination. Perhaps

you could write it as a polar bear? Or from the point of view of a farmer affected by drought (a severe shortage of water caused by little or no rainfall for a long time). The letter can be written to anyone, such as an endangered species, a person in power or someone who may be alive in the future.

"You can draw pictures of the world you wish to live in, or write about how you think we can better protect nature and all species," says Kay Michael, who helped set up Letters to the Earth. "As young people you will inherit the future of the Earth. What do you want it to look like?"

With the help of an adult, your creations can be shared with Letters to the Earth at [letterstotheearth.com](http://letterstotheearth.com). The website also has useful tips and ideas to help you write your letter. The group will display lots of the letters on social media and will deliver some to people at COP26. So pick up a pen or pencil, or get busy typing, and set down your thoughts and hopes.

You can write your letter to anyone.



## What's for dinner?

School meal menus are online now: <http://www.harriers-aspirations.org/parents-information/menus/>

## Platinum Jubilee

In 2022 the Queen will celebrate her Platinum Jubilee for 70 years on the throne. To mark this unprecedented milestone the government announced an additional bank holiday on Friday 3rd June. This date falls in our May half term so we can take an additional day off in term time.

We have chosen Monday 27th June 2022. Therefore, the school will be closed to pupils on Friday 24th June 2022 (which is an INSET day) and to pupils and staff on Monday 27th June (Jubilee bank holiday) giving families the chance to enjoy a long weekend.

## Junior Principal Team



Our Junior Principal Team have been actively promoting their initiatives for enhancing our school community. They have suggested some excellent plans, aligned with themes that are important to the other children in school. Their overall focus is on **Eco Equality Safety** starting with football days; one year group will play on the field per day so that it's safer for everyone. [Read their letter to parents here.](#)

## Fun and friendship in Nursery



Our youngest members of the school have had a fabulous term 1; the children all settled really well and now understand the nursery routine. Friendships are beginning to develop and the children are

following our nursery rules to ensure we all stay safe. What a great start to their nursery adventure!



**Sense of accomplishment**  
We have had some fabulous photos of pupils sent in last term for our [sense of accomplishment](#) page. We love celebrating their

achievements, whether in clubs, sports or the community. Please email [office@harriers-aspirations.org](mailto:office@harriers-aspirations.org), with a short description and photo, if you would like to share your child/ren's successes with us this term.

### Take a virtual visit to Harriers

Our new [Virtual Visit](#) video is online now, giving you a glimpse of all we can offer children that come to our wonderful school.



Our Virtual Visit explains the support, nurture and encouragement we give our pupils... ensuring they do their very best and fly high!

### Flu vaccinations

A reminder that Flu vaccinations are taking place at Harriers on Wednesday 10th November for Reception to Year 6 children. If you have not already done so and would like your child to have the vaccination, please visit the [Oxfordshire Health](#) website to book: Harriers school code OX139298

### Is it Covid-19?

Please continue to be extra vigilant about taking precautions against covid-19 infection. If your child/ren are showing symptoms of the virus, DO NOT send them into school. Please call 119 or through <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test/> to ensure you get a free PCR test if asked to do so. If the test is negative, the child can end self-isolation; if positive, the child should isolate until at least 10 days after their symptoms appeared. For more information about the illness and useful web links, see the full letter to parents [here](#).



Another great way to see what we are learning at Harriers is to follow our [Facebook](#) page or our [Twitter](#) page.



### The National Sleep Helpline

One in four children in the UK are not getting enough sleep, this has an impact on their behaviour and ability to learn, as well as their physical health.

The free helpline is run by trained sleep advisors who can talk to young people directly, or parents (we can also talk to parents about their own sleep issues). Download their [leaflet for parents](#) or you can read more here: <https://thesleepcharity.org.uk/national-sleep-helpline/>

### Dates for your Diary

**Wednesday 10th November:** Flu vaccinations for Reception to Year 6 children.

**Friday 26th November:** INSET day (no children in school).

**Friday 17th December:** Last day of Term 2, 1.30 pm finish.

Term and holiday dates for this academic year 2021-2022 are online: [Term Dates](#)

### Term dates for 2022-2023

Here are the term dates for the next academic year starting in September 2022. Please note that there will be an additional three INSET days to be confirmed.

INSET days: 1st and 2nd September 2022

Term 1 – 5th September to 21st October 2022

Term 2 – 31st October to 16th December 2022

Term 3 – 4th January to 10th February 2023

Term 4 – 20th February to 31st March 2023

Term 5 – 17th April to 26th May 2023

Term 6 – 5th June to 21st July 2023

## The Poppy Appeal

The Poppy Appeal has started once more and we at Harriers are supporting the Royal British Legion in raising funds to support currently serving and veterans of our armed forces.

The poppies, wristbands, snap bands, key rings and zip tags are on sale now. Our Year 6 children are running a stall and it will be open on each school day at break times up to Remembrance Sunday so that the children can purchase their poppy items to commemorate those that have served our country.



Items start from 50p up to £1.50

## Community Activities

**TOKYO ROADSHOW**

Technical Masterclass with  
**CHRIS SKELLE**  
PARALYMPIC GOLD MEDALIST  
TOKYO 2020 PARALYMPICS

**Banbury Judo Club**  
Sunday 7th November

Junior: 17:00-18:30  
Seniors: 18:30-20:00

Blessed George Napier Catholic School  
Addison Road  
Banbury  
OX16 9DG

**BRITISH JUDO**

**GREAT BRITAIN**

*This event is only available for people with an entry knowledge of Judo; this is due to the safety that is taught in the first few weeks of starting Judo.*

We always welcome new starters to Banbury Judo Club and have a very welcoming junior and senior team. Find out more here:

[www.banburyjudoclub.org.uk](http://www.banburyjudoclub.org.uk)

**CAMPAIGN 2025** | **MAKING A DIFFERENCE TOGETHER**

**TUDOR HALL**

Tudor Hall have launched their Saturday Live virtual events. The 45-minute workshops are part of their outreach programme of events for local girls aged 8-10.

They would love to welcome children from Harriers Banbury Academy.

The password for parents to access the event booking pages is **SaturdayLive**

Saturday 6th November at 10am - The six stages of storytelling -

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/tudor-hall-saturday-live-workshop-the-six-stages-of-storytelling-tickets-195097099677>

Saturday 4th December at 10am - How to welcome in the festive season like a Roman -

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/io-saturnalia-how-to-welcome-in-the-festive-season-like-a-roman-tickets-195157570547>

**ACTIVATE LEARNING**  
ADULT EDUCATION

Banbury and Bicester College

## JUNIOR SATURDAY ART CLUB

FOR 8 - 11 YEAR OLDS

Junior Saturday Art Club welcomes all young creative 8-11-year-olds to enjoy a mixture of art, design, and craft in our specialist art workshops!

You will have the opportunity to experience a range of fun, inspiring and challenging activities in our art studios

Our art studios and facilities are second to none and will provide an inspiring and creative environment for you to explore all sorts of creative disciplines. Come and have fun!

All abilities will be catered for. Activities are varied each series to accommodate returning students.

- ▶ Fee: £70 - all materials are included. Parents are very welcome to come along with their child, without extra costs.
- ▶ Timing: Series of 5 Saturday mornings 10am-12pm
- ▶ Date: See website for start date options
- ▶ Location: Banbury and Bicester College, Broughton Road, Banbury, OX16 9QA

For full course information and to enrol visit:  
[adult.activatelearning.ac.uk/ban-jr-art-club](http://adult.activatelearning.ac.uk/ban-jr-art-club)

[Click here to enrol](#)