



# HALTON LODGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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## NEWSLETTER 13

17<sup>th</sup> February 2023

### Mother's Day Surprise Room

If you wish for your child to take part in the Mother's Day Surprise Room on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March, please return the slip that was in last week's school newsletter (Newsletter 12) and make a payment of £2.50 on School Spider today.

### School Spider



As you will be aware, there have been issues nationwide with School Spider. Whilst the website and School Spider App are now back up and running, there are a few things that remain unresolved.

If you have made any payments in recent weeks (since 27<sup>th</sup> January), it is likely that you will be refunded all of these monies in a series of payments to your School Spider account. Shortly afterwards, the School Spider Support Team will reissue invoices for all of these payments – so the money owed can then be repaid. The invoices will detail what each payment and transaction relates to.

Once we have been issued with a report of what has been paid, the school will then issue invoices for any school meals or outstanding payments. If you could arrange for these to be paid as soon as possible, it would be very much appreciated.

However, whilst these problems and challenges have been out of our control, we do apologise for any inconvenience that this has caused!



### Inter House Competitions

The Inter House Indoor Athletics Competitions – that have been taken place since the beginning of January – concluded this week. This proved to be a very closely contested event – with just 1.5 points separating the team that finished second and the team that finished fourth!

The winners were BRIDGE:

#### Final League Table

**1<sup>st</sup> = Bridge = 18.5 points**

**2<sup>nd</sup> = Priory = 14.5 points**

**3<sup>rd</sup> = Castle = 14 points**

**4<sup>th</sup> = Mersey = 13 points**

Year 6 1<sup>st</sup> = Bridge (4 pts) 2<sup>nd</sup> = Castle (3 pts)  
3<sup>rd</sup> = Mersey (2 pts) 4<sup>th</sup> = Priory (1 pt)

Year 5 1<sup>st</sup> = Bridge (4 pts) 2<sup>nd</sup> = Castle (3 pts)  
3<sup>rd</sup> = Mersey (2 pts) 4<sup>th</sup> = Priory (1 pt)

Year 4 1<sup>st</sup> = Bridge (4 pts) 2<sup>nd</sup> = Castle (3 pts)  
3<sup>rd</sup> = Priory (2 pts) 4<sup>th</sup> = Mersey (1 pt)

Year 3 1<sup>st</sup> = Priory (4 pts) 2<sup>nd</sup> = Bridge (3 pts)  
3<sup>rd</sup> = Castle (2 pts) 4<sup>th</sup> = Mersey (1 pt)

Year 2 1<sup>st</sup> = Mersey (4 pts) 2<sup>nd</sup> = Bridge (2.5 pts)  
2<sup>nd</sup> = Priory (2.5 pts) 4<sup>th</sup> = Castle (1 pt)

Year 1 1<sup>st</sup> = Priory (4 pts) 2<sup>nd</sup> = Bridge (3 pts)  
3<sup>rd</sup> = Mersey (2 pts) 4<sup>th</sup> = Castle (1 pt)

After Half Term, our Inter-House Competitions will switch to a Wednesday – and the next sport in the competition calendar will be netball (and netball related skills). This will start with Year 1 competing against each other on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March!

### NEU Industrial Action



The next planned strike day for members of the National Education Union is on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February.

As this is immediately after the school reopens for half term, I wanted to share our current plans for this day.

For the same reasons outlined previously, the school will need to be closed to the majority of our pupils. However, as this action is being taken on a Tuesday, rather than a Wednesday, it affects some classes differently.

Therefore, should nothing change prior to this date, **our school will be open to children in Reception Class, The Fawns and Year 5... but closed to pupils in all other year groups (Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4 and Year 6).**

Once again, we will send a food parcel home the day before (on the Monday) with any child who is eligible for free school meals and who will not be in school the following day.

You may be aware that the teaching unions and the government have held talks this week – and further talks may be planned prior to the regional industrial action days arising. If these plans need to change, we will inform you via Studybugs.

## Results of the latest TT Rockstars battles and Numbots Challenges



Over the last few weeks, we have had a number of mathematical 'battles' going on.

In the first of these battles, Year 4 (390 pts) beat Year 3 (242 pts), with the most valuable players being:

In Year 4:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Theo M
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Omar AM
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Joseph M

In Year 3:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Omran AM
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Jake W
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Billy M

In a separate battle, between the girls in Year 6 and the boys in Year 6, there was a convincing winner, with the girls scoring 2119 pts to 470 pts for the boys.

The most valuable players in the class were:

Amongst the girls:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Lily M
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Rhia M
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Isabella B

Amongst the boys:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Declan P
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Ellis R
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Riley D-J

The Year 5 battle will be taking place over the next fortnight.

Our younger children have been completing maths challenges on Numbots. The children with the highest number of minutes played were:

In Year 2:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Scarlett S
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Leighton W
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Esmee P

In Year 1:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Lola O
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Harvey U
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Leon T

Being confident with times tables and number facts is essential to being a great mathematician, so every minute spent on Numbots and TT Rockstars WILL have a positive impact on your child's attainment.

Well done to everybody who made it on to the leader board. These children will be awarded with certificates in our assembly today.

Remember - You can continue to access TT Rockstars and Numbots over half term!

## Reading At Home



On Monday, we welcomed the parents, carers and grandparents of our children in Reception and Year 1 classes into school – to find out more about how we teach reading at our school.

Reading at home and developing good reading habits are essential for children to thrive and succeed in school. We, therefore, hope by gaining an insight into some of the tricks, skills and strategies that we use, that more of our parents can help their child to develop a love of reading (and to become more proficient). We also want you to really enjoy the time it takes to listen to your child read at home.

We cannot stress enough how important it is to regularly read with and to your child at home – which is why we ask ALL of our children to read at least 5 times each week. This should take place during school holidays, as well as during a normal school week, so if you have any plans over half term, please try to make sure you plan to take some books – and plan some time to read.

As well as saying thank you to everybody who came along, I would also like to thank the staff who were involved in planning and delivering any aspect of these workshops. It is daunting to have so many extra eyes on you. However, we hope everybody who came along enjoyed the experience and left feeling more confident about what you can be doing to support your child to become an even better reader.



## Nuttys Runcorn



We have been informed that, over half term, Nuttys (on Loch Street, Runcorn) are offering lunches at just £1 per child (for every paying adult).

This offer will be available from Monday to Friday.