



Horsmonden Primary School

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Headmaster:

Mr Malcolm E. Hayes

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Dear Parents,

What a fantastic morning **Wednesday** turned out to be. **88 dads** joined us for the morning, with 30 staying on afterwards to have lunch at The Gun, in a range of activities that saw us demonstrating dexterity with potatoes and some very fancy footwork in Year 3's dance lesson. There are some photographs on display in the entrance hall screen along with some film clips showing just how much some dads were able to leave their inhibitions behind – definitely a case of men behaving dably! We see just how much the children value and enjoy the day and at the end of the morning, Grace in Reception called out to me, "It's been fun having dads in school today. Thanks for arranging it". Bless!

Next week it's **Parent Consultation Sessions**.. If you're bringing your child into school on the Tuesday, they will need to stay in the hall whilst you are talking to the teacher. As always, Year 6 will be on hand to keep everything running smoothly and offer you copious quantities of tea and coffee whilst amazing their parents with their willingness to wash up. Please try to arrive on time as it only takes one delay to cause chaos. If you find your appointment isn't long enough, please use the time to book a longer session to enable extended discussions at another time. Please also remember to check the dates for Learning Evaluation Sessions when you get to spend time in your child's class looking through their learning with them – this is the most valuable discussion you can have.

Today you will receive your child's **half-yearly report**, which will hopefully be a useful starting point for the discussions you have with their teacher. The report gives you a breakdown of the grading system, which we've amended since the beginning of the year, although Reception Class children have a different format altogether. We've found it a useful task in putting down in writing the areas of focus for the remainder of the academic year – PLEASE let us know your views.

Next week is also the school **book fair**; you may well have already seen the large trolleys along the edge of the hall in which there's a whole variety of books for your children to enjoy. The book fair will be open on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday straight after school and during consultations, so please do come in and browse.

Please check you have all important **dates** down in your diary. We've had several parents surprised by events recently, but the dates were issued in July and are permanently on display on the school website and we do try to give you as much notice as possible of any changes. One change from the paper list is the Junior Sports Day, which will now take place on Monday 19th July, not Tuesday.

One more request for evacuees! We've got a few coming in on Wednesday afternoon, but there is always space for more. If you know of somebody who was an evacuee during World War 2, please let me know so that they can join us and be interviewed by Year 6. We will start at 1.30 and once Year 6 have finished their interviews, Years 3 and 4 will take over.

And finally... many congratulations to the **Netball Team**, who took on a number of significantly larger schools on Wednesday afternoon and ended both matches with resounding victories as well as demonstrating the art of outstanding sportsmanship. Excellent all round!

Yours sincerely,

Malcolm E. Hayes
Headmaster

