



Aiming High,
Celebrating Success

Haddenham Community Junior School

Woodways Haddenham Aylesbury Bucks HP17 8DS

Tel: 01844 291829 Fax: 01844 292534

Chair of Governors: Dr. D. Palmer Headteacher: Mr A. Leach

E-mail: office@haddenhamjun.co.uk

Web: www.haddenham-jun.bucks.sch.uk

School Newsletter

No 4: Friday 14 October 2016

CLOWNING AROUND

Given the events of Wednesday and the email that we sent out after school I thought it would be a good idea to share with you a few thoughts about what I like to call 'epidemic anxiety syndrome' (I've made that up I don't know if it exists for real!)

As a parent myself, as well as a Headteacher, I know that children love 'a bit of a panic' it happens on residential visits when someone thinks they've seen a ghost; suddenly everyone sees one and before one knows it every shadow in every bush or tree is a ghostly apparition! As I said yesterday ; we've no evidence that there was actually a clown strolling around our school site - but lots of children had fun seeing one and imagining that the clown seen earlier in Chinnor and Aylesbury had come to visit Haddenham. However it ceased to be 'fun' when several younger children became scared and panic began to set in and even worse I was swamped by parents worried that it was their child that had caused the panic! Let me reassure you no one was in trouble, it was simply children having fun - but *epidemic anxiety syndrome* had taken hold and so we needed to get to the bottom of what was actually seen.

The media aren't really helping though; What may seem like a bit of fun to some people has a dark side and there are growing reports of disturbing clown sightings sweeping Britain (and the globe apparently).

In the lead up to Halloween, the nation has been gripped by dozens of reports of people dressing up in scary clown costumes to deliberately upset children ; clearly this isn't acceptable and so if you do see this I urge you to report it to the authorities.

However all this got me thinking.....

Children secretly love ***fictional*** baddies though don't they! That's why Darth Vader is the coolest Star Wars character and why children's literature and film is full of villains, dastardly baddies and anti-heroes. I came across a blog recently that helps explain this phenomenon - follow the link below if you'd like to read it but to quote from it directly

'Villains serve an important purpose. They help children learn to cope with the idea of unfairness and injustice in the world. Their existence permits to talk about making good choices and being selfless instead of selfish. They can help children process frustration, loss, anger and fear. They're indispensable, and to be fair, they always get the best lines!'

<http://www.readbrightly.com/the-best-villains-in-childrens-literature/>

Happy reading!



WOW: ZEBRA DAY NEXT WEDNESDAY

Our final Walk on Wednesdays (WoW!) day is next Wednesday 19th October. Ridgeway are currently in the lead in the house competition, closely followed by Buckingham and Vale.

To make the morning even more special we are having a Zebra event to encourage everyone who needs to cross Woodways to cross safely at our new zebra crossing. Emma Lister will be present with her zebra banner and will hand out special zebra stickers to everyone who crosses at the zebra or who wears something black and white on the day.

Children don't have to walk to school to get the zebra stickers and these will be given out in addition to the normal Walk to School stickers which are part of the WoW! competition.

If you drive to Haddenham please remember to park away from the school, for example at the shops, so that your children can take part in the WoW! competition.

A BIG THANK YOU

Thank you all so much for your generosity over the past few weeks. We have been able to give 175kg of harvest donations to the Aylesbury Foodbank, we raised £227.80 for Jeans for Genes and £373.06 for Macmillan. Your kindness is greatly appreciated

PLEASE BE VIGILANT

We have had a couple of cases of both head lice and impetigo over the past week. Please check your children regularly.

FRENCH CLUB

We are looking to introduce a French club after half term. If your child like to learn French please contact the school office to express your interest so we can look into whether we would have a significant enough number of children to make the club viable.

LEARNERS OF THE WEEK



07/10/2016

The learners of the week for 14/10/2016 will be pictured soon. Unfortunately we ran out of time today due to our Winter Sports event.

2 week Diary

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Week commencing: 17th October 2016 | Travelling Book Fair all week |
| Monday | |
| Tuesday | |
| Wednesday | Open Morning - 9.30am - 12 noon Open Evening - 6pm - 8pm |
| Thursday | |
| Friday | Mufti Day - bring a bottle for the Christmas Fayre Tombola Break up for half term |

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Week commencing: 31st October 2016 | |
| Monday | Return to school Parent Consultation evening |
| Tuesday | Parent Consultation evening Deadline for the 'Design a school logo' competition |
| Wednesday | Year 6 to Holdenby House |
| Thursday | |
| Friday | |

Upcoming events

Friday 2nd December
Jolly Jumper Day
Bring £1 for PTA funds

Festive Fayre

Friday 9th December
Village Carol Service 7pm

13th, 14th, 15th December
Year 3 Christmas Production

Monday 9th December
Christmas Disco

Tuesday 20th December
Break up for the Christmas Holiday
1.30pm

