



Dear Parent,

2023 Neiley Races

After last year's return post pandemic, we're delighted to be running the 33rd edition of the Holme Valley Schools Cross Country at the Neiley playing fields in Honley this April & May.

Last year the races were supported by over 30 local schools and we expect a similar number to take part this year. The event is organised by volunteers from Holmfirth Harriers Athletics Club, many of whom have been supporting the event for over 20 years, with others even taking part in their childhood! We're also very grateful for the support of The Examiner newspaper and with the continued support from local schools.

The races will be held on Wednesdays – **26th April**, **3rd May** and **17th May** with the following approximate start times:

4.40pm	Yrs 3 & 4 Girls	4.55pm	Yrs 3 & 4 Boys - Both running 2 small laps, 1400 m in total
5.15pm	Yrs 5 & 6 Girls	5.30pm	Yrs 5 & 6 Boys - Both running 2 large laps, 1800 m in total

Schools are ranked by size and there are school and individual prizes for cumulative results over the 3 races.

All race information and results will be issued to the school and published on the website as soon as possible after the races. www.holmfirthharriers.com

On Race Day.

- There are no entries on the day and children are entered by the schools, not individually by parents.
- We expect around 600 children to take part so please allow sufficient time to park.
- Car parking will be at the Neiley pavilion accessed from New Mill Road and on the hard play area accessed through the gate on Gynn Lane, Honley close to the junction with New Mill Road. If that parking is unavailable due to the weather, the Head Teacher at Honley High School, has kindly agreed to allow us to use the parking at the school which is accessed off Station Road. In either case road signs and marshals will assist.
- Please park sensibly & not in the coned off area; do not cause access problems for our local residents.
- For the first race only, the teacher or person in charge of each school will have the race numbers and safety pins. Please allow time to find them. Each school should have a flag or sign to hold up so they can be found.
- Please ensure that all children retain their numbers and 4 pins for the other 2 races.
- Please use a pin in each corner to attach the race number to the **front** of your child so it is clearly visible.
- Please try to discourage children from wearing jumpers or coats over their race numbers as they may be not be counted if their number is not visible when they cross the finishing line.
- Please do not make your own race numbers. We can issue replacements if they are lost or forgotten.
- Please listen out for announcements on the day as children who miss their race cannot take part in the other races.
- **No running spikes allowed due to the danger to other runners.**
- Water will be available near the finish line for the runners after they have raced. Water is also available in the pavilion.
- **Please do not cross the course while a race is in progress.**
- Sweets and drinks will be on sale near the pavilion and toilets are available inside.

We look forward to seeing you all.

John McFadzean March 2023