



# HAMPRESTON CE (VA) FIRST SCHOOL

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*To love God and to love one another*

**Summer Term 2023  
Newsletter 13**

**20<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

Dear Parents,

Here we are, at the end of yet another academic year. And what a year it has been, with new staff, new topics and new children all mixed with the traditions and events that make Hampreston great. Year-ends are always a great time to look back and I know many of the children – including our Year 4's – will have done just that.

## So Long, Year 4...

Saying goodbye gets harder the longer you know someone. There are more shared memories to reminisce over, more shared experiences to laugh about. Never more so has this been true since they are my very first Reception class, the first class of children to journey all the way through Hampreston with me as Headteacher.

As I wish farewell to our Year 4's this year, I wanted to express what a special and wonderful bunch they are – brave, resilient and so, so much fun! I know you will all meet the challenges of your new schools with the same enthusiasm and energy you have shown here and will all make so many amazing new friends. I wish you all the very best; don't forget to come back and tell us how you are getting on.

## Save The Date – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023

With the new school year on the horizon – believe me, it will be here before you know it – we wanted to give everybody the chance to 'save the date' for Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September.

This coming September marks the school's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and we wanted to begin the celebrations with a whole school event on that day, culminating in activities for family and friends of the school. We are hoping to see the return of some familiar faces and begin a season of commemoration for the school's 150<sup>th</sup> year!

More details will follow very early in September, but we would initially like to ask for families to help support our activities by sourcing Victorian-style clothing for Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September. It doesn't have to be fancy – maybe you could consider upcycling old school uniform for that chimney sweep-chic look?

We are excited to celebrate such a monumental anniversary and look forward to sharing it with the whole community in September.

## Worth Celebrating...

We are always keen to celebrate our children, especially when they are extraordinary. This year, despite coughs, colds, chicken pox and strep-A. we have a few children who have managed to somehow dodge all of them, achieving a perfect 100% attendance record for the year.

A huge well done to Cassia, Logan and Luca – you should be really proud of yourselves!

## House Point Winners

After a year of hard work, striving for Dojos and house points, the last week proved decisive, with just 4 points separating first and second. It was a massive come-from-behind victory for our winners, overtaking to pip the leaders at the post.

Well done to the 2023 House Point winners – Birch!! An amazing effort in the last week to take victory for the second year. Congratulations to all!



## Join the Summer Reading Challenge 2023

The Summer Reading Challenge is back from now until 23rd September. Get ready to join the team!



This year's challenge 'Ready, Set, Read!' is all about games and sports. Join our superstar team and their animal mascots as they use their skills to weave their way through a summer obstacle course.

Developed in collaboration with Youth Sport Trust, the 2023 Summer Reading Challenge celebrates play and participation with games and sports by keeping imaginations moving over the school holiday.

Pop to your local library or join online. Your child will read 6 books and can collect stickers along the way. If they complete the challenge, they will receive a certificate in Collective Worship at school in the autumn term. Visit <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>

## Year 4 Swimmers

As we start thinking ahead for September, could I ask for parents of next year's Year 4 (our current year 3) to consider whether you are able to assist with transportation to Canford School for the children's swimming lessons each Monday afternoon. Although the lessons don't start immediately, there is a little paperwork involved in setting up drivers and we would like to get started on this straight away when we return.

It is only through the kindness and generosity of parent drivers that we can continue to offer these swimming lessons and we value our wonderful partnership with Canford in providing a minibus for some of the children. If you feel able to offer a little time, please contact the office during the summer. Many thanks.

## Drop Off Zone – September helpers needed!

It might seem like a long way off, but September will be here before we know it. As always, we are asking for volunteers to help support us with the Drop-Off Zone each morning. It is by no means a life sentence, but by offering to help for just one morning each week will allow staff to be available to support children as they arrive into school. You don't even need your own high-vis jacket or walkie talkie!

If you would consider volunteering, I know the office staff would be delighted to hear from you by email. You can email during the summer break – or even this afternoon – to help Mrs Bentley put a rota together ready for the start of term on Tuesday September 5<sup>th</sup>.

With that being said, can I offer a huge thank you to all the wonderful people who have helped this year, faithfully welcoming the children in with a smile, whatever the weather! Thanks to Mr & Mrs Bird, Miss Preston, Mrs Wong, Mrs Vincent and Mrs Darnell – and to everyone else who stepped in along the way!

## Hot Meals Ordering

Please remember that the deadline for ordering hot meals for the week that we return to school in the New Academic Year is **Monday 28<sup>th</sup> August**. Please order **NOW** for as far in advance as is possible.

## Office Email

During the summer, the office email account will be sending an out of hours message. It will be periodically monitored during the summer but actions may not be taken until school resumes on the staff INSET day on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September.



Summer Fayre

You raised an amazing £2,100.00! Thank you so much to everyone who contributed behind the scenes and on the day, and thank you to you for attending and supporting this event which has enabled us to raise such a brilliant amount.

Treasurer's Report

A grand tally up of how much we raised this year and how, is on its way. It will be circulated on WhatsApp groups and sent out formally at the beginning of September.

New Committee Wanted!

As the school year ends, the committee are busy planning the next big event! Fireworks will be back however, this will be the final fundraising event organised by the current committee. We intend to go out with a bang!

It has been my utmost pleasure and privilege to have chaired the Friends Committee for the last 2 years, and to have had the opportunity to make a difference to the children of this school. None of the events would have been possible without the other members of the committee who I am sure will agree that being part of the Friends Committee is often like trying to navigate through a sea of chaos, but is a wild ride that leaves you with a long lasting smile.

So, given all current committee members will be standing down, I am asking you, my fabulous fellow parents, to consider the position of Chair (or any other position) within the Friends of Hampreston. Step up, volunteer and join this rewarding adventure and make our children proud when they see what we can achieve for them by coming together. Whilst I love running around like a headless chicken it is time for someone else to take the helm and bring new ideas and energy into the committee, alongside a new Vice Chair, Treasurer and Communications Officer.

If you are interested in any position on the committee and want to know more, please get in touch by email ([pta@hamprestonfirstschool.com](mailto:pta@hamprestonfirstschool.com)) or stop me for a chat. Nicky x

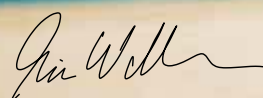
What an amazing year we have had – filled with fun, laughter and friendship. We have welcomed new classmates and new staff, visitors and volunteers and everybody has grown as a result.

To everybody who has helped in any way, whether hearing readers, sorting the library, manning the Drop-Off Zone, or at one of the many PTA events, can I offer my sincere thanks. Hampreston would not be the same without such dedicated support.

Finally, as we begin the long summer break, can I wish you all the very best for the break. I hope you all have a wonderful, restful holiday.

Have a great summer – see you in September!

Yours sincerely,



**Mr. T. Williams**  
**Headteacher**



## Term Dates for Academic Year 2023/2024

### Autumn Term 2023

Inset Day	Friday 1st September 2023
Inset Day	Monday 4th September 2023
<b>First Day</b>	<b>Tuesday 5th September 2023</b>
Half term	Monday 23rd October – Friday 27th October 2023
Last Day	Friday 15th December 2023

### Spring Term 2024

Inset Day	Tuesday 2nd January 2024
<b>First Day</b>	<b>Wednesday 3rd January 2024</b>
Half term	Monday 12th February – Friday 16th February 2024
Last Day	Thursday 28th March 2024
Bank Holiday	Friday 29th March 2024

### Summer Term 2024

<b>First Day</b>	<b>Monday 15th April 2024</b>
Bank Holiday	Monday 6th May 2024
Half Term	Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May 2024
Last Day	Tuesday 23rd July 2024

In addition, the school will be **closed** for 2 additional Inset Days which are to be confirmed.

