



# HAMPRESTON CE (VA) FIRST SCHOOL

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*To love God and to love one another*

Autumn Term 2023 - Newsletter 11

24<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Dear Parents,

As we reach the midway point of this half term, it is always lovely to see and sense the growing anticipation of this time of year. The children have had a wonderful week and I know that Mrs. Todd is already counting the days until Christmas – no doubt your children are too!

## Year 4 Trip



*On Thursday in Year 4, we went to Dudsbury Iron Age Hillfort. We got to explore the area and see the wondrous views. It was truly breath-taking. Although we saw lots of amazing sights, the hillfort would have looked very different in the Iron Age because all of the wooden structures that were there have now rotted away. We especially enjoyed standing at the top of the ramparts, scaring Mr McNally as a class of Iron Age children.*

By Sammy and Max

## Competition success!

Congratulations to Felicity in Year 1 on being a runner up for our area with her entry for the Brake 'design a slow-down slogan' competition. Her 'Sloth Down' poster won her a £30 Amazon voucher! Enjoy it, Felicity. Well done to all the entrants for taking part and for their super efforts.



## Young Writers Creative Writing Competition

Following the success of last year's writing competition, Hampreston are once again partaking in the Young Writers Creative Writing Competition. This is your child's chance to showcase their amazing writing abilities by writing a short story of only 100 words, which will then be published in a book! It is free to enter, and entry forms can be taken from your child's class teacher. From all the entries nationally, schools with the best entries will be chosen to win the Young Writers' Award of Excellence and a £100 National Book Token. The top 10 entries will also receive a creative writing goody bag each! Entries must be returned to school no later than Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December.

For more information, visit the Young Writer's Website: <https://www.youngwriters.co.uk/competitions> or speak to your child's class teacher. Happy Writing!

## Carols by Candlelight

Our Key Stage 2 Carols by Candlelight service will be held at All Saints' Hampreston on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 5pm. The children have been preparing to lead a traditional carol service with songs both old and new and are very excited. This is a wonderful opportunity to come together as a community and really get into the Christmas spirit. The staff and Year 3 and 4 children look forward to you joining us to share this service and join in with a range of carols.

## Home School Agreement

If you have not already done so, please could you read and sign your home / school agreement and send it back to school. If you've mislaid yours and need a new copy, no problem – just pop into the office!



## Newspapers

If anybody would like to donate old newspapers we would be very grateful to receive them at school please as our stocks have run out.

## Christmas Post Box

As we enter December next week, we will be decking the halls (and classrooms) with boughs of holly and festive cheer. Along with the decorations, comes the traditional Christmas Post Box.

To ensure plenty of time for cards to safely reach their recipients, this year the post box will be open between [Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December – Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December](#) only. Cards will then be sorted and distributed over the following days by our team of year 4 elves.

We always have a significant number of cards to store and sort, so kindly ask for your help by **not adding chocolate coins or sweets to the cards**. This will make storing and sorting the huge number of cards we usually deal with much easier and help to ensure that they make it to their intended people in one piece. It is also important as we wish to protect any children with allergies. Thank you.

## Coping with Challenging Behaviour – Parent Support Workshop

Thank you to those who attended the parent information workshop. We have had some positive feedback and would welcome any more if you would like to get in touch. If you were unable to make it this time but are interested in any other workshops run by the Mental Health in Schools Team, please let us know as it can easily be arranged. If you would like more tailored support for your own child or family, drop Mrs Richardson an email on [sen@hamprestonfirstschool.com](mailto:sen@hamprestonfirstschool.com)

The MHST team can help with:

- Anxiety (including general, social, health or separation); sleep, panic; low mood; behaviour difficulties; specific phobia; obsessive behaviours.

## PTA News

Following our AGM this week, those in formal positions within the PTA have now all stepped down from their roles. Over the past 2 years Nicky, Nadia & the team have done an amazing job and we would like to thank them for all their hard work! They leave us with a huge sum of £12,000, set aside for an outdoor classroom, which we will continue to fundraise for alongside other projects.

Your new PTA will now be Chaired by Claire Humphreys, with Lauren Elphick as Treasurer and Nicky Preston as Secretary. Claire and Lauren have recently joined the school community, both with daughters in Reception. Claire is also a Midday Supervisor within the school, so will be welcoming ideas from the children, regarding future fundraisers and projects.

We really would love to hear from you also, so please contact us if you have any ideas or would like to get involved either by emailing [pta@hamprestonfirstschool.com](mailto:pta@hamprestonfirstschool.com) or stopping us for a chat in the playground.

Our first event will be the Christmas Fair, so please pop **Thursday 7th December** in your diaries and watch this space for more information. Next **Friday 1st December will also be Mufti Day**, in exchange for chocolate or any bottle for this year's Christmas tombola.

## Friends of Hampreston

Whether you are braving lofts, sheds, or attics to dig out the Christmas decs this weekend, or holding on just a little while longer, I wish you all a wonderful weekend.

Yours sincerely,



Mr T Williams  
Headteacher



### This Week:

To help support you at home and to spark conversations about learning, here is what the children have been covering this week.

|        | English  | Mathematics   |
|--------|--|---|
| EYFS   | <p>It's fruit and vegetable week! We have been reading 'The Runaway Pea' and working on our observational drawing skills as we challenge ourselves to draw different types of fruit and vegetables. We have been designing our own healthy plate making sure we take inspiration from the food pyramid and discussing what our favourite fruits and vegetables are!</p> <p>In drawing club this week, we have been taking the boy and penguin from Oliver Jeffer's story, 'Lost &amp; Found' on different adventures around the globe. Some children drew them in Australia having a party with kangaroos and koalas, others took them to the aquarium to swim with the fish. We have been focussing on adding detail to our drawings of people and animals. In phonics, we have learnt the digraphs /sh/ /th/ /ch/ /ng/ and /nk/ and have practised reading and writing these in words.</p> | <p>In Maths, we have been exploring different ways to make 5. We have used our subitising skills to identify 4 and 5 in different contexts and to find one more and one less than different amounts. We have been singing lots of 5 songs including: five little frogs, five little ducks and five currant buns!</p>  |
| Year 1 | <p>Year 1 have produced some creative writing linked to the song/book 'Walking Through The Jungle'. They have practised using question marks to complete the phrase: <b>Walking through the Jungle, What do you see?</b> We are continuing to gain accuracy and independence by saying the sentence out loud before writing it and using our sounds independently to spell words.</p>  | <p>We have been learning to subtract a part from the whole. E.g. <b>If I had 9 apples and somebody ate 2, how many were left?</b> We would love you to continue supporting this concept at home with lots of practical and visual ways around the house. We also want the children to make fact families and see the connection between parts and the whole, e.g. <b>2+6=8    6+2=8    8-2=6    8-6=2</b></p> |
| Year 2 | <p>This week in English we have read 'The Bear and The Piano' by David Litchfield focusing on the vocabulary and how the author uses adjectives to describe how the bear was feeling. The children have planned and written their own retelling of the story. They have worked hard to ensure they have the correct order of events and have used expanded noun phrases to develop their descriptions.</p>   | <p>In Maths this week we have continued our addition and subtraction unit. We have worked on subtracting two 2 digit numbers and answered mixed addition and subtraction questions. The children have worked hard to ensure they are using the concrete resources to support their learning and recognise whether the question is asking them to add or subtract.</p>   |
| Year 3 | <p>English - Year 3 have been looking at inverted commas this week and how to use them in dialogue. Using the conversations had between Plop the Owl and the other book characters, the children got into role and pretended what questions they would ask each other in a conversation. The children were then able to write their questions in dialogue format, correctly using inverted commas.</p>   | <p>Maths - Moving on multiples of 4 this week, the children have really enjoyed chanting and moving along to the Supermovers 4 timetables. They have also looked at how else multiples of 4 can be shown, such as using arrays, addition sentences, bar models and groups.</p>  |
| Year 4 | <p>One of the highlights of our week was our exploration of the lost gardens of Heligan through the use of imagery. We delved into the works of Laura Carlin and Shaun Tan, both renowned artists known for their adept use of mixed media. Inspired by their artistry, the children created beautiful concertina booklets, using a variety of materials to bring the vivid descriptions of the lost gardens to life.</p> <p>In addition to our artistic endeavours, we also embarked on a trip to Dudsbury Hillfort. The trip was both educational and enjoyable, allowing the children to deepen their understanding of hillforts. Back in the classroom, they channelled their newfound knowledge into creating informative leaflets about hillforts.</p>   | <p>In maths this week, we have been focusing on the 3, 6, and 9 times tables in more detail. The children have now shifted their attention towards solving reasoning problems that require the use of these tables, so that the children can apply their knowledge in problem-solving contexts.</p>   |



## Diary Dates 2023-2024

### Autumn Term

|                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> December    | PTA Mufti Day                                  |
| Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December   | KS2 Carols by Candlelight                      |
| Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> December   | EYFS/KS1 Nativity                              |
| Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December  | EYFS/KS1 Nativity                              |
| Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December | Christmas Party Afternoon                      |
| Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December   | Christingle Service 1.30pm<br>Last day of term |

### Spring Term

|                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> January  | INSET DAY  |
| Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February  | Big Me Day   |
| Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> February | Internet Safety Day  |
| Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February  | Healthy School Day & Walk-2-School Morning<br>Half term begins |

### Half Term

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February    | School Opens                           |
| Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> February   | Pancake Race (Year 4)                  |
| Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> February   | Parent Consultations                   |
| Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> February | Parent Consultations                   |
| Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March     | Easter Service 1pm<br>Last day of term |

### Summer Term

|                               |                  |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April | School Opens     |
| Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May   | Half term begins |

### Half Term

|                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June   | School Opens                                  |
| Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> June  | Sports Day                                    |
| Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July  | Leavers Service 2pm<br>Year Ends for students |
| Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July  | INSET DAY                                     |
| Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July | INSET DAY                                     |

