



HAMPRESTON CE (VA) FIRST SCHOOL

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To love God and to love one another

Spring Term 2024 - Newsletter 20

9th February 2024

Dear Parents,

It has been brilliant to see the children arrayed in their house colours today and I know the staff have enjoyed getting stuck into the thrills and spills of inter-house competitions. Thank you for helping the children with preparation for today, despite last minute changes to our Walk to School plans.

Children's Mental Health Week – "My Voice Matters"

Each child in the school knows they are unique and that their feelings, thoughts and opinions are so important to everybody. This week, we have been using resources that empower children to speak out about their feelings and to understand that bottling things up can lead to bigger problems. Please do continue to reflect together at home on how your child can make sure they are heard. For more information, visit <https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/families/>

NSPCC Rocks Times Table Competition

A HUGE congratulations to all of the children in Year 4 for their participation in the national NSPCC Rocks times table competition last Friday. The children worked really hard to answer as many questions as possible in an hour and out of 3,793 schools across the UK we finished 238th! What an incredible achievement. Amazing work all of you!!!

Pancake Race

Our traditional pancake race will take place on the first Tuesday (20th February) after half term. All our Year 4 children will take part running along the Church Drive and tossing their pancake on the way. Please be thinking ahead in terms of parking **so we can keep the church drive clear of vehicles on the day.**

As in previous years, the magnificent trophy will be presented to the winner so why not start getting some practice in before the big event?

Each Year 4 child will need to bring in **a pan and a pancake** on the day. After the race, some of our mid-day supervisors have kindly offered to cook pancakes for the whole school with the assistance of Year 4 children.

Uniform Reminder

Jewellery such as bracelets and necklaces are not to be worn at school. Watches may be worn and must be analogue only. However, it is recommended that they are most suitable in Key Stage 2 (Year 3 and 4). 'SMART' watches and pedometers are not permitted.

Earrings must not be worn in school. If you are considering allowing your child to have piercings, it is helpful for this to take place during a school holiday in order that the piercing can be 'fixed' before the child's return to school. Where this is not possible, they must be taped until the hole is 'fixed', after which time earrings must be removed while your child is in school.

While we understand this may be a sad reminder, we hold these rules in place in order to protect the children as they play and engage with PE lessons together. Please support us as we seek to keep our children – and other's children – safe.

Thank you.



Staff News

It has been an exceptionally busy half term at Hampreston and it has been a pleasure to welcome new candidates for a number of vacancies. Those of you who have already met Mrs Coleman will know how lucky we have been in welcoming her onto the team and what a great part of the family she has already become.

I am thrilled to announce that we have also made appointments for our other teaching roles including the deputy headteacher and EYFS teacher and look forward to sharing details with you of our new teachers as soon as I am able to.

On another note, it is with huge sadness that we will soon be saying farewell to Mrs Farrah who has made the decision to retire and spend more time with her growing family. Mrs Farrah has been a true legend at Hampreston over many, many years and I know she will be remembered by generations of Hampreston staff and children. I know you will join me in wishing her a brilliant retirement.

Our Lunchtime Supervisor team has also lost Mrs Humphries for an extended period while she undergoes medical treatment. We wish her a safe and speedy recovery and I know you will also send her your best wishes.

This does mean that we are really in need of some support in filling our Lunchtime Supervisor vacancies and are asking for your help in finding the right people to join our team. If you, or anyone you know, are interested in joining the school team, please get in touch with the office. A separate email regarding this has been sent to you today – please help us spread the message far and wide. Thank you.

Hot School Meals

Please remember the deadline to order hot school meals via Forerunner for after half term is midnight Monday 12th February 2024.

On behalf of the entire staff team, I wish you a wonderful half term break and hope you all have time to recharge, relax and spend time with friends and loved ones. We look forward to seeing you on the 19th February.

Yours sincerely,



Mr T Williams
Headteacher



Diary Dates 2023-2024

Spring Term

Half Term

Monday 19 th February	School Opens
Tuesday 20 th February	Pancake Race (Year 4)
Tuesday 27 th February	Parent Consultations
Wednesday 28 th February	Parent Consultations
Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day
Thursday 28 th March	Easter Service 1pm
	Last day of term

Summer Term

Monday 15 th April	School Opens
Friday 24 th May	Half term begins

Half Term

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



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>This week has been focussed on love. We talked about different kinds of love and challenged ourselves to show small acts of kindness this week. We have been making Valentine's Day cards so keep an eye out in book bags!</p> <p>In Literacy, we have been writing captions using our Phase 3 sounds and recapping all the sounds and tricky words we have learnt this term.</p>	<p>In Maths, we have been learning about odd and even numbers as well as learning to recall our doubles!</p>
Year 1	<p>In English this week the children have worked hard on sequencing the story of Do Not Wash this Bear! They used pictures to help them order their ideas and then focussed on their vocabulary to make their sentences even more interesting. The children used the vocabulary bank that we developed as a class to help them change the adjectives in the story.</p>	<p>This week in maths the children have been securing their number bonds to 20. They found links and patterns between number bonds to 10 and number bonds to 20 to help them complete addition problems. They were also introduced to the idea of doubling as another form of addition.</p>
Year 2	<p>This week in English we have continued to read the book 'Lost and Found' by Oliver Jeffers. We have spent time investigating the features of newspapers, what information they include, what tense they are written in and how they catch the reader's attention. The children have shown great imagination and written an article reporting on the penguin escaping from the zoo. They have had some very inventive ideas and have worked really hard to incorporate the vocabulary from the book in their writing.</p>	<p>In Maths this week we have continued our multiplication and division unit. We have learnt how multiplication and repeated addition number sentences represent groups in different ways and how multiplication can be represented as 'lots of' 'groups of' and a 'x' symbol. We have investigated how arrays can display data and made equal groups by grouping.</p> <p>'Your one minute maths task is: multiplication: equal groups (objects) and count in 3s'</p>
Year 3	<p>This week, year 3 have explored non - chronological texts even further by creating their own all about Anglo-Saxons. They had to include the features and use their research to put into their own sentences. I have been really impressed with their presentation and handwriting.</p>	<p>We have had a fun week in maths exploring perimeter. They had to practically measure the perimeter of 2D shapes and calculated the perimeter of different weird and wonderful types of shapes. Alongside this, the children had to not only convert mm to cm but find the most appropriate way to add up different measurements.</p>
Year 4	<p>In English, the focus has been on different list poems, specifically with an emphasis on using verbs and nouns effectively. The children have enthusiastically delved into this aspect of language, discovering the power of carefully chosen words. Furthermore, they have applied their understanding by creating their own captivating poem titled 'Things I did last week'. This exercise has allowed them to unleash their creativity by incorporating similes, powerful adjectives, interesting verbs, and prepositions.</p>	<p>In maths, our Year 4 learners have been tackling more complex shapes, including rectilinear shapes and regular/irregular polygons. They have fearlessly explored the concept of perimeter and have successfully calculated the missing lengths in problem-solving scenarios related to perimeter. This hands-on approach, combined with the mastery learning style, has enabled the children to develop a deeper understanding of perimeter.</p>

