



HAMPRESTON CE (VA) FIRST SCHOOL

Hampreston Village | Wimborne | Dorset | BH21 7LX | 01202 573074 | office@hampreston.dorset.sch.uk

To love God and to love one another

Newsletter 13
Autumn Term 2021

10th December 2021

Dear Parents

COVID Update

As we head into the final week, I wanted to keep you informed of the current COVID situation at school. We continue to communicate daily with Dorset Public Health and track our confirmed cases very closely. There have been a small number of cases across the school which has increased slightly towards the end of this week. These are currently very small numbers within each class and the latest advice from DPH is to continue monitoring these cases, rather than sending all 150 children for a precautionary PCR test at this point!

Heading into the last week, we would encourage you to remain vigilant for symptoms of COVID-19 and seek a PCR if you suspect infection. Many of you are also continuing with asymptomatic testing at home with lateral flow devices and we encourage you to continue this in line with government guidance, notifying the school of any positive test results as soon as possible.

With Christmas just around the corner, it is more important than ever that we work together to prevent the spread of coronavirus and protect one another. Therefore, can we kindly ask families to wear face coverings once again during drop off and collection times through next week. In school, we will continue to play our part with a strong 'hands, face, space' message, good ventilation and rigorous hand hygiene. Let's all do our part in these final few days to safeguard our friends and families. Thank you.

Nativity

This coming Monday, the children in reception and key stage 1 will become movie stars for the morning as they film the video for this year's Christmas Nativity. While we are sad that we cannot invite parents to come and see it, we have organised for every child to receive a copy of the film, which will be sent home on USB sticks for the whole family to enjoy. Our wonderful cinematographer, Mr Alex Frey, will be editing and producing these for the end of the week and we hope you enjoy this gift!

Normally these USB copies of the nativity are around £15 and this year Hampreston is happy to provide one for each family with no obligation or charge. However, if you would like to offer a donation or contribution towards these, they would be gratefully received.

Christingle Celebration

This coming Friday will be our Christingle celebration and, in keeping with the current COVID restrictions, we will be hosting this across the school by Zoom. Each class will bring and share an element of the Christmas story and will explore together the meaning of Christmas as represented by the Christingle orange.

During the day, the children will have chance to make their own Christingles and will be sharing a special class-based lighting ceremony just before **the day ends at 2pm**. Despite searching for a way to share this with families, we haven't been able to find a way to hold an outdoor Christingle procession with 150 lit candles safely. However, the children will be able to bring these Christingle candles home **when the day ends at 2pm**.

The school gates will be open from 1:45pm for the 2pm collection.

Carols by Candlelight

You know what they say about trying to predict the British weather! Sadly we did postpone the Carols by Candlelight last Tuesday, even though the evening didn't quite deliver the torrential rain and wind we expected. However, we will try again this coming Tuesday evening and hope for clear winter skies. As before, we will keep an eye on the weather and let you know as soon as we can if the event cannot take place.



Christmas Jumpers

This year we chose to support the Alzheimer's Society with our festive Elf Day, rather than our usual Christmas Jumper Day. But we know it wouldn't be Christmas without a school full of tasteful winterwear! Therefore, next Friday the children are invited to don their best festive sweaters instead of their Hampreston jumpers or cardigans. Everyone loves a good Christmas Jumper day and we look forward to finishing the term with a flourish.

A season for giving...

At this busy and exciting time of year, it is often easy to over indulge with all the trimmings of Christmastime. Not at Hampreston though! Over the past few weeks, there has been an amazing outpouring of giving to our various charity events, including those organised by our wonderful PTA! So far Hampreston has raised:

£82.70 for Children in Need

£140.19 for the Alzheimer's Society on Elf Day

£235.50 collected at last week's chocolate tombola

...and an amazing £895 collected from the Friend's raffle!

Thank you all so much for your generosity.

Friend's Silent Auction

Don't forget that the Friend's Silent Auction runs until Sunday 12th December, with some amazing prizes up for grabs including a signed Southampton F.C. shirt, an overnight break at Kingston Country Courtyard or swimming lessons, amongst them.

To enter, visit <https://www.32auctions.com/friendsofhamprestonPTA> - and happy bidding everyone!

ASDA Foundation



Our brilliant PTA have secured a nomination as part of the ASDA Foundation Green Token Giving which went live this week. You can help to raise funds towards plans to redevelop the school library, creating a stunning new Reading Room, by visiting www.asda.com/green-tokens and selecting Bournemouth from the drop-down box. Our local store will also be promoting this fantastic fundraising project in store, so if you happen to be passing, listen out for a mention!

Supporters can vote once every seven days, so please do return and revote in the following weeks. Voting is super-quick and simple, so please don't forget to vote!

First place in the voting will bring a £500 donation to the Friends as they continue to raise funds to support this exciting new project for summer 2022!

PTA Christmas Cards

Sadly, there has been some disruption to the Friend's Christmas Card deliveries this year. The PTA are working hard to chase these down and wanted to apologise for the delays.

Dorset Council's Admission Policy (NOT Hampreston's Policy)

Dorset are running the annual consultation on the School Admission Arrangements for 2023/2024 with effect from **Monday 29th November 2021** to **Sunday 23rd January 2022**.

Details of the consultation will be available to view at <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/2023-to-2024-school-admissions-policies>

Responses must be submitted either in writing to School Admissions Team, Dorset Council, County Hall, Dorchester, DT1 1XJ or by email to schoolorganisation@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk by **Sunday 23rd January 2022**.

This is your opportunity to comment should you wish to do so.

To Love God and to Love one another

Have a great weekend, keep safe!

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. Williams", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mr. T. Williams
Headteacher

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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
Reception	The children have been brilliant at learning the Christmas Play this week and the dress rehearsal went well on Thursday. This week in English, we have been writing letters to Father Christmas and doing our phonic assessments and Neli Screening too.	In maths, we have been learning the part whole method for numbers grouping. The children were splitting 4 or 5 objects into 2 groups
Year 1	This week in literacy, we have taken the opportunity to write back to a little elf who visited our classroom! The children wrote fantastic letters. Year 1 have also had lots of fun designing and making pop-ups. The children were inspired by the range of pop-up books we read in class, alongside their own imaginations! Year 1 will be writing some instructions to make a pop-up next week.	In maths, we have covered 'one more and one less' and we have compared numbers of objects. We have also been working on finding the missing number in a number sentence, a very tricky concept!
Year 2	This week in English we have been consolidating the skills we have learnt this term. The children have been practicing their comprehension skills, choosing the correct suffix for the ending of words and writing their own command and question sentences. They have also been working really hard learning their Nativity lines!	In maths we are continuing to subtract two 2-digit numbers. This week we have been working on using the column method to subtract using exchange. The children have worked really hard to grasp a very tricky concept and they have impressed me with their resilience when they found it tricky.
Year 3	In English we have learned some very challenging spellings based on original French words, and we have written some great rhyming poems about waiting for Christmas!	In maths we have continued to work on multiplication and division problems. The class are getting much better at recognising the links between multiply and divide, and are also beginning to have much quicker recall of times tables.
Year 4	We have nearly made it to Christmas and the children have not let up at all! In English this week the children have planned, drafted and edited their own versions of well-known fables. They have even made them into a lovely book that we hope to read to some of the younger children.	In maths the children have manage to complete an incredible amount of work looking at their times tables. They have focussed on their 6s, 7s, 9s, 11s and 12s!

Diary Dates 2021-2022

Autumn Term

Monday 13 th December	Friends Raffle Draw
Friday 17 th December	Christingle and End of Term 2pm Last day of term

Spring Term

Tuesday 4 th January	INSET DAY
Wednesday 5 th January	School Opens
Friday 4 th February	Big Me Day
Tuesday 8 th February	Internet Safety Day
Friday 18 th February	Healthy School Day & Walk2School Morning Half term begins

Half Term

Monday 28 th February	School Opens
Tuesday 1 st March	Year 4 Pancake race
Thursday 3 rd March	World Book Day
Tuesday 8 th March	Parent Consultations 5-8pm
Wednesday 9 th March	Parent Consultations 3-6pm
Friday 8 th April	Easter Service 1pm Last day of term

Summer Term

Monday 25 th April	Proposed INSET Day
Friday 27 th May	Healthy School Day & Fun Run Half term begins

Half Term

Monday 6 th June	School Closed for Queen's Jubilee Bank Holiday
Tuesday 7 th June	School Opens
Thursday 16 th June	Class Portraits
Friday 1 st July	Sports Day
Friday 22 nd July	Leavers Service 2pm Year Ends