



HAMPRESTON CE (VA) FIRST SCHOOL

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To love God and to love one another

Newsletter 11
Autumn Term 2021

26th November 2021

Dear Parents

It has been another exciting week this week and the children have really enjoyed rounding it off with a mufti day.

Astronaut Day

On Wednesday, Year 1 were astronaut candidates for the day. They completed various challenges to test their memory, resilience, mental maths skills and more.



We were also lucky enough to have Neil Armstrong join us in the present day via Zoom; the children had a fantastic time talking to him about his life. He told the children about his childhood aspirations and inspired us to follow our own.

We ended the day by taking off to the moon in our space rocket. It's safe to say that NASA were

very impressed with the candidates! Well done to Year 1 for making it such a fun day and for reflecting so thoughtfully on what it really takes to be a great astronaut or explorer.



Christmas Update

As we head into December, there are several events coming up. If you haven't yet read the 'Christmas Update' letter, which should have been sent with this newsletter, please stop here and read that first...

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With the changes to the forthcoming events, we are still expecting the children to have a brilliant festive period. Thank you for your understanding.

Enterprise Week

Next week should have been our Enterprise Week, which will now take place in the summer term. Instead, the children will have chance to take part in some Christmassy-craft activities next week and I know they will love making some great 'take-homes' to help make homes feel festive.

Elf Day – Friday 3rd December

Next Friday, our wonderful Midday Supervisors have taken the lead in starting our first 'Elf Day' in aid of the Alzheimer's Society and we are inviting the children to join in. Taking part can be as simple as wearing a Christmas jumper or a home-made cotton wool elf beard, donning a set of elf ears or a jingly hat, or even going full 'elf' with an elf suit. As always, we love home-made costumes and know that these are often the best. Please don't feel any pressure to buy an elf costume – even some rosy cheeks and a string of tinsel is enough.



As with our recent charity days, we aren't charging a pound for the day, but will instead have donation buckets on the gate for anyone wishing to donate to the Alzheimer's Society. All Elf Day funds raised will go to help support people living with dementia by funding support services, care and research.

Chocolate Tombola – Friday 3rd December

In order to wrap up Elf Day properly, what better way than with chocolate? The Friends will be hosting the first of two outdoor tombolas next Friday from 2:30pm – 3:30pm. This will be held on the playground and tickets can either be purchased on the day or in advance (tickets are 50p each, or 3 for £1).

If you are unable to attend, or would prefer to order tickets in advance (to be drawn by a member of the Friends team), please send the money in to the school office in a clearly named envelope marked 'FAO Tanya Sherren' and 'Chocolate Tombola'. Please send any advance orders in by Thursday 2nd December to help the Friends – and the office team – with logistics.

Friends Raffle – Monday 13th December

The Friends have secured some amazing raffle prizes and there is still time to enter. The raffle will be drawn on Monday 13th December and winners will be contacted to collect their prizes during that week.

Flu Immunisations

The whole school flu immunisation programme will be carried out on Tuesday 30th November 2021. Please refer to the email sent to you on 18th November for guidance and information for the online registration procedure. The online registration must be completed at the very latest, **2 working days prior to the 30th November 2021** to ensure details can be checked and any queries dealt with. **Please note 'opt out' must also be registered online.** If you do not register in time you will be invited to make alternative arrangements to receive your child's vaccination. Your child will only be able to receive the vaccination in school if you have completed the online consent form.

Christmas Lunch

It is time to start thinking about 'that' season again. If you wish your child to have a Christmas hot meal on Wednesday 15th December, please order by Tuesday 30th November.

Christmas Post Box

As we finally hit December, we will be decking the halls (and classrooms) with boughs of holly. With the decorations comes the traditional Christmas Post Box. This year, we will be working to slightly different time scales to ensure plenty of time for cards to safely reach their recipients. This year the post box will be open between [Monday 6th December – Monday 13th December](#) only. Cards will then be sorted and distributed over the following days by our team of year 4 elves.

As we are likely to have a significant number of cards to store and sort, will you please help us 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.

Whether you are braving the Christmas decorations this weekend or not, it certainly feels like there is that festive magic in the air! Have a great weekend, keep safe!

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 |
|-----------|---|---|
| Reception | In English, we have learnt the diagraphs qu and ch this week and the tricky words go, no, to and into. We have read an information book about being a teacher and played schools. We have starting writing words too and have been sounding out CVC words to help us write. | In maths, we have been learning the 2D shape names and their properties such as whether it has a straight or curved edge. We have all been practising our subitising to 5 again too and are getting even quicker at recognising the dots or objects in different positions quickly. |
| Year 1 | This week in Year 1, we have read a range of fiction and non-fiction texts relating to our space theme. The children have learnt how to use time connectives in their writing. They successfully applied these when writing recounts of our astronaut day. | In maths, we have continued to work on place value. The children are now confidently able to tell me how many tens and ones are in a given number to 20 and beyond! Well done. |
| Year 2 | This week in English we have been looking at the poem 'Bernard' by Shirley Hughes. The children have planned and written their own poems in a similar style. They thought very carefully about the features of a poem and the vocabulary they wanted to use to describe their friends. The children wrote beautiful poems and we had a great time acting out our poems for the class on No Pens Day! | In Maths we have moved on to adding two 2-digit numbers. The children have continued to use the concrete resources and the skills we have learnt to help them solve the problems. They have worked really hard to exchange the ones for tens and we will continue to work on this before moving on to subtraction. |
| Year 3 | In English we have looked at the prefixes <i>re-</i> and <i>mis-</i> . Our writing has started to use inverted commas for the first time, tied into a study of the Roald Dahl book "The Twits", which is a favourite of year 3 children because of the foul-mannered characters of Mr and Mrs Twit! | Year 3 have been working on 4x and 8x tables this week. The 8x table strategy of "doubling three times" is beginning to sink in, but is a challenge for some children! |
| Year 4 | This week we had a fantastic trip to Dudsbury Camp hill fort. The children were so well behaved and loved pretending to attack and defend the 2,500 year old ramparts. In English we have started looking at fables and the different morals that they represent. We have also started to look at how to write interesting and technically accurate speech using inverted commas and reporting clauses. | In maths we have come to the end of our perimeter topic by solving some perimeter problems where some of the sides were missing! On No Pens Wednesday the children worked in groups to solve a multitude of different maths problems and then we looked at multiplying numbers by 10 and 100. This will lead into our homework for this week. |

Diary Dates 2021-2022

| Autumn Term | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Monday 29 th November | Enterprise Week |
| Tuesday 30 th November | Flu Immunisations |
| Friday 3 rd December | Enterprise Afternoon 2:30pm Elf Day Friends Chocolate Tombola 2:30 – 3:30pm |
| Saturday 4 th December | Friend's Christmas Fair 11am-3pm |
| Tuesday 7 th December | KS2 Carols by Candlelight 5:00pm |
| Friday 10 th December | Friends Bottle Tombola 2:30 – 3:30pm |
| Monday 13 th December | EYFS/KS1 Nativity Friends Raffle Draw |
| Tuesday 14 th December | EYFS/KS1 Nativity |
| Friday 17 th December | Christingle Procession 2pm Last day of term |
| Spring Term | |
| Tuesday 4th 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 6th 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 |