



HAMPRESTON CE (VA) FIRST SCHOOL

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To love God and to love one another

2024

Spring Term 2024 - Newsletter 15

5th January 2024

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! We all hope you have had a brilliant, restful break and are feeling as raring to go as the staff are! The children have certainly come back into school this week full of life and energy and it has been wonderful to hear their tales of Christmas magic and holiday feasts!

Hampreston Flooding

With another soggy and wet week, the flooding in and around the village continues to be a challenge. You may have noticed the number of cars parked in the village has increased as those local residents most severely affected by flood water need to keep their cars accessible. With the flooding in the staff car park, I am very aware of the additional challenges and pressure it puts on everyone travelling in and through the village. I would like to thank everyone this week for their patience and the calm, sensible way you have all managed these difficulties. Rest assured, we are working with the local authority and local groups to try and find a better, long term solution and ask for your continued understanding as we wait for the water levels to subside.

Absence and Illness

As we start the spring term, I wanted to thank everyone for supporting their children with good attendance at Hampreston. We ended the autumn term with a school-wide average attendance of 95.7%, with over two thirds of the school attending 95% of the time or better – including 25 children with 100% attendance!!

The next attendance monitoring period is about to begin and we will once again write to any families where attendance causes a concern. Often these letters can be a concern for parents and we would like to reassure you that where there are periods of absence for known reasons, we are sympathetic and seek to support you in any way we can. Hopefully you are already aware of your child's attendance through conversations with staff, but should you want any information, please don't hesitate to contact the office.

In order to support you as parents, the NHS website provides helpful information and guidance on whether your child should attend school. Visit <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/> to find out more.

Year 4 Swimming

A reminder to parents in year 4 that there is no swimming next week. Our swimming at Canford School resumes on Monday 22nd January. Thank you to those who have expressed an interest in helping with transportation, but if there are any other willing volunteers, please contact Mrs Bentley.



Starting something new is always a strange mixture of excitement, joy and bittersweet emotions. Following her time covering my role last term, Mrs Richardson has clearly developed a taste for headship and has been successful in being appointed as the new headteacher at Dunbury C of E School, beginning in April this year.

I know you will join me in offering her a huge congratulations as she takes the next step in the adventure, being grateful to her for everything she has contributed to the school over the past 7 years. She has been an invaluable part of the school team and has worked with so many children and families, I know she will leave behind a fantastic legacy and some big shoes to fill.

Our recruitment process is underway and I will keep you updated in due course. In the meantime, I know you will all have the opportunity to thank Mrs Richardson and wish her well as she completes her last term at Hampreston.

Finally, we will also be saying farewell to the wonderful Mrs Bentley, who will be leaving us at the end of the month. Mrs Bentley's smile and warmth will be greatly missed and I know you will all agree her time at Hampreston has been a very happy one. We wish her the best as she leaves us and hope she will keep in touch.

Here's hoping for better weather next week! Whether you're digging out the wellies for some outdoor fun or wrapping up warm with a coffee and a good book, have a great weekend!

Yours sincerely,



Mr T Williams
Headteacher



Diary Dates 2023-2024

Spring Term

Friday 2 nd February	Big Me Day
Tuesday 6 th February	Internet Safety Day
Friday 9 th February	Healthy School Day & Walk-2-School Morning
	Half term begins

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 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>Reception have come back to school full of energy and enthusiasm to learn. We have focused on teeth this week and have learnt about how to brush our teeth and what a trip to the dentist entails. We have also loved exploring our new vet role play and discussed how to take care of different animals.</p> <p>In English, we have been learning the new digraphs /ai/ and /ee/ and how to read and write these in words. We have also read the story of 'Chicken Licken' and begun answering some prediction questions about the story, as well as increasing our familiarity with different versions of the traditional tale.</p>	<p>In Maths, we have been exploring the number '0' and how it represents nothing! We have also continued to develop our subitising skills of numbers 0 to 5.</p>
Year 1	<p>In English this week the children have been developing their knowledge of adjectives. They described their favourite Christmas gift using adjectives based on colour, size, texture and material. They then used this knowledge to help them construct sentences including adjectives to describe a teddy and an old toy car.</p>	<p>This week in maths the children have been learning about 3D shapes. They have been looking at the number of faces, edges and vertices each shape has. They have then been sorting them into different groups according to various properties.</p>
Year 2	<p>This week in English we have started reading 'Where Is Home Little Pip?' we have looked carefully at the vocabulary the author has used and why she written in her chosen style. We have started to build a word bank of alternative words we can use next week to make our writing as exciting and adventurous as possible. The children have been brilliant working together to find as many words as we can.</p>	<p>In Maths this week we have continued our Shape unit. We have independently drawn 2D shapes and found vertical lines of symmetry. The children have practised using a ruler appropriately, ensuring it is positioned correctly and they have placed their pencil against the edge. The children have worked hard to ensure their lines are straight and their vertices are correctly placed.</p>
Year 3	<p>English - Due to our new topic, the Anglo-Saxons, year 3 have started reading the legend 'Beowulf.' This is a really exciting book to explore, ready to inspire the children to write their own legends towards the end of term. The focus this week has been looking at the characters and discussing how the author uses vocabulary and language to exaggerate character traits.</p>	<p>Maths - This week, year 3 have further developed their understanding of multiples of 10 by looking at greater multiples. They have used a range of representations, such as ten frames and place value charts to solve basic multiplication and division problems beyond the 10 times-table.</p>
Year 4	<p>In English, we have been focusing on writing brief recounts. This week, our topic was centred around Little Mouse and his many fears. The students have impressively used adverbials of time to structure their writing and enhance their storytelling skills. They have shown great creativity, exploring how Little Mouse overcame his worries one step at a time.</p>	<p>In Maths, we have begun our exciting new topic on multiplication. We started by delving into factors of numbers. To aid their learning, we utilised visually engaging factor bugs. This enabled the pupils to grasp the concept of factors more easily.</p>

