



HAMPRESTON CE (VA) FIRST SCHOOL

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To love God and to love one another

Spring Term 2024 - Newsletter 18

26th January 2024

Dear Parents,

Thank you all for your understanding concerning Monday's power outage and our apologies once again for any inconvenience caused. While we had hoped to delay the opening, our decision to close was unexpected, but with power to the village not restored until mid-afternoon, it was the right course of action.



As always, we are grateful for the way you continue to support us through all the unusual circumstances this winter has thrown at us.

A final power cut this morning, before school opened, should mean the last of the repair work is completed and Southern Electric will let us get back to business as usual next week.

Big Me – dressing up day: Friday 2nd February

On Friday 2nd February we will be having a dressing up day to stimulate children's ideas about how they can contribute to the wider world when they are older. This really celebrates our school values of ASPIRATION and SERVICE, and you may already have begun to talk to your child about their hopes, dreams and aspirations for the future.

With this in mind, we would be grateful if you could plan an outfit or simple prop that represents the important work that your child feels is their calling! We must stress, this is not intended to cause stress! If your child really dislikes dressing up, give them a simple prop or book to bring instead. Don't spend unnecessary money - borrow or create where possible! It is meant to promote conversations about everyone being valued for the part they play in society, and this is naturally diverse. That said, a Spiderman costume can limit meaningful and realistic discussion! Thank you.



Challenging Behaviour Support

A flyer has gone out to let you know about some free, one-off information sessions for parents on 'child behaviours that challenge us'. The session is delivered by a Child Clinical Psychologist and an Action for Children Parenting Practitioner. The first one is in the BCP area on the morning of Monday 29th January. There is also a virtual session. Please scan the QR code to request a place.



KS1 Maths Workshop

Parents of Reception and KS1 children

We would like to extend a warm invite to all of you for an insightful maths workshop at our school on Thursday 8th February at 2:30 pm.

Join us to delve into the fascinating world of maths and discover how we go about teaching it here at Hampreston. It's a golden opportunity for you to gain valuable insights into supporting your child's mathematical journey at home too.

Make sure you save the date and join us for an engaging session that's bound to leave you feeling inspired and equipped to help your little ones thrive in maths.



Reading Volunteers Wanted!

If you have a spare morning or afternoon, or even an hour, to come into school and volunteer to read with our children, we are eager to get more parents involved in our reading community. Training will be given to help support you in delivering 1:1 reading sessions with children across the school. If this is of interest to you, please do contact the school office who will pass your name to Mrs Noyle, our reading lead.

School Council (Buddy Bench)

We've got some exciting news to share with you this week. The School Council has been on the lookout for a buddy bench, and guess what? We finally have it right here in our playground, thanks to the wonderful support of Mrs Bentley from the school office and Reformed Plastics (UK) Ltd, together with a grant from the John Thornton Young Achievers Foundation.

The buddy bench has been placed on the playground, ready to be used by any child who needs a friend. It's been a dream come true for our school, and we couldn't be happier. Let's make sure we continue to be inclusive and supportive of one another.



School Gate!

As you can imagine, the school is a busy place and we often have a range of people visiting the site, from parents and visitors, to tradespeople, deliveries and contractors. We use the gate and intercom system to help manage the security and access to the site and this has worked successfully for many years. While we have not had any issues recently, could we politely ask you to hold back your manners at the gate just a little and not allow other adults onto site until they have spoken to a member of staff via the intercom. I know it is often a matter of habit to hold the gate for someone, but we are keen to support all our visitors by checking the purpose of their visit at the gate. Thank you.

Have a brilliant weekend.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T Williams'.

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 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	Chinese New Year! We have explored the country of China this week. Firstly, identifying it on a map and learning more about its culture. We have then taken part in various celebrations for the Lunar New Year including making dragon masks (2024 is the year of the dragon), collaging decorative lanterns, using paintbrushes to write mandarin numbers and building the great wall of China using our construction equipment.	
	In Phonics, we have learnt the sounds /oi/, /ear/ and /air/ and to read and write them in words. We have recapped tricky words, 'was, you, they, into, my, by, all' and are starting to spell these correctly. In Literacy, we have been writing captions, challenging ourselves to write short phrases to make our writing more exciting.	In Maths, we have focussed on the numbers 6,7,8, practising their formation and composition. We have used tens frames to explore different ways to make each number and sorted different representations into the correct pile. We have used maths vocabulary of 'one more' and 'one less' to understand how the numbers link together. Your 1-minute maths activity is: Subitising
Year 1	In English this week we have been building our vocabulary by spotting key words when stories are read out loud. We then started to create our own word bank of synonyms for the different key words. We will be using these to help develop the vocabulary in our sentences and writing over the next few weeks.	In maths this week we have been using number lines to 20. We used number lines drawn on the playground to jump along finding given numbers, 1 less and 1 more and then we counted the number of jumps between given numbers. We then applied our knowledge to help us fill in missing numbers on number lines and estimated where we would plot numbers on a blank number line. Your 1-minute maths activity is: Addition-2-Add within 10
Year 2	This week in English we consolidated our knowledge of penguins and their habitats by writing non chronological reports. We have focused on organising our knowledge into sections and giving them appropriate titles. The children have really impressed me with their knowledge and presentation of their ideas.	In Maths this week we have continued our money unit. The children have compared amounts of money, used different notes and coins to make the same amount and made a pound. The children have persevered with what is a very tricky topic. Your 1-minute maths activity is: addition: add 10
Year 3	This week, the children have blown me away with not only their perseverance and enthusiasm for writing their legend stories but also their independence. They have been self-scaffolding by using the resources around the classroom to support their writing. Towards the end of the week, year 3 spent a long period of concentration writing up their stories in neat with a handwriting pen, ready for display. Well done year 3!	This is been another practical week of maths doing lots of measuring. The children have loved using the rulers and measuring everyday objects. We have learnt a new song all about units of measurement and reading a ruler in cm and mm. Next week, the children will learn about equivalent measurements.
Year 4	Children in Year 4 at our school have been buzzing with enthusiasm during their recent DT week. They embarked on an exciting journey of research, design, creation, and evaluation, all centred around their very own unique pencil cases. Using sewing techniques and experimenting with different fabrics, particularly felt, the children embraced the challenge with great delight. Crafting their personalised pencil cases proved to be quite a task, requiring perseverance and the application of tricky skills. However, the children's positive attitude and dedication shone through, making the entire process a joyful and rewarding experience.	In maths lessons, division has been the focal point of exploration. The children have been engrossed in dissecting numbers and using their multiplication knowledge to divide various parts. To further support your child's learning at home, we recommend this helpful video resource: Division Made Easy . It offers a step-by-step guide to consolidating understanding and enhancing mathematical skills.

