



HAMPRESTON CE (VA) FIRST SCHOOL

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To love God and to love one another

Autumn Term 2023 - Newsletter 5

6th October 2023

Dear Parents,

Well, we certainly finished this week with a bang!

Duggy Dug Dug

Duggy Dug Dug's Crazy Science worship session caused great excitement this morning! Using a concoction of chemicals, music and good humour, Dug conveyed to the children a special message of how incredible God's world is. Don't forget about Dug's Bubble Party on Saturday 8th October at 2.30pm in St Mary's Church, Ferndown. If you are interested, please scan the QR code to see if there are any free tickets left.



“With God’s power working in us,
God can do much more than we can ask or think
of”
Ephesians 3 v 20

Road Safety Competition

Your child has been asked to design a safety sticker to prevent motorists from speeding.

The winning design will be made into a real car window sticker by the road safety charity, Brake, plus a £50 Halfords voucher. Entries can be on A4 / A3, portrait or landscape, digital or by hand but must be bright and bold. Our school have set a deadline of **Monday 23rd October** to allow us time to scan them in and send them digitally, so please send back the paper copy to us. See the posters attached for more information.

Home School Agreement

If you have not already done so, please could you read and sign your home / school agreement and send it back to school. If you've mislaid yours and need a new copy, no problem – just pop into the office! These are a really important part of our relationship with you all and they do make a big difference to your child's education.



SEN parent network

Being a parent is not always easy and sometimes it is good to just talk and listen with other parents, particularly if your child has additional needs that make life more challenging. We try to offer a coffee and chat once per half term, just to talk informally about things that are going well or that we are finding tricky. Please look out for more information in the near future. If you find your child is struggling to manage negative emotions after a long day of concentrating in the busy school environment, this article offers some useful tips: [Parents' Toolkit](#)

Lost Property

The Lost Property Box is beginning to spill over again! Please name all of your child's clothing and equipment, and also claim anything you think has gone missing. Many thanks.

Communication

I would like to thank you so much for the many encouraging and positive comments you have taken the time to give me in the playground. Our valued relationship with you means so much and I have passed your thanks and support on to the teachers and support staff. I genuinely want all of you to feel free to speak to your child's teacher or to me about anything you feel affects your child's life at school and we always welcome open communication, via email, phone call or face to face – whichever you feel most comfortable with.

I am also aware that communication in WhatsApp groups has both positive and negative impacts. Could I gently remind us all that any questions or concerns relating to the school would be better asked directly to us to ensure that information is balanced and accurate and that children's identities are protected.

Earrings

We have noticed an increasing number of children wearing earrings to school on PE days, including some hoop and larger earrings. As per our uniform policy children are permitted to wear 1 small stud earring in each ear to school if they wish. On PE days children should not come to school wearing earrings to help us keep all children as safe as possible in PE lessons. Where this is not possible, children should be able to remove their own earrings before the start of each PE lesson and put them back in themselves at the end. If they cannot do this, please could you provide suitable tape and ensure your child can sufficiently tape their own earrings until they can be taken out, as per the guidance in Association for Physical Education Safe Practice in Physical Education, used by schools nationally. If for any reason this is not possible, children may not be able to join in the practical part of the PE lesson, but will be given an alternative role such as referee, umpire or scorer. Thank you for your cooperation.

Nits

Unfortunately, we have had reports of these most unwelcome visitors in school. Over the weekend, please take the chance to double-check your child's hair. Please seek treatment if needed. Chemists can offer advice, but the use of hair conditioner and a nit-comb can be effective too. Additionally, please ensure that all long hair is tied back as per our school guidelines. This will help to prevent the spread of these pesky blighters. Thanks

Change of date: KS2 carol service

Please note, the Carols by Candlelight Service involving children in Years 3 and 4 has had a change of date. Instead of Wednesday 6th December, please add it to your calendars for **Tuesday 5th December at 5pm.**

Parking Matters

There have been several reported instances of parents parking in the staff car park before school begins in the morning. May I remind parents that the staff car park must not be used in the morning to enable all staff to park. At the end of the day, the staff car park may be used, but please do not block access or exit for any vehicles parked there. Thank you for your understanding.

School Admissions – September 2024

Don't forget, if you have a child in Year 4 or a child due to start school in September 2024, it is time to consider your applications. Letters have been sent to our Year 4 families and more information is available on the [Dorset Council website](#).



Harvest Thankgiving Gifts – Ferndown Community Larder

We would like to invite you to start bringing in your harvest produce from Monday 9th October, for Ferndown Community Larder in preparation for our Harvest Festival Service on Friday 13th October.

The School Council are in charge so, I'll hand over to them:

"We are collecting food so that we can help people in our local area. We would like you to bring in extra food that you are happy to donate to a brilliant cause. You can donate any tins or jars but please make sure that they are in date.

If you want more information about the Ferndown Community larder then follow this link:

<https://ferndowncommunitysupport.org.uk/community-larder/>

(Written by Year 3 School Council members)

"At the Harvest Service, we will be taking a collection for our Compassion Child, Jaiden. We would like you to donate change to our collection so that we can support Jaiden and his family in Indonesia. Any and all donations will be very welcome. Thank you all for your support."

(Written by Year 4 School Council members)



Parent Governor Election

The constitution of our governing body includes two parent governors: we currently have one parent governor – Mrs Bird - and we have one vacancy, which needs to be filled.

Would any parent or carer of pupils registered at the School wish to put their name forward for this role?

All parents and carers are eligible to stand for election, except

- Persons liable to be detained under the Mental Health Act 1983
- Undischarged bankrupts
- Persons recently convicted of a serious offence
- Persons disqualified under the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986
- Persons subject to disqualification as a Charity Trustee
- Persons whose employment is prohibited or restricted
- Persons disqualified from being proprietors of independent schools
- Persons on the DfES List 99 (this is a list of people banned from working with children)

If you would like to put your name forward or would like more information about what being a parent governor entails, please email the Clerk, Deborah Trickett (d.trickett@hampreston.dorset.sch.uk) by 13th October 2023.

After this deadline, the Clerk will organise a ballot and will invite all nominees to submit a brief factual statement about themselves for circulation with the ballot paper to everyone entitled to vote. If only one nominee comes forward, that parent will be automatically elected without the need for a vote.

PTA News

PTA members needed!

From November the PTA will have two vacancies for the chair and treasurer. As you know, the children benefit so much all through the year from the enrichment provided by the PTA. While it is undoubtedly a commitment, the load tends to fluctuate in peaks and troughs of time dedication needed. If you are looking for a way to get more involved in the life of your child's school and would like to find out more, please contact: PTA@hamprestonfirstschool.com



Donut Day

We shall be holding our famous Donut Day sale, after school on Friday 13th October. Donuts will be available in the playground at pickup for £1 each.

Pre-Loved Uniform

Our next pre-loved uniform sale will also be after school on Friday 13th October, so come and grab a bargain for when the children come back in their winter uniforms after half term. Logo items are £1 each, all other items are 50p each.

Fireworks at Hampreston - Friday 3rd November

Following the success of our firework night last year, we are excited to confirm that we are doing it all again! Please save the date and your pennies to buy a ticket when they go on sale very soon. It would be amazing to have a Hampreston sell out, but the tickets will also be made available to the general public. We did sell out last year and had to turn people away so make sure you are quick!

If you would like to volunteer at this event, please let one of the committee members know or send an email to pta@hamprestonfirstschool.com

Christmas Cards and More!

You should have received in bookbags this week, your child's Christmas card design, along with instructions to order online. Please note the order deadline is 11.59pm on 18 October 2023. I know it seems early but this will ensure you have your products in good time for Christmas but also gives the school the maximum amount of fundraising commission. For every product you buy 30% comes directly back to our school. There are some lovely products to choose from including a ceramic tree decoration this year. Happy shopping and thank you for your support.

Thank you all so much for your continued support.

Wishing you a wonderful weekend!

Yours sincerely,

E Richardson

Mrs E. Richardson
Deputy 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
EYFS	<p>It's superhero week! We began the week by designing our own superhero masks and discussing what superpowers we would like to have and why. We have been building superhero cities out of numicon, avoiding string lasers in the outside classroom and rescuing superheroes from rope traps!</p>	
	<p>In Phonics this week, we have learnt to read and write the sounds /g/ /o/ /c/ and /k/ and have worked in small groups to identify the initial sounds of words. We have been practising our CVC blending and we started our new guided reading groups where we really enjoyed looking at books and talking about different topics. In drawing club, we read the story 'Supertato' and designed our own super vegetable!</p>	<p>In Maths, we have been using language to compare amounts including fewer and more, least and most. We have been exploring height and building towers to describe different heights. We have been using our class height chart to measure our own heights. Most of us are as tall as a flamingo!</p>
Year 1	<p>This week in English Year 1 have been using the story of 'We're going on a Bear Hunt.' We have looked at the different vocabulary used within the story and drawn a story map to help us remember how the story is structured. We have also been practising our spoken language by performing and acting out the story with our own actions.</p>	<p>In maths this week Year 1 have done lots of work on number lines. We drew our own number lines to 10 on the playground and then did practical challenges finding and jumping on different numbers. We remembered to jump to the right to find a number that was greater and jump to the left to find a number that was smaller. We also carefully counted the number of jumps it took us to get to a specific number.</p>
Year 2	<p>This week in English we have been investigating the different styles of poetry and how they do not always follow the sentence structure of a story or description. We have written our own acrostic poems for the Harvest Service next week. The children have been very imaginative and thought carefully about how they can describe what Harvest means to them while following the structure of a poem.</p>	<p>In Maths this week we have finished our place value topic. We have revisited counting in 2s, 5s and 10s from any number, filling in missing numbers on a number line and recognised patterns in our counting. The children have worked very hard to consolidate and extend their learning from Year 1.</p>
Year 3	<p>This week in English, we have planned and written a recount of our trip to Leeson House. We spoke about the features of a recount and I was very impressed with these features put into action! All children used 1st person narrative, wrote in past tense and sequenced their recount correctly. I even had some fantastic adjectives thrown in! Well done Year 3!</p>	<p>In Maths we have been consolidating our place value knowledge through addition and subtraction using a place value chart. This involved having to exchange from the 10's and 100's column. A tricky concept, but with the use of base 10 manipulatives, the children understood it better.</p>
Year 4	<p>In English this week, we have focussed on letter writing, specifically planning, editing, and improving letters to Mrs Richardson from the perspective of a character from our story, 'Stone Age Boy'. The children have practised putting themselves in someone else's shoes, developing a deep understanding of their character's perspective. They have also developed their editing skills, where emphasis is placed on proofreading, grammar and punctuation, and effective word choice.</p>	<p>In maths, we are currently focusing on adding 4-digit numbers. The children have been introduced to both non-exchange and single exchange using formal methods. They have developed their understanding of place value and the importance of carrying or exchanging numbers in the appropriate columns. We encourage you to practice these concepts with your child at home, reinforcing their learning with real-life examples and activities.</p>



Diary Dates 2023-2024

Autumn Term

Friday 13 th October	Harvest Festival Service – 9:30am
Tuesday 17 th October	Flu Immunisations
Wednesday 18 th October	Year 4 trip to Stonehenge
Friday 20 th October	Healthy School Day & Walk-2-School Morning
	Half term begins

Half Term

Monday 30 th October	School Opens
Friday 3 rd November	Fireworks Event
Tuesday 7 th November	Parent Consultations 6-8pm
Wednesday 8 th November	Parent Consultations 3.30-6.30pm
Monday 13 th November	Anti-Bullying Week
Friday 17 th November	Children in Need
Tuesday 5 th December	KS2 Carols by Candlelight
Tuesday 12 th December	EYFS/KS1 Nativity
Thursday 14 th December	Christmas Party Afternoon
Friday 15 th December	Christingle Service 1.30pm
	Last day of term

Spring Term

Tuesday 2 nd January	INSET DAY
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
Tuesday 23 rd July	Leavers Service 2pm
	Year Ends

