



# Hempsted Church of England Primary School January 2022 Newsletter



## ***Growing Together in God's Love***

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2022

Dear Parents/Carers, Governors and Friends of the School,

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2022. I hope that you were able to enjoy the Christmas break and found some time to recharge your batteries for the year ahead. This is a short newsletter just to flag up a few upcoming events.

### **Our Value for the Term**

Our focus value for this term is **'Truthfulness'**. One of the first quotes that we will be exploring is from Jesus who said, "I am the light of the world." (John Ch8 v12) We will be thinking about what this means. We will also be looking at a range of stories from the Bible and other cultures as well as some quotes that the children enjoy discussing such as:

Three things cannot long be  
hidden: the sun, the moon  
and the truth.

Buddha

Be truthful, gentle  
and fearless.

Mahatma Gandhi

Truth is complete, it  
needs no  
exaggeration.

Anon.

### **Curriculum Outlines**

This summary of your child's learning for the Spring Terms will be available on the school website early next week. You will find them in the 'Teaching & Learning' menu, and then click on curriculum. Please take time to read through with your child – there may be something of particular interest that you have resources or information about. There might be a topic that you would like to learn about with your child and may result in a family outing.

### **Staffing**

Miss Ward has joined our teaching team. She is teaching Year 2 on a Friday morning and has already enjoyed getting to know them. Mrs Chater remains as class teacher for Monday through to Thursday.

### **School Grounds**

Please be aware that the spring bulbs are now showing under the willow. Please do not allow children to play around this tree so that we can once again enjoy the snowdrops and the daffodils in the spring.



### **Parent/Teacher Consultations**

Parent/teacher consultations will take place during the last week of this term. At the moment, we are waiting on Local Authority guidance as to whether these will be telephone

or face to face appointments. You will be sent a link nearer the time which will allow you to book your time slot.

### **Covid**

We are very keen to return to normality as soon as possible. The situation regarding covid cases is much quieter than it was before Christmas when we saw around 80 cases in the school. We do currently have a few cases, so we are looking to reintroduce clubs and other wider activities in a controlled way that reduces the risk of lots of children and staff catching covid and then having to miss time from school. If the numbers stay similar to what we are seeing at the time of writing the newsletter, we are hoping to restart clubs in the week beginning 17<sup>th</sup> January. Staff who run the clubs will be in touch.

Likewise, we have increased the capacity of Breakfast and After-School club so please do get in touch if you need a place.

### **Is your child eligible for Free School Meals?**

You can check to see if your child is eligible for Free School Meals by using the council's confidential website at [www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals](http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals)

If your child is eligible, the school receives **£1320** of extra funding and you can save **£437** per year on meal costs. If your child is in the infants, they have an automatic entitlement to Free School Meals, but we would be very grateful if you could still check the above website as this can trigger additional funding for the school.

If you are in anyway unsure of your entitlement, please speak to Mr Waller or Mrs Subryan, who are available on the playground most mornings.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Waller

Head Teacher

## Important Dates for Your Diary

<b><u>JANUARY</u></b>			
Saturday	15 <sup>th</sup>		Deadline for Reception 2022 applications
Wednesday	19 <sup>th</sup>	12pm	Deadline for Parent Governor nominations
<b><u>FEBRUARY</u></b>			
Tuesday	1 <sup>st</sup>	1.30pm	<b>Year 4</b> dental talk
Tuesday	15 <sup>th</sup>		Parent/teacher consultations
Wednesday	16 <sup>th</sup>		Parent/teacher consultations
Thursday	17 <sup>th</sup>		<b>Year 2</b> trip to Slimbridge (details to follow)
Friday	18 <sup>th</sup>	3.15pm	End of Term 3
Monday	28 <sup>th</sup>		<b>INSET Day</b> (school closed to pupils)
<b><u>MARCH</u></b>			
Tuesday	1 <sup>st</sup>		Start of Term 4
Monday	14 <sup>th</sup>		<b>Year 5</b> depart for Wilderness residential
Wednesday	16 <sup>th</sup>		<b>Year 5</b> return from residential
Monday	21 <sup>st</sup>		<b>Year 4</b> depart for Wilderness residential <b>Year 5</b> Bikeability course begins (details to follow)
Wednesday	23 <sup>rd</sup>		<b>Year 4</b> return from residential

\*\*\*\*Please remember to let the office know if your contact details ever change\*\*\*\*

# Upgrade Your Maths



A free\* course for parents/carers or grandparents to build their own skills and help them support their children in school

The tutor, Richard, will explain the building blocks of maths

- Take the stress out of maths homework
- Boost your children's maths skills
- Refresh your own skills

**Thursdays 10:00-12:00**

**20 January- 17 February**

**If you worry about maths this course is for you!**

This course can lead towards a Functional Skills Maths Qualification

The course will be delivered via Zoom

**To book a place please email [fay.tucker@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:fay.tucker@gloucestershire.gov.uk)**

\* The course is free if you are over 19 years old, have lived in the UK for 3 or more years, or have a valid Residence Permit, and are one of the following: Unemployed or earning below £17,374 per year; Qualified below a Level 2 (less than 5 GCSEs); Have mental health challenges, Have a learning difficulty or disability.