



Hempsted Church of England Primary School

September 2024 Newsletter



Dear Parents, Governors and Friends of the School,

Welcome back!! The autumn term is fully underway. I am sure the summer holidays are now a distant memory. The children have all started the new school year with enthusiasm and I am sure we are all getting back into the new school routines (although maybe a little wetter than we would hope for).

Staffing – Senior Leadership Team (SLT)

For those of you new to the school, the SLT consists of Mr Waller, Mr Davis and Mrs Middleton. Currently Mr Waller is away from school so Mr Davis is our Acting Headteacher until his return.

We work closely with the staff, governors, pupils and parents to try to make our school the best it can be. We aim to be as open and approachable as possible, and welcome any parent who has any constructive comments about how we can improve the school for the benefit of the pupils and the community.

Hello to the New Starters! Reception 2024

Our new Reception children have begun. They are currently attending school in two groups on a part-time basis. This allows the Reception staff to really get to know the children well before they all come in to school together next week.






Pastoral Support.

Mrs Subryan is our Pastoral Lead and is here to help both families and children working in partnership with Rachel Loughton (Hempsted Children and Families Worker). She is always available for a chat on the playground. If you have any concerns do catch her or give her a call. She also attends 'Coffee and Chat' each Tuesday. More information can be found at the end of the newsletter.

You can also see more detail on the support we can provide by looking at our 'Early Help Offer' on the school website.

Our Expectations

The start of the school year is always a good time to revisit the school 'Golden Rules'. The staff and children wrote these together. We believe that they are good rules for life and we refer to them throughout the entire school year. The Golden Rules are:

-  We always tell the truth
-  We treat everyone with compassion and respect
-  We listen to each other
-  We try our best and persevere
-  We look after our world

Each class also has its own set of class rules, written by the class, for the class. Children are taught that rules are there to keep everyone safe and happy.

Value for the Term

Our value for this term is **'Friendship'**.

In our Collective Worship, we will be exploring the value of friendship through Bible stories, readings and drama. We will consider how we can demonstrate this value, and how we can use our learning to become a better friend.

**“Encourage
one another
and build each
other up.”**

1 Thessalonians 5:11

SATS

We are now in a position to share our provisional KS2 performance data for 2024. The Y6 children sat reading and maths tests in May. They also took a test in grammar, punctuation and spelling. Writing was completed through teacher assessment of their class work. We are delighted with how well the children performed, exceeding national data in most areas. Well done to the children, and all of the staff that supported them through their time at Hempsted. The results were:

		Test Results	
		Percentage at outcome	
		Achieved Standard or better	High Standard
Grammar Punctuation & Spelling	School	93.3	46.7
	National	72.2	32
Reading	School	90	43.3
	National	74.3	28.5
Maths	School	93.3	40
	National	73.1	23.9
Writing (teacher assessment)	School	90	20
	National	71.8	12.9

Dates

Most of the major dates for this school year are now available via the calendar on the school website. However, please find below some key dates for your diary. Further details will follow closer to the event.

Tuesday 22nd and Wednesday 23rd October – Parent/Teacher consultations

Tuesday 10th December @ 9.30am – Reception nativity

Thursday 12th & Friday 13th December @ 9.30am – Y1/2 nativity

Tuesday 17th December – KS2 carol concert

Tuesday 11th and Wednesday 12th February – Parent/Teacher consultations

Tuesday 24th June (am) – KS2 sports day; Reserve date 8th July

Tuesday 1st July (am) – KS1 sports day; Reserve date 15th July

Communication

If you're new to the school, and even if you aren't, please remember to read each newsletter carefully. The newsletters will aim to let you know what the classes have been up to, and inform you of any dates or other information that you need to know. If you would prefer to receive the newsletter via email, please let the office know.

In addition,

- If you need to speak to us, the school office is staffed from 8am until 4:30pm. The telephone is usually answered but if the telephone is in use it automatically goes to answer phone. Please leave a message, as these are checked regularly throughout the day. Messages for staff will be passed on.
- Emergency messages (eg school closure) and reminders are sent through a text messaging service. Please ensure that you keep contact numbers up-to-date.

Black History

October is Black History month. During the week beginning the 14th October each class will have sessions where they explore and celebrate significant black individuals whose actions and achievements have changed the world we live in.

Helping your Child at Home

The most important thing you can help with at home (other than teaching your children to keep safe, be healthy, and have good manners!!) is **READING**. Therefore, reading will always be at the heart of homework in each year group. In the earlier years, this may be help with their phonics (sounds) and learning simple words, to developing comprehension skills in the older years. Learning to read opens the door to so many other things, and this is why we are prioritising it over everything else. Your child's teacher will let you know the expectations for them in terms of how often they should be reading with an adult at home. We must also point out that it is hugely beneficial for a child to be read to as well – this will help them with their comprehension and their own storytelling skills.

With the exception of Reception, your child should have a copy of the term's spellings that need to be learnt.

Teachers will also be setting occasional online maths activities using APPS like numbots and TTRockstars.

If you would like to support your child further or they have an interest in something they are learning at school then more help can be found on our school website. Please look under the **Teaching and Learning** tab then **Curriculum > helping your child at home**.

Inhalers

A number of pupils keep inhalers in school. It is the parent's responsibility to ensure that these are in date.

We also have emergency inhalers. If your child has a diagnosis of asthma, we can use these inhalers in an emergency. However, we need your written permission to do this, so please let the office know if you would like the permission form.



Sports



Last week the Girls' Football Team had an away game against Grange School. They had a great start to their season with a 2-0 win. This Wednesday they qualified from a 'round robin' of games at Kingsway School and have the finals in two weeks time. Good luck girls.

The Boys' Football Team have also started the new school year with two round-robin tournaments under their belts and are keen to get the season started.

Lunch Boxes

It is always really good to see healthy snacks and balanced lunches. The children are very knowledgeable about the importance of '5 a day', a varied/balanced diet from the different food groups and not too much sugar or fat.

We have a few rules about what should be provided. Please note:

1. We expect that children will be given food that they normally eat.
2. We do not allow sweets, fizzy drinks or chocolate bars.
3. Children must ask to leave the table and we expect all/most food to be eaten.

***Just to remind you that **nuts (including foods containing nuts) are not allowed** in school because we have children who suffer from allergies. ***

All Key Stage One (Reception, Class One and Class Two) children have a piece of fruit provided for their snack through the government's 'Free Fruit and Veg Scheme'.

All Key Stage Two children need to bring their own fruit for snack time.

Riotous Royalty

Class 4 are learning about different monarchs who have had an impact on British History. So far we have studied William the Conqueror and King John. We enjoyed making our own Magna Carta (The Great Charter) that is still part of our English Law today. We had an area of the classroom set up as Runnymede (area near London) to sign and seal each handmade Magna Carta, just like King John did on 12th June 1215.

Learning about Henry VIII was a hit, especially singing the Horrible Histories Rap about Henry and his 6 wives. Next is Queen Anne, Queen Victoria and of course our longest reigning monarch, Queen Elizabeth II.



Mini Police

Class 5 have joined the Mini Police project. This is a new project for Hempsted which will teach the children about the role of the Police and how to keep themselves and others safe. They will also be looking at issues such as parking, anti-social behaviour, crime prevention and celebrating diversity.



Hair and Jewellery in PE

One pair of plain stud earrings is allowed. Earrings should also be removed for PE. If your child is unable to remove their earrings, then you must send them to school with a roll of micropore tape. Also, if your child has hair that obstructs their view when they look down, then this must be tied back. Please send in a hair bobble.

And finally...

That was a lot of information! Please remember that if there's anything you're not sure about, please ask! We aim to be as approachable as possible, and to create a school community that is friendly and welcoming. I look forward to sharing another successful year with you.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Davis

Important Dates for Your Diary

SEPTEMBER			
Monday	30th		New Reception class start full-time
OCTOBER			
Tuesday	8 th		Year 6 WW2 trip
Mon - Fri	14 th -18 th		Black History Week
Monday	21 st	2.30pm	Harvest Service (at Church)
Tuesday	22 nd		Parent/Teacher Consultations
Wednesday	23 rd		Parent/Teacher Consultations
Thursday	24 th	3.20pm	End of Term 1
Friday	25 th		INSET Day (school closed to pupils)
NOVEMBER			
Monday	4 th	8.50am	Start of Term 2
Wednesday	13 th		School photographer in school (individual and sibling photos)

Hempsted Community Raffle

Supporting Children and Families Work.

Prizes Include...

- Cotswold Farm Park Family Tickets
 - Sudeley Castle Family Tickets
 - Hatton Court Afternoon Tea for 2
 - TESCO Hamper
 - Colwells (Gloucester) Ltd Free MOT
 - Dean Heritage Centre Family Tickets
 - Wagamama cookbook and £15 voucher
 - Roses Theatre 2 x film tickets
 - TruGreen Gloucestershire £100 lawncare voucher
 - Gloucester City AFC merchandise
 - Gloucester Cathedral Crypt and Tower Tickets
- Plus other prizes

Tickets £2 each (£10 book of 5 tickets)

Many thanks to the individuals and companies who have already supported us by donating raffle prizes.

Tickets can be obtained from...

Jenny Simmonds - The Promoter on behalf of Hempsted with St Mary De Lode and St Mary De Crypt Parochial Church Council (PCC)

Debbie Hotchkins

Hempsted C of E Primary School

St Swithuns Church (FoSS)

Members of the PCC

To be drawn at the The Lysons Hall, Hempsted on Saturday 7th December 2024 at 2 p.m.

Tickets now on sale!



Coffee and Chat

The parish and school pastoral team work together to support Hempsted families. Every Tuesday we hold **'Coffee and Chat'** in the **Lysons Hall** (next to the church on St Swithuns Road) **9am – 10 am** during term time. The church pastoral team also hold specific **Coffee and Chat Plus sessions during the summer holidays**. This is an opportunity for you to meet other parents, talk to us, share experiences and make new friends. From time to time, we organise activities such as bingo, art and crafts and mindfulness. We look forward to meeting you.

You are welcome to bring your little ones!
We hope you can join us!

NB
Nancy Bhandal
THE BROW QUEEN
Permanent Makeup & Beauty

Permanent Hair Stroke Brows
Ombre Brows
PMU Eye Liner
PMU Lip Blush
HD Brows, HD Sculpt Brows
LVL Lash Lift & Tint
Face Threading Treatments
HD Express Brows

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K·B PRO HDBROWS LASHES