



Hamsey Green
Primary School



In A Nutshell

Headteacher's Newsletter Spring Term 2024 Week 11

Dear All

There was definitely something 'fishy' going on in school this week! We identified that this was coming from The Nest as Inkpen and Butterworth classes were investigating real sea creatures! They looked at and handled; an octopus, a sea bass, sardines and a giant black tiger prawn! I will definitely need to keep them away from the tropical fish tank by my office... we have two catfish, two clown loaches and lots and lots of platys in there who like the water!



We were extremely proud of the Year 3 children who were learning how to keep safe though the Feet First Program. This is a **road safety and active travel skills awareness course** which provides pupils with road safety skills to better enable them to safely walk to and from school with their parents and carers and prepare them for independent travel. We were pleased all of them completed their 'Feet First' training with flying colours and modelled superb behaviour in their groups.



Year 2 have had a visit from the fire service also this week. Through using their thinking skills and role-play, they learnt the importance of why children should not to play with matches or lighters; what firefighters do; what to do if you find a fire; how to make an emergency call; the dangers of matches and lighters and what's 'safe to play' and when you should 'stay away'. Again, they interacted and engaged well with our special visitor.



You may have spotted we have started to clear some of the flower beds of the overgrown bushes! We sent a letter this week, asking if you are able to help make the beds enticing to wildlife and help bring smiles to help promote mental health—please do let us know if you can!

Finally, congratulations to all of our dedicated cross country runners who raced around Warlingham playing field for their first cross country competition – some running 1500m! A fantastic effort by all and a huge congratulations to Isla in Year 4 for coming 3rd!

Wishing you all a lovely weekend and we look forward to seeing you all at parents evening.

Mrs Mace

Upcoming Events

25th March & 27th March —KS1 and KS2 parents consultations

BREAK UP THURSDAY 28TH MARCH

12.00 ACORNS NURSERY

1.05 RECEPTION

1.10 KS1& KS2

4.00 AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Upcoming SUMMER TERM Events

16th April—Start of Summer term

16th April—Primary School offer day

24th April—Reception trip to Gatton Park

26th April 6.30-8pm —Family PTA Quiz!

6th May— BANK HOLIDAY

9th May—Year 5 to Hampton Court

10th May— PTA bottle donation mufti

13th –17th May—Year 6 SATS

13th –17th May— Year 5 to Whitgift Primary Project

13th May—5pm KS2 Camp Night Information meeting

17th May—PTA chocolate donation mufti

23rd May—Karen's Pets and Ponies at Acorns Nursery

23rd May— Year 1 trip to Bodiam Castle

24th May— 75TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION—3PM SCHOOL FAIR

24th May—BREAK UP FOR HALF TERM



This week, as part of our animal topic, we have looked at the life cycle of a frog after we kindly received some frog-spawn to observe.

This has generated much interest amongst the children as the children have shared their current knowledge and have used fact books to learn additional information about the frog's life cycle and habits.

We have incorporated frogs into our gross motor play with different hopping and jumping games, along with the song 5 little speckled frogs.

We have also continued our current pet theme with lots of craft activities, stories and pet home construction play. The children have also enjoyed pretending to feed the animals at the rice tray.

Outside, we have used the lovely warmer days to get our sensory garden ready for spring play!



Please can we ask adults to supervise any children at the start and end of the day—children should not be climbing any of the outdoor play equipment. Thank you for your co-operation.

Absences & Sickness

If your child is absent from school, please email absence@hamseytlt.co.uk or leave a message on the absence line (01883 622000 option 1). Please let us know their full name, class and reason; including any symptoms they may be displaying. We do need to hear from an adult each day a child is absent for safeguarding reasons. Please do not bring your child to school if they have been sick during the night. If your child has been sick or has an upset stomach, children may be off school for 48 hours following the last episode, each case is dealt with separately.

Thank you for your co-operation.

[Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk) Please read this guidance before keeping your child off.

Communication this week

20.3.24—Email to whole school on behalf of the PTA regarding Easter events

21.3.24—Email to whole school regarding Easter clubs for Crystal Palace

21.3.24—Email to whole school with letter with whole school gardening initiative



Attendance

1st place:	Donaldson (1) - 99.31%
2nd place:	Blackman (5) - 98.75%
3rd place:	McKee (2) - 98%
Whole school:	94.68%

Collection of Hamsey Green children by older siblings

Please be reminded that children can only be collected by someone over the age **16**; unless we have been given written permission from a parent for those in Years 5 and 6 to leave without an adult.

After school activities

If your child is not going to be attending an after school activity but has been in school that day, please can you inform the office and not the class teacher. The office maintains the registers for all clubs and need to be aware of any child who is not going to be in attendance. Thank you.

Children should not be using their scooters or bikes through the staff car park, please go through the main playground area to enter or leave the school premises. Thank you for your co-operation.



Everything to know about the expansion: Apply for the first phase by 31 March

In 2023, as part of the Spring Budget, the government announced that they would be introducing several new measures that aim to support education and make childcare more accessible to parents and carers who are looking to return to work. This included the expansion of early years funded entitlements, starting from April 2024 onwards. By September 2025, most working families with children under the age of 5 will be entitled to 30 hours of early education and childcare support.

The new entitlements will be introduced in phases:

From April 2024, eligible working parents and carers of 2 year olds can access 15 hours funded early education and childcare (over 38 weeks a year) **from the term after** their child's 2nd birthday.

From Sept 2024, eligible working parents and carers of children aged 9 months and above can access 15 hours funded early education and childcare (over 38 weeks a year) **from the term after** their child turning 9 months.

From Sept 2025, the offer will be rolled out in full, with eligible working parents and carers of children aged 9 months and above able to access 30 hours funded early education and childcare (over 38 weeks a year) **from the term after** their child turning 9 months.

By September 2026, all parents and carers who require [wraparound childcare](#) should be able to have access, either from their school or from another provider in their local area. The number of wraparound childcare places available for primary school aged children across the county will be increasing from **September 2024 onwards** in preparation for this.

The first phase of the expansion launches in April and will allow eligible working parents and carers of two-year-olds to claim 15 hours of funded early education and childcare. **Eligible working parents and carers who are interested in applying for this entitlement will need to ensure that they have received their code by 31 March.**

Parents and carers can check their eligibility and apply for the entitlement through the [Childcare Choices](#) website. **Please share this information with parents and carers who may be interested, particularly those who may have children with younger siblings.**

More information on the expansion and the different funding available in Surrey can be found on our [Funded childcare in Surrey](#) webpage.

A useful guide for parents, including everything to know about the expansion and preparing for the first phase, will also be available in the March edition of [Surrey Matters](#). Residents can sign up to receive the Surrey Matters newsletter [here](#)

ACTION: UKHSA advice for education and childcare settings amid high levels of flu, COVID-19 and scarlet fever

As winter illnesses continue to circulate at high levels and pupils are returning to education, the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) has published a [reminder on how to minimise the spread of illness in education and childcare settings](#). UKHSA advice remains clear that children can continue to attend as normal unless they are unwell and have a high temperature. [Further information](#) on when a child is too ill for school or nursery is available. There is no requirement to be absent from school on a precautionary basis. School staff should continue to maintain their high expectations for face-to-face attendance. For further information, please also see our Education Hub post on the [latest guidelines around COVID-19](#) and for Strep A, our separate post on the [exact circumstances in which children should be kept off school](#). UKHSA is providing regular updates on [Strep A](#). Both UKHSA and DfE are continuing to closely monitor the situation. To help reduce the risk of some illnesses, including flu, vaccinations are being provided in schools. UKHSA, in collaboration with NHS England and DfE, have produced a [briefing for secondary schools](#) giving details about all vaccines offered to adolescents in schools and the role that schools play. This includes information on the flu vaccination programme being offered this year to those in Years 7, 8 and 9. **If any children are on antibiotics 4 times a day—this can be administered in school—please come to the office to complete a form and speak with the office staff regarding administration of this.**

<https://surreyeducationservices.surreycc.gov.uk/Article/130697?source=Newsletter&guid=9BD81055-C11E-44A3-80FC-DA10DF698E3E>—Guidance on Strep A/Scarlet fever.

<https://surreyeducationservices.surreycc.gov.uk/Article/130698?source=Newsletter&guid=9BD81055-C11E-44A3-80FC-DA10DF698E3E>—Guidance on Norovirus.

Parking



We have been made aware of some inconsiderate parking and unacceptable behaviour/language towards our neighbours at drop off and pick up times. **Please park considerately around the neighbouring properties to the school. According to the Highway Code it is an offence to park across driveways and it is illegal to park over dropped kerbs. Parking on a private driveway without consent is a civil offence of trespass and may result in prosecution.** Thank you for your assistance.

Healthy pack lunches

We've noticed that some of the pack lunches coming into school are not necessarily healthy or nutritious. Please can you ensure that what you send in is enough to keep them going for their afternoon lessons.

Please remember we are a nut free school—this includes spreads that may contain nuts.

A Guide to Building...

Healthy Snacks & Lunchbox

P2iP

Bring WATER everyday!

Filling tap water in a reusable bottle is FREE and will help keep your child hydrated all day!



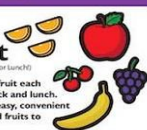
Whole Grains

Make sandwiches with whole grain bread. Look for labels that say "100% Whole Grain"



Fruit

Pack fresh fruit each day for snack and lunch. These are easy, convenient ways to add fruits to your day



Pack healthy snacks each day. Add a healthy sweet or savory treat. Try whole grain crackers and pretzels for savory snacks or dried fruits for sweet treats.

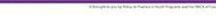
Snacks



Add veggies in your child's lunch. They add a healthy crunch instead of chips.

Veggies

(Great for Snack or Lunch!)



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!

CAN YOU SPARE A HOUR OR SO A WEEK? COULD YOU OFFER TIME TO HEAR SOME CHILDREN READ OR HELP KEEP OUR LIBRARY TIDY! IF SO, PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE WHO WILL MAKE AN APPOINTMENT FOR YOU WITH MRS MACE TO DISCUSS HOW TO BE A VOLUNTEER. PLEASE NOTE- A DBS WILL NEED TO BE APPLIED FOR UNDER OUR SAFEGUARDING EXPECTATIONS.



We are collecting used printer ink cartridges. Please bring them and put them into the recycling box in the office. We are unable to recycle toner or laser cartridges. Any cartridges recycled, helps the school to raise some money. Thank you!

Recycle  Charity



We are regularly asked by parents, carers, grandparents and friends of the school as to how you can support the school to continue to provide a rich, wide-ranging curriculum and a high standard of education. If you would like and are able, to support the school and your child's education, please buy one of the books on our Amazon wishlist. This will arrive at school a few days later and be added to the children's non-fiction book box or class library.

https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/3GIZF85XRY4MG?ref=wl_share



School Uniform

We are depleting our school stock of uniform. Please check to see what items of uniform you may need and please order through us in the first instance. Anything that is unavailable through us, please purchase through Price and Buckland directly. Price and Buckland will refer you back to us if it's stock that we hold. <https://price-buckland.co.uk/school-finder/?school-search=Hamsey+Green+Primary+School>

Please be aware that any items ordered through Price & Buckland to be delivered to the school will take longer than if you pay for p&p for home delivery. **Prices will be increasing from 1st April.**

Please name your child's school uniform and coats. We have a lot of unnamed uniform in our lost property box!

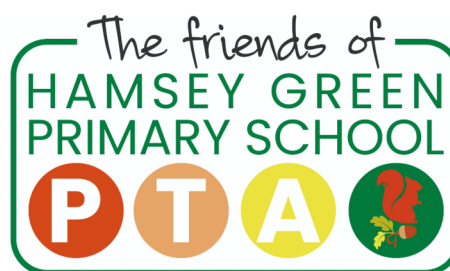
FOR CHARITY

£ Feb Event



- £193 NSPCC Number Day
- £223 Save the Children
- £232 Children in Need
- £310 Macmillan Coffee Morning

THANKS
for your
DONATIONS



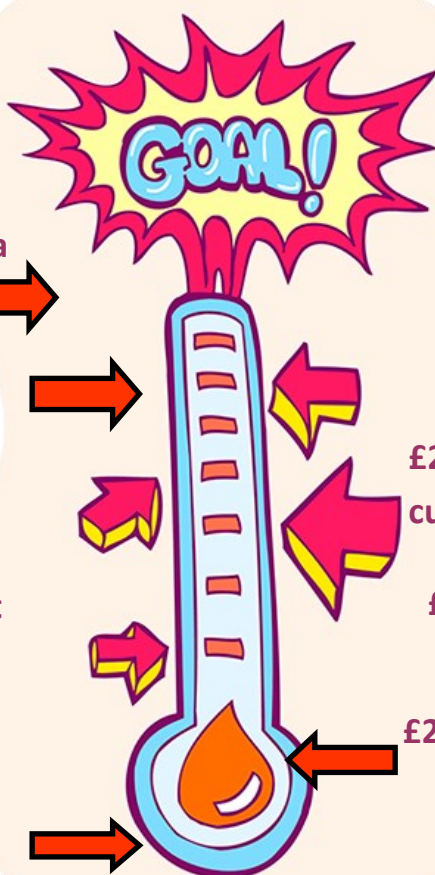
£ 115 Breakfast with a loved one Event

£ Feb Event

£128.00 Penny Wars

£947.30 Winter Event

£629 Autumn Event



£273.57 Christmas Cards, cups and tea towels

£1,585 Christmas Fair

£2,100 Sponsored Bounce

These fantastic amounts that have been raised has enabled us to be able to order a road safety sign for the end of the drive and finish purchasing bookcases for the remaining areas that do not have them.

FOR NEWSLETTER FOR ALL PARENTS FROM SCHOOLS

Dear Parent/Carer

We are aware that the pandemic has had an effect on families, but the expectation is still that every child should now be attending school full time. If you consider that there are exceptional circumstances relating to your request, please let the school have full details. Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case by case basis.

Penalty Notices to Address Poor Attendance at School

A Penalty Notice may be issued as an alternative to the prosecution of a parent/carer for their child's unauthorised absence from school (absence without the agreement of the school or not covered by a medical note) and will be used by Surrey County Council in the following circumstances :-

1. Pupils identified by police and Inclusion Officers (formerly Education Welfare Officers) engaged on Truancy Patrols and who have incurred unauthorised absences.
2. Leave of absence in term time (5 days or 10 sessions or more).
 - Please be aware that The Education (Pupil Registration)(England)(Amendment) Regulations 2013, which became law on 1st September 2013 state that Headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.
 - The Headteacher is also required to determine the number of school days a child can be away from school if leave is granted.
 - In such cases the Headteacher/Governing Body must decide whether there are exceptional circumstances. They may request that the Local Authority issue Penalty Notices when the absence is not authorised. Warnings will not be given where it can be shown that parents have been notified that such absences will not be authorised.
3. Finally, the issuing of a Penalty Notice will also be considered where it is judged that a parent is failing to ensure their child's regular school attendance. This will be considered when a pupil has incurred 7 or more unauthorised sessions in the previous 6 school weeks, which may include a pupil arriving late after close of registration. If you believe at any stage that your child's absence from school may leave you liable to receive a Penalty Notice, it is extremely important that you act without delay to secure their regular attendance. If you have any questions or require further support to achieve an improvement in your child's attendance, please contact your child's school or the Inclusion Officer.

Penalty Notice relating to Exclusions

If a child is excluded from school, Section 103 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 places a duty on parents/carers to ensure that their child is not in a public place without justifiable cause during school hours. This duty applies to the first five days of each exclusion. Failure to do so will render the parent/carer liable to a Penalty Notice. (Alternative education provision will be made available from the sixth day of any exclusion.)

Amount Payable for a Penalty Notice

The amount payable for a Penalty Notice issued in any of the above circumstances is currently £60 if paid within 21 days of receipt of the Notice, rising to £120 if paid after 21 days but within 28 days. If the Penalty Notice is not paid, the local Authority must consider a prosecution in the Magistrates Court for the offence for which the Notice was originally issued. Please be aware that each parent is liable to receive a Penalty Notice for each child who incurs unauthorised absences, for example, if there are two parents and one child, each parent will receive one Penalty Notice. If there are two parents, and two children incur unauthorised absences, each parent will receive two Penalty Notices, which in this case would amount to £120 each if paid within 21 days. **From 1st September 2024 the amount will be increasing to £80.00 and rising to £180.00 if not paid within 21 days. Any absences taken after the 2024 May half term may incur this higher penalty fee next academic year.**

Advice and support is available from an Inclusion Officer by contacting your local Education Office as follows :-

North West - Tel: 01483 518130

South West - Tel: 01483 517179

North East - Tel: 01372 833588

South East - Tel: 01737 737777