



Hamsey Green
Primary School



In A Nutshell

Headteacher's Newsletter Spring Term 2024 Week 2

Dear All

This week has definitely been chilly! Thank you for ensuring that the children are all wrapped up warm in coats, hats, gloves and scarves. One extra plea is that these items are all named! The children (and some staff!!) were so excited to see the first flakes of snow on Wednesday— in fact it seemed as usual Hamsey had it's own biome— with some snow whipped up in the wind!

Being the first full week back, we have been particularly impressed with the children's behaviour for learning. I undertook the last new Reception tour and was so proud, as always, to show how polite, well-mannered and focused our children are. The children were engrossed from learning new text maps, to consolidating times tables and division facts, to sharing fruit and proud walking to PE. I have also had the pleasure of teaching year 2, 3 and 5 over the course of the week and have been very impressed with their enquiry skills and engagement to new topics in RE and History.

Lots of classes have been talking about New Years resolutions and setting aspirational but realistic targets for the year. Lots of them decided on handwriting challenges— please can you encourage them as much as possible... I may have broken mine already.. I couldn't resist the piece of cake in the staffroom...oops!

Wishing you a lovely weekend

Mrs Mace



Bailey's Blog

The cold weather has taken hold and I have become the stereotypical dachshund and have hankered down in the warmth of blankets and bedding as much as possible! I was a little overwhelmed at the end of term so I am taking a bit of time this term to build up my confidence and practice skills— just like the children, revising and revisiting learning. I have, however, finally learnt commands 'lie down' and 'touch' and I have finally mastered going down the stairs on my own!!

Upcoming events

15th January —Primary school application deadline

16th January 8.30-9.15—Parent forum/PTA coffee catch up
Main Hall

17th January 2.30-2.50 RECEPTION PARENTS workshop on
mental maths

23rd January after school—Year 1 phonics meeting message
sent out via Dojo

Week beg 22nd -26th January -PTA Penny Wars Winning class
wins a Mufti Day on 29th Jan—more information to follow

6th February 8.45-9.20— Reception parents Phonics
Workshop

12th-16th February half term holiday



This week, we have introduced our weather topic at nursery. The sudden snow fall earlier in the week prompted numerous snow based activities. We have created our own playdough snowmen, played with ice as well as fake snow.... And we even got to build the smallest ever snowman outside! We have also talked about rainfall where we created our own rain cloud during a science focus activity.

In phonics, we have focused on phonetically hearing and naming different body parts. We have also introduced our new story 'Seron's Seasons' in Talk for Writing. We have talked about the differences within the four seasons in addition to learning a new days of the week song.

Our home corner has been turned into a weather station, with lots of discussions about different types of weather which has been observed through nursery binoculars! The children have had great fun pretending to be weather forecasters.



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 \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://www.nhs.uk) Please read this guidance before keeping your child off.

Attendance

1st place:	Inkpen 98.4%
2nd place:	Said (5) - 95.42%
3rd place:	Dahl (4) - 95.33%
Whole school:	92.7%

Communication this week

- Email to Years 1-6 re Gymnastics club spaces





**Surrey and Borders
Partnership**
NHS Foundation Trust

ADHD MEDICATION

The government has announced a national shortage of medicines used to help manage ADHD symptoms. The shortage of these products is being caused by a combination of manufacturing issues and increased global demand; it is expected that the delay will impact until at least December. This is going to be a difficult time for families, and the Surrey and Borders Partnership NHS Foundation Trust want to help schools feel equipped with the necessary resources to be able to prepare and support these families over the next few weeks.

We will be contacting all affected families over the next week to update them on the national issue and set out our advice. This will include children and young people currently on, and those awaiting an initial appointment to discuss and potentially commence, medication following an ADHD diagnosis. At present we are asking parent-carers to take a look at our information and resource page for [Neurodevelopmental needs](#) on the Mindworks website. This page, which has recently been updated, provides signposts to lots of helpful strategies and interventions to support ADHD symptomology as well as some medication advice under the [ADHD section](#). Parent-carers should also keep up to date with our [talking point](#) section of the Mindworks website which will be updated regularly.

We'd particularly like to draw attention to this statement: [National ADHD Medication shortage: Mindworks Surrey \(mindworks-surrey.org\)](#) which includes an important reference to what families should do where a child/young person is taking guanfacine (Intuniv®). This medication should not be stopped suddenly as it can cause the child/young person to experience high blood pressure, so parents / carers are being asked to only contact us if they are having difficulty obtaining guanfacine on 01372 216555, lines are open 9am to 12:30am.

NHS

102,000 children starting school in England are at risk of catching measles

Check your child is up to date with their MMR vaccinations

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

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

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

P2/P

Bring **WATER** every day!

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



Whole Grains

(Great for Snack or Lunch)

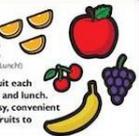
Make sandwiches with whole grain bread. Look for labels that say "100% Whole Grain"



Fruit

(Great for Snack or Lunch)

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 VOLNTEER. 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!



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.

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

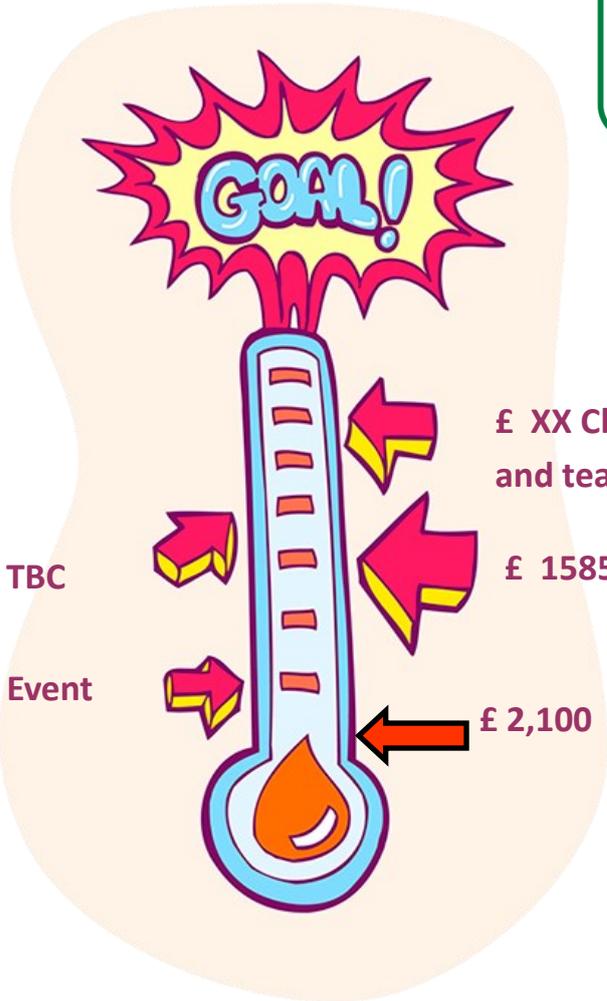
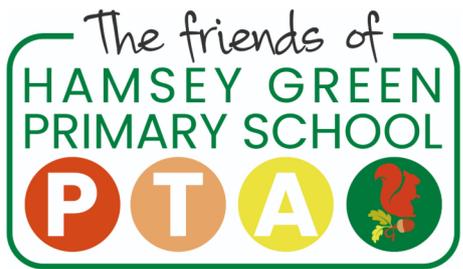
FOR CHARITY



£232 Children in Need

£310 Macmillan Coffee Morning

THANKS
for your
DONATIONS



£ XX Winter Event TBC

£ 629 Autumn Event

£ XX Christmas Cards, cups
and tea towels TBC

£ 1585 Christmas Fair

£ 2,100 Sponsored Bounce

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.

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