



Hamsey Green
Primary School



In A Nutshell

Headteacher's Newsletter Spring Term 2024 Week 4

Dear All

This week, we have been battling staff sickness! Many staff have unfortunately succumbed to a whole range of bugs and I have to say a big thank you to the staff who had been covering in different classes! Thank you also for bearing with us. Storm Isha hit us hard this week too. As you can see the back fence has taken a battering and the wind even managed to break the concrete posts! We are awaiting for the fence to be repaired ASAP. In the meantime, we have secured the area and reminded the children they should not be playing there. Please help us by ensuring children stay near you in the playground at drop off and pick up.

Reception have led the way in fitness this week, demonstrating their competitive streak on the obstacle course! A great way to burn off excess energy due to the massive storms we experienced. They had great fun developing their speed and agility skills. I have been especially proud of the year 1 children as the staff sickness bug has affected them the most— they have been extra helpful and kind as well as using their resilience. Year 2 have innovated their stories and demonstrated the stamina for writing at length. The measuring tapes have been put in use in Year 3, as they have been converting millimetres to centimetres... if you stood still too long, you were measured! Year 4 had great fun when learning about sound. They went to different areas of the school and classrooms to measure noise... there was a secret sweep stake as to which class was the noisiest— but I am sworn to secrecy!

Finally, well done to our Netball and Football Teams who competed against Audley. They drew in the football and unfortunately lost in the netball.

Wishing you a lovely weekend. Please look out for the winning class for penny wars who have earned a mufti day on Monday—we are still counting!!

Mrs Mace



Upcoming events

2nd February—NSPCC Dress up for Digits —children to come in number related mufti for donation on Arbor in the shop section (email sent home)

W/c 5th February—disco dates to follow

6th February 8.45-9.20— Reception parents Phonics Workshop

7th February 3:15 - 4:30pm. Open drop-in session for parents/carers. Reception parents to meet in Butterworth class, Year1/2 parents to meet in Dodd. For those who need help logging in to online books -**MORE INFO TO COME**

12th-16th February half term holiday

20th Feb & 22nd Feb—Reception parents consultations— more info to follow

w/c 25th March—KS1 and KS2 parents consultations— more info to follow



Bailey's Blog

This week, I literally have been 'sick as a dog!' Not sure what happened.. or what I might have eaten in the park, but I have been quite poorly. I have not really moved if I could help it, recovering only at the middle of the week. I have lost a bit of my 'holiday' weight in the worst possible way! I have never slept so much... hopefully, on the mend now though. Note to self— must not eat what is in the park at all...even if it does smell good!



This week, we were wishfully hopeful when we planned our focus weather topic on the sun and its effects!

There have been lots of arts and crafts activities linked to the sun. We have been creating our own sun interpretations with different mediums as well as exploring what we would wear on a hot sunny day.

The children have shared their knowledge of the sun, its effects and uses as well as what they have learnt throughout this week's activities. They have also enjoyed a science focus where they predicted what the effect of heat might be on certain food items, such as chocolate, butter, marshmallows etc.

We are really impressed with how quickly the children have learnt the story "Seren's Seasons" for Talk for Writing. Some children are now able to retell the story independently by using the story picture text.

The children are also really enjoying their daily phonics activities, including hearing and repeating back the initial sound of familiar words, or suggesting a familiar word which is blended by the adult.



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

22.1.24 – Email to Reception – Year 6 regarding end of half term events.

24.1.24 – Emailed letter to Whole School and Nursery regarding YouTube safety.

24.1.24 – Emailed letter to Whole School and Nursery regarding Number Day.

24.1.24 – Email reminder regarding Jungle Book Production on 7 March.

26.1.24 – Email to Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 regarding Little Wandle.



Attendance

1st place:	Said (5) - 97.92%
2nd place:	Inkpen [R] - 96.15%
3rd place:	Murphy (2) - 95.52%
Whole school:	92.97%

Upcoming PTA events

Week beginning Monday 5 th Feb-Thursday 8 th Feb	8.20-8.50 Small dining	PTA Drop off second hand World Book Day costumes	
Friday 9 th February	8.20-8.50 Small dining	PTA World Book Day costume sale	£3 per costume
Friday 9 th February	2.50-4pm 4.30-6.00pm	Reception & KS1 Valentines Event Year 3- 6 Valentines Event	£3.50 per ticket + Raffle ticket
Friday 8 th March	From 7.30-9.00	Continental Breakfast with your special one	Tickets £5 per adult. 2 children free & £1 per additional child

Please can we remind all parents of children in Years 3 and 4 that they will need to be brought into school and not dropped off at the gate.



Children and Family Health Surrey has launched a new webpage to provide winter safety advice to families including tips about road crossing and being seen in the dark, cycling, playing in the snow and keeping warm.

The advice includes:

- Remind older children to put away their phones and take out any earphones when crossing roads.
- Get your child into the habit of wearing their helmet and if you cycle as a family, remember to wear yours too. It is a legal requirement to have lights and reflectors on bikes when you are out between sunset and sunrise.
- When sledging in the snow choose a slope that is not too steep, make sure it is free of obstacles and does not end near a road, body of water or solid objects such as trees, fences and walls.
- Babies lose heat through their heads so remove hats or hoods when indoors, in a shopping centre or in a car, and remove all outdoor clothing when indoors to avoid overheating.

Visit the [Children and Family Health Surrey website](#) to find out more.

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)

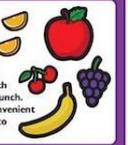
Make sandwiches with whole grain bread. Look for labels that say "100% Whole Grain"



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



Snacks

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.



Veggies

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



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

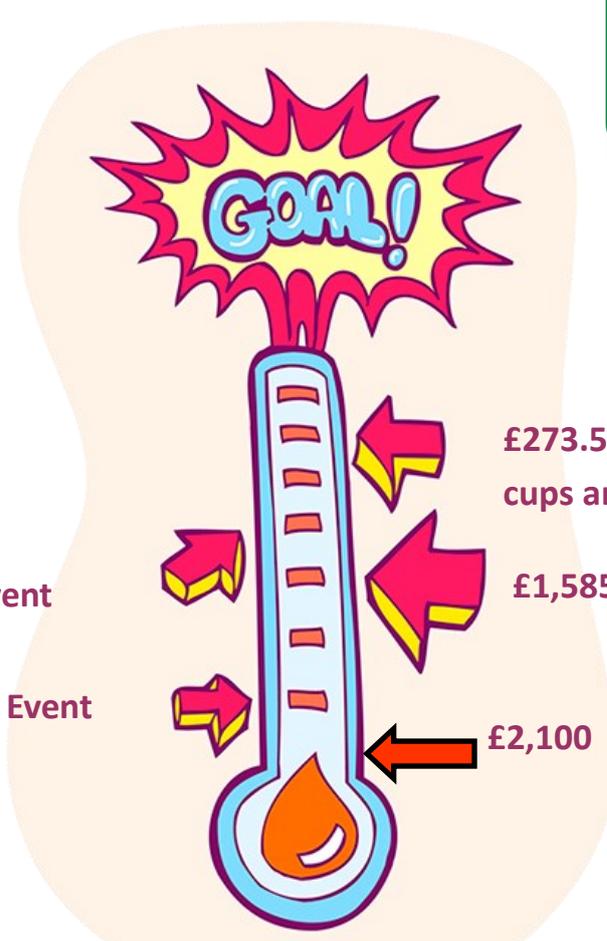
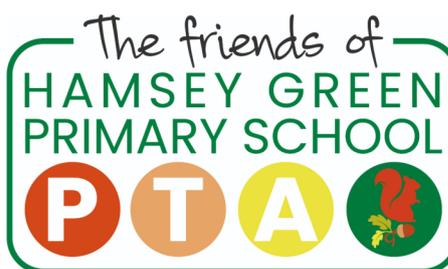


THANKS
for your

DONATIONS

£232 Children in Need

£310 Macmillan Coffee Morning



£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.

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