



Hamsey Green
Primary School



In A Nutshell

Headteacher's Newsletter Autumn Term 2021 Week 14



Dear Parents & Carers,

This week has seen the children show off their talents in the many Christmas Performances! I was heartbroken to not be able to attend these and miss you all see the hard work the children and the staff put into them. However, it was great that Mrs Mace got to surprise the children and watch the shows. She had said they were magical and she was blown away by the quality of the performances. We also really appreciate you all following the rules for the ticketing system and wearing masks inside the school.

Mr Richards organised a great Teams football tournament across the week from Year 1 all the way up to Year 6. It was great to see everyone get involved, even those that don't always engage with football by their own choice. A huge congratulations to TEAM for edging out the others and being crowned the champions.



A massive thank you to everyone who supported the 'unconventional' Christmas Fair after school last Friday and the festive events this week. The children loved seeing their products that they worked so hard on fly off the shelves and they are excited to find out the profit they have made!

Next week we have another jam packed week, with the Secret Santa on Monday, the final round of Christmas performances, hopefully our Christingle service and class parties before breaking up at 1pm on Friday 17th December.

Finally a HUGE CONGRATULATIONS goes out to Nishka in Year 6, who won the 'Design the Trust Christmas Card competition!' Her design has been made up into cards which are sent out on behalf of all the Trust Schools. A special prize was awarded to her.

We are going into the last week of school so I should remind you, we finish at 1pm and Afterschool Club will end at 4pm.

In light of Boris' announcements, please check the information on the next two pages for the latest updates to help us stay safe. I hope you all have a restful weekend. I will be off next week due to finally succumbing to Covid-19, however Mrs Mace will be back!

Mr Boffa



Plan B of the COVID-19 Response: Autumn and Winter Plan –Hamsey Green and Acorns Nursery

The Government is clear on the critical importance of not disrupting the education of children and young people and the Government will prioritise keeping all education and childcare settings open.

Attendance

School attendance remains mandatory and all the usual rules continue to apply. Enabling children and young people to attend their education setting regularly continues to be a national priority. As usual, we are able to grant leaves of absence for pupils in exceptional circumstances through the absence forms from the office.

Children and young people previously considered CEV should attend their setting and should follow the same [COVID-19 guidance](#) as the rest of the population. In some circumstances, a child or young person may have received personal advice from their specialist or clinician on additional precautions to take and they should continue to follow that advice.

Face Coverings

These are already worn by staff and visitors in communal areas. As we are still in term time, we should not be having Year 7 and above students on site.

Wrap around provision

The Primary and Acorns will continue to offer their usual before and after-school activities, including wraparound childcare. These activities provide valuable childcare for working parents and carers and promote the wellbeing of children and young people.

Working from home

Office workers who can work from home should do so **from Monday 13 December**. Anyone who cannot work from home should continue to go into work – for example, to access equipment necessary for their role or where their role must be completed in-person. In-person working will be necessary in some cases to continue the effective and accessible delivery of some public services and private industries.

We expect to continue to provide face-to-face teaching in the Primary and Nursery. The Government has stated that Education and childcare leaders will be best placed to determine the workforce required to meet the needs of their children, pupils and students. Education and childcare leaders will need to consider whether it is possible for specific staff undertaking certain roles to work from home, while minimising disruption to face-to-face education and care.

Following expert clinical advice and the successful rollout of the COVID-19 vaccine programme, people previously considered to be particularly vulnerable, clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV), and high or higher-risk are not being advised to shield again.

Testing

We strongly encourage all those involved in education and childcare settings to continue regular testing (LFD not PCR) and reporting their results and to encourage pupils and students in year 7 and above to test and report their results.

Settings are strongly encouraged to ask parents, guardians and other visitors to take a lateral flow device (LFD) test before entering the setting. **Please help us keep our school community safe.** **CONT.....**

Plan B of the COVID-19 Response: Autumn and Winter Plan –Hamsey Green and Acorns Nursery continued

Isolation

All individuals who have been identified as a close contact of a suspected or confirmed case of the Omicron variant of COVID-19, irrespective of vaccination status and age, will continue to be required to self-isolate and asked to book a PCR test.

The Government plans to introduce Daily Contact Testing as soon as possible as an alternative to self-isolation for contacts of positive Omicron cases who are fully vaccinated or under the age of 18 years and 6 months.

January return

All PE kits and pupils possessions will be sent home over the holidays. Please ensure that pencil cases are checked and refilled for the start of term and all uniform is checked that it is named still.

It is assumed families will visit loved ones. If you are attending a high-risk situation, on the day or before visiting, especially meeting people who are at higher risk of severe illness if they get COVID-19, please take a Lateral Flow Device.

If your child demonstrates ANY symptoms of Covid-19, you will need to book them a PCR test and secure the NEGATIVE result before they can return to school. This way the school community starts the year safely.

To ensure we have the right staffing levels, please remember to book into Ocean and Surfer's Club and book your child's school dinners before returning on Wednesday 5th January.

Please remember that pupils are unable to participate in PE for 6 weeks if they have their ears pierced—something best saved for the long Summer holidays.

Word of the Week

(KS1) **Graceful**—being smooth and elegant with movements

(KS2 Lower) **Despoil**— to steal or violently remove valuable possessions

(KS2 Upper) **Fastidious**—to pay extreme attention to detail



This week, Acorns have enjoyed looking for our cheeky elves, who have been hiding in different parts of the Nursery each morning!. We have enjoyed our Christmas grotto role play area; pretending to be elves in Santa's workshop and also taking part in lots of Christmas craft too.



Parking

We have been made aware that some of our families have recently received penalty notices for parking outside the school. Penalty notices are issued by the Council and we are unfortunately unable to comment or advise on this issue. The zig zag lines are marked clearly as are the times where parking is not allowed on these markings. **Please park considerably around the neighbouring properties to the school. We have had some complaints recently, of inconsiderate parking at drop off and pick up times for school and other activities. Some of our nursery parents have also noted parking issues, making it difficult when walking with their young children.** We do have slightly staggered starting times to help alleviate this issue. Thank



Upcoming events

- Reception 2022 parent tours Wednesdays
- Tuesday 14th December 9am Yrs 3&4 Christmas play
- Tuesday 14th December 1:45pm Yrs 5&6 Christmas concert
- Wednesday 15th December 9:15am 5&6 Christmas concert
- Friday 17th December—End of term early finish

Attendance:

1st place: Dodd (1) - 95.8%
2nd place: Kinney (3) - 95.7%
3rd place: Rundell (5) - 95.5%

Whole school: 92.4%

Communication this week

- Yr 3 High Ashurst letter
- Whole school letter from Surrey Council
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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 its 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.

Absences & Sickness

If your child is absent from school and you leave a message on our absence line. 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 must be off school for 48 hours following the last episode. Thank you for your co-operation.

School Dinners

If you have booked a school dinner and then send in a packed lunch for your child/ren. Please can you advise the office that you no longer require it. Thank you.

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

COVID testing

Schools are being encouraged to ask their community to continue to regularly test using lateral flow tests. They can be ordered online [here](#).

If you have secondary school aged children: Based on recent UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA, formally PHE) advice. We have been advised to encourage students or staff **identified as contacts** in secondary schools to also test daily on a lateral flow device until they receive their PCR test result.

Surrey Family Learning are offering free online courses.

Enrolments for ONLINE courses starting in November and December are now open. We have plenty of courses to help support families. All Family Learning courses are FREE and can support:

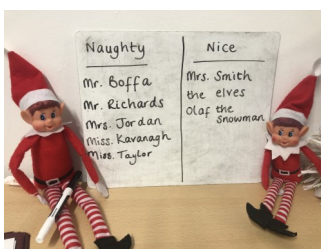
- Parenting
- Wellbeing
- Managing anxiety
- Understanding children's behaviour
- Getting to grips with maths and phonics
- English for parents/carers as an additional language

Please do share this email with friends and families so that they can take advantage of our free resources. Spaces are limited so we do encourage parents and carers to sign up early. There is further course information on our [website](https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/adult-learning/courses/family-learning) and this link <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/adult-learning/courses/family-learning>

In a Nutsh-elf



The naughty elves blocked Mr Boffa's office with a stack of cups on Monday.. Then got up to more mischief as the week went on.....!



Wonder what they will do before going back to the North Pole?

BOOST YOUR IMMUNITY THIS WINTER

WITH THE FLU VACCINE + COVID-19 BOOSTER

Flu and COVID-19 can both be life-threatening and spread more easily in winter. If you're over 50, you are eligible for a free flu vaccine and a COVID-19 booster.

Get vaccinated. Get boosted. Get protected.
nhs.uk/wintervaccinations