



Hempsted Church of England Primary School

September 2023 Newsletter



Dear Parents, Governors and Friends of the School,

Welcome back!! The Autumn term is underway, but nobody has told the weather!! After a six week school holiday that the summer didn't really turn up to, we now start back at school in 30 degree heat!! Given the conditions, please note that it is absolutely fine for the children to wear their summer uniforms.

There's quite a bit of information contained within this newsletter. Future newsletters will aim to give you a flavour of what the children will be doing, or have done in school.

Staffing – Senior Leadership Team (SLT)

For those of you new to the school, the SLT consists of Mr Waller, Mr Davis and Mrs Middleton. As well as teaching, Mr Davis has some non-contact time dedicated to his school leadership role. 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 2023

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.

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 'Hope'. This is a value that we haven't explored before as a school and we look forward to what we will learn. In the Bible, hope is linked with promise; God's people fix their hope on what he has promised, longing for the day when it will arrive. The Gospels make clear that God's greatest promise was that he would send a Saviour into the world, providing

“May the God of Hope fill you with joy and peace”

forgiveness and drawing us back into a relationship with God. Christians believe that Jesus is that Saviour.

Christians believe that Jesus' death was not the end but the gateway to new life. This is a message of hope beyond the limits of this life, which the Bible describes as an 'eternal hope'.

In our Collective Worship, we will be exploring the value of hope 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 person and to help others.

SATS

We are now in a position to share our provisional KS2 performance data for 2023. 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. 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			
		Below standard	Not achieved standard	Achieved Standard or better	High Standard
Grammar Punctuation & Spelling	School	0	26	74	39
	National	28*		72*	not available
Reading	School	0	29	71	32
	National	26*		73*	28**
Maths	School	0	18	87	39
	National	27*		73*	23**
Writing (teacher assessment)	School	19		81	16
	National	29*		71*	13**

Please Note: * indicates national data for 2023, ** indicates 2022 data

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 7th and Wednesday 8th November – Parent/Teacher consultations

Tuesday 12th December @ 9.30am – Reception nativity

Wednesday 13th & Thursday 14th December @ 9.30am – Y1/2 nativity

Friday 15th December – whole school trip to Roses Theatre panto

Thursday 21st December – KS2 carol concert

Tuesday 5th and Wednesday 7th February – Parent/Teacher consultations

Tuesday 25th June (am) – KS2 sports day; Reserve date 9th July

Tuesday 2nd July (am) – KS1 sports day; Reserve date 16th 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 administration 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.
- You should be aware of the email address for each class teacher. If a matter is particularly important or urgent, please also copy the school office into the email. Whilst teachers endeavour to check their email regularly, it isn't always possible. The school office address is admin@hempsted.gloucs.sch.uk

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.

For many of our children keeping on top of this after a day at school is enough, and it is well known that play is a key way that children learn. However, some will have more of a thirst for academic knowledge. Since the 'lockdowns' the quality of online material available has improved and there's now lots of great resources including Oak Academy and Espresso. If this is of interest to you and your child, please take a look at the curriculum overviews on the school website. To find these, go to the website homepage, and click through the following headings: 'Teaching & Learning' – 'Curriculum' – 'Year Group Outlines'. Once you have seen what they will be learning this term, click the tab labelled 'Help your child at home' and you will see that the teacher has provided links to educational sites that support this learning. These curriculum maps may also give you some inspiration for a family day out when you can visit places that support the learning. Please note that not all information will be there just yet, we aim to have it completed by Friday 15th September.

Please look out for more detailed information from the class teachers, and please do ask if there's anything you're not sure about.

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.



Bumped Heads

Still on the theme of communication, if your child receives a bumped head during the day, we will always aim to let you know. In most cases, this will be verbally either at pick-up time, or by telephone. Usually this is simply to make you aware, just in case there are any delayed complications. As an additional safeguard, we may send you a text message as well, just in case we don't get to speak to you later. Please don't be alarmed by the message!

If your child has received a bumped head, then we ask that you look out for the following symptoms:

- headache
- nausea (feeling sick)
- dizziness
- blurred vision

If your child develops these, you should then seek medical advice.

In the case of more serious knocks to the head, we will contact you straight away.

*****CONTACT DETAILS*****

If you have changed your contact details – address, mobile numbers, land lines, emails – it is vital that we have that information. Please ensure that you let us know!

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.

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 Waller

Important Dates for Your Diary

SEPTEMBER			
Monday	11 th	2.15pm	Start of year church service (Y1-6)
Saturday	16 th		Grammar schools test day
OCTOBER			
Tuesday	17 th		Year 6 trip (details to follow)
Monday	23 rd	2.15pm	Harvest Service (in school)
Thursday	26 th	3.15pm	End of Term 1
Friday	27 th		INSET Day (school closed to pupils)
NOVEMBER			
Monday	6 th	9am	Start of Term 2 Flu immunisation (details to follow)
Tuesday	7 th		School photographer in school Parent/Teacher Consultations
Wednesday	8 th		Parent/Teacher Consultations


Nancy Bhandal
THE BROW QUEEN
 Permanent Makeup & Beauty

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






Get in touch **07828 185434**
info@nancythebrowqueen.com









24th
Sep



Gloucestershire Boys' Choir

OPEN TO ALL BOYS WITH A LOVE OF SINGING

Open rehearsal

- 📅 24/09/2023
- 🕒 Juniors (Years 3-6) 4.30-5.20PM
Seniors (Years 7-11) 5.10-6.00PM
- 📍 Gloucestershire Academy of Music
Barbican House, Gloucester, GL1 2JF

(FOR DETAILS FOLLOW QR CODE BELOW)

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