



The Head's Lines

We head into what is undoubtedly going to be a very, very busy half term! Already, our Hertfordshire School Improvement partner, who saw some wonderful reading skills in action and was unsurprisingly impressed by the children's impeccable behaviour, has visited us. Well done everyone! We also celebrated a quick snow flurry and tossed pancakes. Thank you to the HPA for organising this event. The fun never stops – with World Book Day, Sport's Relief and Science Week all still to look forward to! We look forward to sharing our learning experiences with you – keep an eye on our Facebook page!

Mrs Fenner

Reading

Thank you to all those of you who were able to attend the parent workshop about reading on 5th February. Feedback from the meeting was overwhelmingly positive and it was lovely to see so many of you there and organise to share the information with parents who could not make it. The community spirit is a strength of our school.

In response to the workshop, Mrs Johnson said how her son noticed the Gruffalo was on a bauble in the story of the stick Man and the workshop helped her to realise that talking about pictures and the wider story is an to be celebrated. Mrs Benstead said she feels far more confident about reading to her child so that there is less pressure for her child to always read to an adult.

These are just a couple of valuable examples of how small changes and ideas can make a big difference to your child.

Reading Photographs



Don't forget to send in photographs of your children reading at home so that Miss Pidgeon can display them in school. Photos can be sent into school either directly to the class teacher or via the school office.

We look forward to seeing our pupils working hard on their reading skills at home. Leaflets, magazines, instructions, books, e-books – all examples are welcome

Staffing News

We have now appointed a new Office Administrator/Secretary; Miss Nicola Butler will be working in our School Office Thursday & Friday. I know that you will all want to join us in welcoming her to Hexton School.

Feeling Good Week & Athlete Visit

During Feeling Good week, the whole school participated together in a number of activities to help promote the importance of good emotional wellbeing and raise awareness of mental health, showing the children where support can be accessed within the community.

At the end of the week Alistair Patrick-Heselton a Paralympic Footballer visited us. Herts Sports Partnership awarded this visit to Hexton School because of our participation in the Daily Mile and after delivering a very informative, fun and inspirational assembly Alistair ran the Daily Mile along with the children and spent a lot of time with them answering all their questions!



World Book Day

We are hosting a range of fun events to celebrate World Book Day on Thursday 5th March. Children are invited to dress up as a character from a book on the day and bring in a copy of the book that the character is from. During the day, classes will host a buddy reading session where children read with a child from another class. We are looking forward to all the different costumes!



At 5.45pm, children are invited back to school in their pyjamas and a dressing gown to listen to a bedtime story. We will serve hot chocolate, towards the end of the session, before children are collected at 6.15pm. Children can be dropped off and collected in the school hall before dispersing into different classrooms to hear a favourite or new story. For parents who live outside Hexton, you are welcome to wait in the learning zone until the end of the session.

Science Week - 9th – 13th March



We have many things planned for Science week with a whole day of science activities on Wednesday and on Thursday morning, we have Mad Science coming in, the day will start with a fascinating science assembly for the whole school where the children will see amazing chemical reactions, awesome air pressure and more. Then the lab coat-clad Mad Scientist will head into the classrooms for workshops full of hands-on fun!

On Thursday afternoon, we are inviting the parents in from 2.30pm so the children can share with you the exciting science things they have learned throughout the week.

A huge thank you to the HPA for agreeing to fund a Mad Science Workshop for all the children. We are extremely grateful for the support in giving the children an exciting opportunity to see science in action. Thank you!

Sport Relief – Friday 13th March

We have a whole day of sporting activities planned, including a scavenger hunt, quiz, healthy snack stall and a sponsored 'Golden Mile'.

We would like the children to come into school dressed as their sporting hero or a sports club uniform if they attend one, please ensure that whatever they wear is suitable for outside play and possibly getting dirty. The recommended minimum donation is £2 and they will need extra for the healthy snack stall.



At the end of the day, staff will be in the playground collecting any loose change to top up the total money raised.

A letter with full details of the day and a sponsorship form for the Golden Mile will follow.

Class Assemblies

Following discussion with staff, we have decided to cancel our class assemblies this term and replace them with a whole school production in the Summer term. We look forward to sharing further about this in the future and we apologise for any inconvenience this cancellation may have caused.

Pupil Premium Funding and Free School Meals

Since the introduction of Universal Infant Free School Meals for Key Stage 1 pupils, there has been a significant reduction in the number of families applying for Pupil Premium/Free School Meals funding. If you have a child who has moved into Year 3, school meals are now chargeable. Therefore, if you think you might be eligible to apply Free School Meals, please visit the following website: www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals or click on the following link [Free schools meals](#)

As a school, we also benefit financially from funding for Pupil Premium pupils so even if your child is in Key Stage 1 we would encourage you to apply. Not only will the school receive additional funds, it also saves you having to remember to apply when your child moves into Year 3. If you need any additional information, please speak to Mrs Fenner or Mrs Hibon in the school office in confidence.



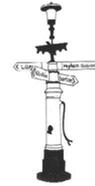
Congratulations to the following children who have been awarded a Golden Ticket during the month of February

 **Clark, Fatima, Amber, Joseph A**

 **Alice, Finley, Aasiyah, Anaya**



HPA News



Don't forget about our School Lottery with a draw every Saturday, It is a fabulous way to raise money for the school.

Please visit <https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/hexton-imi-school> to enter the draw

Mother's day Pop-up Shop

With Mothers day just round the corner the HPA are setting up a Pop-up shop in the school hall on Wednesday 18th March, with a variety of gifts for your little ones choose for their Mum or any other special lady in their life. All gifts will cost £2.50. All you need to do is fill in the form (copy attached) and return it to the School Office along with payment by 11th March.



Film Club



The next HPA Film Club has been arranged for Friday 20th March and the chosen film is Peter Rabbit. As before, the cost is £4.50 per child and this will include a sandwich, snack and drink.

A letter with further information and permission slip will be going out shortly.

Thank you to the HPA for organising the Pancake Races, the children had a lovely time although it was a little chilly!

From the sale of refreshments, **£47.93** has gone into the HPA pot, so thank you to all who participated.





Diary dates

Hexton School dates 2019-2020

***New dates added/changed will be in bold**

Thursday 5 th March	World Book Day and Bedtime Story Session at 5.30pm
Monday 9th – Friday 13th March	Science Week
Friday 13th March	Sport Relief
Thursday 12th March	Mad Science Day
Monday 16 th – Friday 20 th March	Assessment Week
Wednesday 18 th March	HPA Mother's Day pop-up shop (time TBC)
Friday 20 th March	HPA Film Club
Monday 30th – Thursday 2nd April	Bikeability Course for Oak class
Monday 30 th March	Rock Steady Concert 9.15am
Friday 3 rd April	Whole School Easter Walk & Egg Hunt
Friday 3 rd April	End of Term
EASTER HOLIDAYS 6th - 17th April	
Monday 20 th April	Term Starts
Wednesday 29 th April	Whole school and Class Photos
Friday 8 th May	VE Day Bank Holiday
Monday 11 th – Friday 14 th May	KS2 SATS
Monday 18 th – Friday 21 st May	KS1 SATS
Monday 18 th – Friday 21 st May	Assessment Week
Friday 22 nd May	Inset Day
Monday 25 th – Friday 29 th May	Half Term Holiday



Diary dates

CONT.

Monday 8 th - Friday 12 th June	Yr 1 Phonics Screening Check
Monday 15 th – Friday 19 th June	Yr 4 Multiplication Table Check
Monday 29 th June – Friday 3 rd July	Yr 6 Isle of Wight Trip
Monday 6 th – Friday 10 th July	Transition Week
Thursday 9 th July	Secondary School Transition Day
Tuesday 7 th July	Sports Afternoon
Friday 10 th July	Reports to Parents
Tuesday 14 th July	Reserve Sports Day
Friday 17 th July	Leavers Assembly End of Term

Term Dates 2019-2020

Autumn Term 2019

Monday 2 September - Friday 20 December 2019
Half Term: Monday 28 October – Friday 1 November 2019

INSET Day: Monday 2 September 2019
OCCASIONAL Day: Friday 29 November 2019

Spring Term 2020

Monday 6 January – Friday 3 April 2020
Half Term: Monday 17 February – Friday 21 February 2020

INSET Day: Monday 6 January 2020

Summer Term 2020

Monday 20 April – Tuesday 21 July 2020
Half Term: Monday 25 May – Friday 29 May 2020

Bank Holiday: Friday 8 May 2020
INSET Day: Friday 22 May 2020
INSET Day: Monday 20 July 2020
INSET Day: Tuesday 21 July

Term Dates 2020-2021

Autumn Term 2020

Wednesday 2 September - Friday 18 December 2020
Half Term: Monday 26 October – Friday 30 October 2020

INSET Day: Wednesday 2 September 2020
INSET Day: Thursday 3 September 2020
INSET Day: Friday 4 September 2020
OCCASIONAL Day: Friday 27 November 2020

Spring Term 2021

Monday 4 January – Friday 26 March 2021
Half Term: Monday 15 February – Friday 19 February 2021

INSET Day: Monday 4 January 2021

Summer Term 2021

Monday 12 April – Thursday 22 July 2021
Half Term: Monday 31 May – Friday 4 June 2021

Bank Holiday: Monday 3 May 2021
INSET Day: Friday 28 May 2021

Healthy hub

North Herts



Have you visited your **Hitchin Healthy Hub?**

Free information, advice and support to help you stay healthy and well

We can provide support with:

- managing your weight
- giving up smoking
- looking after your mental health
- becoming more active, and more!



Your Hitchin Pop up Hub:

When? Every Wednesday from 4th March

Where? Westmill Community Centre, John Barker Place, Hitchin, SG5 2PG (in the purple room)

Time? 9am-12pm



www.healthyhubnorthherts.co.uk

Contact us on 01462 474411 or healthyhub@north-herts.gov.uk

 @HealthyHubNorthHerts

 @HealthyHubNH

 @healthyhubnorthherts

TWO HOSPICES
ONE CHALLENGE



WOODHALL
OFF-ROAD
RUN

Woodhall Estate, Watton-At-Stone

Run, Walk or Jog
5k or 10k
through the beautiful
Woodhall Estate

29 MARCH 2020

www.hertsoffroadrun.co.uk



Garden House
Hospice Care

Isabel Hospice
Together we care



Isabel Hospice: Charity No. 1046826
Garden House Hospice Care: Charity No. 295257

JW19 Soccer School

at St Christopher School

Tuesday 14th, Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th April
(Easter holidays)

10am – 4pm

Early drop off and late pick-ups option

Ticket: £55 - £68 + sibling discount



Easter Soccer School on sale now.

A fun packed three days. Every child will receive a signed photograph and a trophy. Lucky winners of challenges will win the new Westham United Home or Away Top signed by Jack Wilshere. In addition, every student will have the opportunity to win a Family of 4 ticket to watch Westham United at The London Stadium

Book through Eventbrite:

<https://iw19soccerschoolapril20.eventbrite.co.uk/>

for online payments

OR

Book through Grassroots website

grassroots-soccer.com

for bank transfer or cheque payments



COMMUNITY WARDROBE

Looking for clothes, shoes, or school uniform?

Browse good quality pre-loved clothing from ages 0 to teen

Includes shoes and uniform (hitchin schools and villages only)

To attend the community wardrobe talk to your school, Hitchin Partnership, Family Centre, Settle: Temporary Accommodation Officer or health visitor.



At North Herts Family Centre, Oughton (01462 436927), on:

We're a community collective that rescues good quality pre-loved and new clothes, shoes and furniture for people referred to us for support through tough times.



**HITCHIN
VOLUNTEER
ARMY**