



The Head's Lines.

We have had a busy few weeks this half term already; archery from Premier Education, steel pan drums have been used on a Friday in music and we have continued to enjoy the learning environment outside too! We look forward to all the fun that the Autumn months bring!

Please see further information in this letter about upcoming events.

Mrs Fenner

Breakfast Club

We still have places available in our Breakfast Club. Please let the school office know if you are interested in this.

Primary & Secondary Admissions 2021

The application process for Secondary School admissions is now open with the deadline on Saturday 31st October 2020. Please note that this date is in the October half term holiday.

Online applications can be made on www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions .

The application process for Primary admissions for children born between 1st September 2016 and 31st August 2017 opens on Monday 2 November 2020 with the closing date deadline of 15 January 2021.

We will be holding our **Open Day visits during the week commencing Monday 23rd November**. Due to current circumstances, these visits will need to be booked in advance, via the school office. If you or someone you know are interested in visiting our school, please do email admin@hexton.herts.sch.uk or call to arrange a visit. We also hope to have a video tour available through our school website.

Parent Consultation Meetings

You will have received information about the necessary changes to Parent Consultations this year. As we are unable to hold face-to-face meetings, a summary report will be sent home. We look forward to sharing lots of good news with you very soon!

Attendance

We continue to have high attendance in school and are grateful to parents who are following the guidelines when a suspected case of Covid occurs within their family. We know that it is often confusing to separate Covid symptoms from common colds and winter illnesses.

Whilst some schools are not accepting children in school with any symptoms of any illnesses, we feel that it is important that children attend school regularly and wherever possible. If your child demonstrates any of the Covid 19 symptoms, please **DO NOT SEND THEM TO SCHOOL**. Please follow the steps in the guidance we have previously released.

We will continue to ask parents to keep their child at home for a period of 48 hours following a bout of diarrhoea or vomiting commencing from the last episode of illness.

We will continue to contact you if your child becomes unwell at school and needs to be collected to go home. This will include when we feel a child may be demonstrating Covid 19 symptoms. In this case, we will ask for you to arrange for your child to be tested and not return to school until we have confirmation of negative test or your child has self-isolated for 10 days from the onset of symptoms. If your child is generally unwell, please also consider if it is in their best interest to be at school. Please contact the school office if your child will be absent from school for any reason.

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 for 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 Bailey in confidence.

Schools across the country are reporting an increase in Free School Meal applications due to the effects of lockdown and subsequent job losses and reduced hours. If your circumstances have changed and you would like help in applying for Free School Meals, please speak to Mrs Fenner, Miss Pidgeon or Mrs Hibon or Mrs Butler in the school office in strictest confidence. We would also like to reassure parents that Free School Meals information is dealt with sensitively and on a need to know basis.

Autumn Fancy Dress Day and Children in Need

We would like to invite children to dress up in 'seasonal' **fancy dress or non-school uniform** on Monday 23rd October and again to mark **Children in Need** day on Friday 13th November, in return for a £1 voluntary donation. HPA will also be organising a Pumpkin competition. Details to follow.



Diary dates

Hexton School dates Autumn 2020

October	Black History Month
Monday 12 October	Y6 School Nurse Questionnaire
Monday 26 to Friday 30 October	October half term holiday
Friday October 23 rd	Autumn Fancy Dress day and HPA Pumpkin competition.
Saturday 31 October	Secondary School application deadline
Monday 2 November	Primary School application system opens
Friday 13 th November	Children In Need Day
Monday 16 November – Friday 20 November	Anti Bullying Week
Friday 27 November	Occasional Day – School closed
Friday 18 December	End of Term

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