

# Hexton JMI School Newsletter

Autumn 2022: Issue 9

## Headteacher's message

It's been a busy week at Hexton this week. I have spent lots of time in classes this week, teaching and spending time with some of our youngest pupils. This term, I will spend time with each phase experiencing school as they do for a day. This will help me and the class teachers to identify strengths of each phase (EYFS, KS1, lower KS2 and upper KS2) as well as identifying how we can further improve our practice. This week I focused on the EYFS. Pupils are very engaged during short, fun learning sessions. They talk positively about school and can talk about their favourite areas of active learning. In the new year, we plan to further develop our EYFS environment to support pupils to be more independent in their active learning – we will share before and after photos when we complete the project!

We are currently relabelling all of our reading books so that they show the 'zpd' (zone of proximal development) that the children are reading at. This will help our children to choose a book aimed at the appropriate level more independently. It is a work in progress, but should be very worthwhile!

Today we celebrated Remembrance Day in school. We held a 2-minute silence and talked about why we observe remembrance and what the different coloured poppies mean. Pupils have also been doing work in classes linked to remembrance – we will share some photos on social media this weekend.

I hope you have a lovely weekend, however you choose to spend it. See you all bright and early on Monday!

## This week's letters

HAPpy – Winter programme information.

## Dates

\* £1 donation optional

Date	Event
Fri 11 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Armistice Day
	World Kindness Day
14 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Individual photos
14 <sup>th</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Anti-bullying week
Fri 18 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Odd socks day
	Children in Need*
Fri 18 <sup>th</sup> Nov	HPA cake sale (after school)
Fri 25 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Occasional day (no school)
Fri 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	Decs day (children in old clothes)
Sat 3 <sup>rd</sup> and Sun 4 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas Tree Festival, St Nicholas Church
Tue 6 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Panto
Fri 9 <sup>th</sup> Dec	HPA Christmas Fayre 3:15-5:15
TBC Dec	Santa Run
Tue 13 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas dinner day
	Christmas jumper day
Wed 14 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas service at St Faith's (a.m.)
	Christmas performance (p.m.)
Fri 16 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas parties
Weds 21 <sup>st</sup> Dec	End of term 1:30 pm – non-uniform day
22 <sup>nd</sup> Dec-4 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Christmas holidays

## Decs Day

Decorations day will take place on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December. We will be off timetable for the day and the children will spend the day making a range of Christmas decorations. They will need to wear old clothes that can get covered in glue, glitter and paint! It should be a fun day of Christmas music and craftiness and we hope to make it an annual event. If any parents are available and would like to come in to help small groups of children to make decorations (no experience necessary!), please contact the school office.



*Mighty oaks from little acorns grow...*



## Golden Ticket Winners

Congratulations to our 'Golden Ticket' winners for showing the school values. These children will have a tea party with Mrs Squires each Friday afternoon.

**Acorn class: Iris**

**Oak class: Evie**

Please send in any achievements outside school so that we can celebrate them each Friday.



## Weekly Sports Star

Congratulations to our sports stars:

**Acorn: Lily**

**Oak: Evie**

Lily has been very helpful and supported individuals in gymnastics lessons. Evie has shown resilience and performed at a high standard in gymnastics.



## House Points

Each week children collect team points in school. The average house point scores so far this term are:

**St Faiths: 3**

**Manor: 2**

**Ravensburgh: 4**

The children earn points for displaying the values in their learning and behaviour.

## 100% Attendance

Congratulations to all the children who have achieved 100% attendance this week, coming to school every day, on time.

*Ayla, Oliver, Finley, Freddie, Grace, Jack, Evie, Lily, Carter, Iris, Hugo, Lillie.*

Whole school attendance this week: **80.5%**

## Theme weeks in November

The next two weeks are theme weeks that we will be observing in school. Next week, 14<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> November is Anti-Bullying Week. The week will end with Odd Socks Day (as well as Children In Need) on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November, where adults and children wear odd socks (and non-uniform if desired) to celebrate what makes us all unique. There is a voluntary contribution of £1 which will go to Children In Need. We will talk to the children about how to recognise bullying and what to do if children see it or experience it. Some of the resources we will be using can be found here: <https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week/anti-bullying-week-2022-reach-out>.

The following week is Just Talk Week. The theme for this year is 'Look beneath the surface'; encouraging all young people to reach out to others, not to be so quick to judge and to take time to understand why someone might be acting a certain way. Young people are also encouraged to 'ask twice' when checking how someone is, as people often give a more honest answer when asked a second time. The resources we will access for this week can be found here: <http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/justtalkweek>.

## Staff snapshot: Mrs Benstead

Greetings, I'm Fran! I have been cleaning at school and doing bits and bobs for nearly a year and love it every aspect of it; I love being involved and helping out where I can.

At home my passion is animals. I've managed to fill my life with as many as I can - I have currently 2 pet humans, 2 dogs, 2 cats, 2 rabbits, 4 guinea pigs, 7 turkeys (yes, they are pets) 5 ducks and some chickens... last count was 20. In my spare time I like to sit as 'spare' time is limited with such a big family in the garden!

## HPA recruitment

At Hexton we are blessed with a creative and active parents' association, the wonderful HPA. The team is brilliant, hardworking and dynamic but would love one or two (or three!) others to join them to give them more capacity for planning events. If you are interested, please contact the school office who will put you in touch with HPA.



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