

Hexton JMI School Newsletter

Autumn 2022: Issue 13

Headteacher's message

This week has been snowy and has really felt so Christmassy in school. Thank you to you all for joining us for our school Christmas production of, "Lights, Camel, Action!" on Wednesday – it was lovely to see so many of you and to have such a positive vibe as the children performed. As I'm sure you were, I was much entertained and very proud of our little school. It is so wonderful to see that side of them come alive and always lovely to revisit the Christmas story, albeit in a different guise.

Yesterday, we walked to St. Faith's for our Christmas carol service. It was intimate but magical, particularly when the children sang unaccompanied.

Today, the Christmas party was a hit! Children played and danced before snuggling in together and watching a movie

In our assembly on Tuesday this week, we discussed the traditions during advent in Germany and China. In Germany, advent is celebrated using calendars and an advent wreath. In China, beautiful paper lanterns are made and displayed on the houses that are celebrating advent and Santa Claus is called Dun Che Lao Ren, which means 'Christmas Old Man'.

This week in Oak class, the children carried out maths investigations – a multiplication focus in years 3/4 and a fraction wall investigation in year 6. In English, we are doing some work around the short video "Man on the moon," which can be found on the website "The Christmas shed." In Acorn class, children have learned about kindness at Christmas, as well as making stained glass windows, Christmas cards and designing a Christmas jumper.

This is my last newsletter of 2022, and I want to thank all our families, governors and staff for such a welcoming and positive first term at Hexton. This little school is a magical place and we are all really looking forward to continuing to help it to thrive in 2023 and beyond. Have a lovely break and I will see you all next year!

Dates

* £1 donation optional

Date	Event
Weds 21 st Dec	End of term 1:30 pm – non-uniform day
22 nd Dec-4 th Jan	Christmas holidays
Thur 5 th Jan	First day back
9 th -13 th Jan	Creativity week
Sun 15 th Jan	Deadline for application to primary schools
6 th -12 th Feb	Children's mental health week
Tue 7 th Feb	Safer Internet Day
Fri 11 th Feb	HPA Valentine's Disco TBC
13 th -17 th Feb	Half term
Mon 20 th Feb	INSET day (no school)
27 th Feb-3 rd Mar	Book week
Thurs 2 nd Mar	World Book Day*
13 th -17 th Mar	STEM week
Fri 17 th Mar	Red Nose Day*
Sat 1 st Apr	HPA ball TBC
3 rd -14 th April	Easter Holidays
Mon 17 th Apr	INSET day (no school)
Mon 17 th Apr	Primary School Allocation Day
Mon 1 st May	Bank holiday
Mon 8 th May	Bank holiday
Fri 26 th May	INSET day (no school)

Lunch time

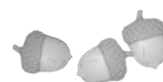
Having chatted to the office staff, we are going to be making some changes to lunch time from January. All children will go to lunch at 12:00 and will be seated. Year groups will go up to the counter first on a rota basis, to make the choices fairer. We are also going to try a pupil choice menu from after half term, but I will give you more information about this nearer the time. We hope this will help our pupils to have an even happier lunch time.

This week's letters

Fire safety newsletter.



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 every Friday afternoon.

Acorn class: Iris

Oak class: Eliza

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



Weekly Sports Star

Congratulations to our sports stars:

Acorn: Oliver

Oak: Freddie

Both showed some of the Hex 6Rs in their PE lessons this week. This term, Oak class won the medal for overall sporting excellence. They will be given the medal to keep in their classroom for the next term.



House Points

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

St Faiths: 3

Manor: 3

Ravensburgh: 4

Well done to St Faith's and Ravensburgh who won with a total of 29 house points each.

100% Attendance

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

Ed, Oliver, Finley, Freddie, Grace, Jack, Evie, Lily, Joe, Carter, Clark, Eliza, Iris, Hannah, Lillie, Ben.

Whole school attendance this week: **88.9%**

Governor snapshot: Kirstie Gran

I have a son and a daughter in Hexton JMI and wanted to become a governor to support the school and share my insights on children's development, health and wellbeing, which is my passion.

My roles include being on the curriculum committee and the SEND, Geography and PE link. I very much enjoy working with our team on making our lovely school the best it can be, for our precious children.

Final week of term

As you know, next week is the final week of the autumn term. There are no clubs and no PE next week. On Wednesday, school finishes at 1:30p.m. Children may wear non-uniform on the last day, and there is no charge for this – it is just for fun.

In January, we have no INSET days – we all start back on Thursday 5th January 2023. Breakfast club will be running as normal.

Summary of Autumn term

It's been a busy term! Term started with INSET, where I shared the school development plan priorities with staff and led safeguarding updates. In the first half term, I looked at maths with our HIP and we began some work on our maths offer. We began to offer regular maths fluency sessions on top of maths lessons, and have begun two Maths Hubs projects – one in Acorn and one in Oak to help shape a more mastery approach to our teaching. We have overhauled our reading, moving away from traditional guided reading and more towards teaching fluency and focusing sharply on vocabulary and comprehension. We purchased a new curriculum resource through which to deliver most of our foundation subjects – Dimensions. All staff have received training and are ready to start in January. So, what next?!

Next term, we begin using new English materials to help our teachers to more easily teach several year groups different content concurrently. I will give you more information about this in the New Year. We are also developing our learning environments to support pupil independence in their learning. And lastly, we unveil our new therapeutic behaviour policy in January. I will keep you posted on all developments, and as always, I welcome your feedback. I look forward to sharing more of our successes with you next year!



Mighty oaks from little acorns grow...

