

# Hexton JMI School Newsletter

Autumn 2022: Issue 11

## Headteacher's message

I hope you all enjoyed the extra day with your families last Friday. This week has been foggy and chilly, but there's been a lot of Christmas cheer around the school.

The week began with an assembly on advent. We discussed what advent means to Christians and how it is a time of preparation. We discussed how we prepare for Christmas in our own families and looked at how advent preparations vary around the world. The children were particularly entertained to learn that on 6<sup>th</sup> December, in Germany, it is said that Saint Niklaus will put sweets inside your shoes. We hope that they are discovered before the shoes are worn!

Last week there was an accident when a child fell off the monkey bars. I talked to the children this week about how to use the monkey bars safely and not taking unnecessary risks.

On Monday, Mrs Claxton and Mrs Gran carried out some SEND snapshots. They were pleased to see that some of the reasonable adjustments that have been suggested this term have been introduced into both classes already and that more of our SEND pupils are being challenged. All of them are being taught age-related content, and Mrs Claxton has suggested further ways we can scaffold this learning for them to access it more independently.

We have had an HfL Education assessment adviser visit the school in the last few weeks. She spoke to me on Monday to feed back what she noticed. She said there is a very positive atmosphere at school and that the strategies teachers have put into place this term are having a positive impact. She has suggested further adaptations to practice to help children to become even more independent, confident and resilient learners.

Today was our Decs day. It was a fabulous, Christmassy day with all of our Hexton elves busy working on their crafts. Please do look at our social media for photos of the day. Thank you to our staff and parents for their hard work.

## Dates

\* £1 donation optional

Date	Event
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
Sun 11 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christingle at St Faith's
Tue 13 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas dinner day Christmas jumper day
Wed 14 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas performance (p.m.)
Thur 15 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas service at St Faith's (a.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
Thur 5 <sup>th</sup> Jan	First day back
9 <sup>th</sup> -13 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Creativity week
Sun 15 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Deadline for application to primary schools
6 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Children's mental health week
Tue 7 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Safer Internet Day
Fri 11 <sup>th</sup> Feb	HPA Valentine's Disco TBC
13 <sup>th</sup> -17 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Half term
Mon 20 <sup>th</sup> Feb	INSET day (no school)
27 <sup>th</sup> Feb-3 <sup>rd</sup> Mar	Book week
Thurs 2 <sup>nd</sup> Mar	World Book Day*
13 <sup>th</sup> -17 <sup>th</sup> Mar	STEM week
Fri 17 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Red Nose Day*
Sat 1 <sup>st</sup> Apr	HPA ball TBC
3 <sup>rd</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Holidays
Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> Apr	INSET day (no school)
Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Primary School Allocation Day
Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> May	Bank holiday
Mon 8 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank holiday
Fri 26 <sup>th</sup> May	INSET day (no school)

## This week's letters

Warm space poster.



*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 on Monday afternoon.

**Acorn class: Gracie**

**Oak class: Jack**

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



## Weekly Sports Star

Congratulations to our sports stars:

**Acorn: Carter**

**Oak: Eliza**

Eliza has helped others in gymnastics and has been ready at all times. Carter worked hard at gymnastics and showed real resilience. Well done to you both for showing school values.



## House Points

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

**St Faiths: 6**

**Manor: 3**

**Ravensburgh: 5**

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.

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

Whole school attendance this week: **94.2%**

## Staff snapshot: Mrs Foot

Hello. I am Mrs Foot. I joined the Hexton Team in September 2021 when I started to run Forest School sessions every Wednesday. I am passionate about outdoor learning. Providing children with enriching experiences in outdoor spaces and making connections with the natural world is an invaluable part of their education. I am delighted to be starting in Acorn Class as a class teacher when Miss Murray goes on maternity leave.

I love history, reading, walking and of course just being outdoors.

## Christmas events next week

The post box will be out from Monday if children would like to bring in cards to give to their friends.

On Tuesday next week, we have our whole school trip to the Panto, Cinderella at The Gordon Craig Theatre in Stevenage. Children should come in at the normal time, wearing their school uniform as usual. They need a packed lunch and a drink of water. Children will be back at school before the end of the day.

On Friday after school, HPA are running their Christmas Fayre from 3:15-5:15. Entrance is 50p and there will be food, games and a raffle. I look forward to seeing you all there!

## Staff news

Today was Miss Murray's last day at Hexton before embarking on her journey as a new mummy. I am sure you will join me in thanking her for all her hard work this term and wishing her and her partner, Stephen, all the very best. We look forward to hearing baby news very soon!

From next week, Acorn class teachers will be Mrs Foot and Mrs Simpson. They have already met with Miss Murray for a handover and the children know them both well. We are also welcoming Mrs Benstead to the teaching team as a TA in Oak class one day a week.



*Mighty oaks from little acorns grow...*

