

Hexton JMI School Newsletter

Autumn 2022: Issue 2

Headteacher's message

We have been blessed with some beautiful autumnal weather this week. Play times have been a joy as children play together in the sun. We are going to start offering some 'tuff tray' activities at play time and lunch time from next week to give children extra choice in their activities.

This week, the children have started their new topics. In Acorn class, they are learning about Plants, and in Oak the topic is Mayan Civilization. You can see the curriculum maps for the term on the school website, as well as our current long term plans. We have also resumed our weekly visits from Ickle Drama, Stevenage FC and our outdoor learning teacher, Mrs Foot. We are very lucky to have such a wonderful range of activities on offer!

On Friday this week, I carried out a learning walk of the school, focusing on classroom learning environments. The classes have got effective working walls and are beautifully presented. Our next step is to improve pupil's use of classroom materials in their learning.

I'd like to request please that parents avoid disturbing teachers before school, as this time is vital for them to prepare for the day's lessons. If you need to talk to your child's teacher, please make an appointment via the office. Alternatively, pass on a message to me at the gate and I will pass it on to the teacher. Thank you for your support as we try to maximise children's learning time.

Enjoy your long weekend and we'll see you on Tuesday.

This week's letters

Nursing team letter (Y6); panto letter, HPA playdough club letter; St. Nicholas church letter; DSPL newsletter; HNF banding descriptors; CAMHS programme leaflet; half term flyers.

Dates

* £1 donation optional

Date	Event
Mon 19 th Sept	Bank holiday: school closed
Mon 26 th Sept	Parents' coffee morning with SENCo
Mon 26 th Sept	Parents' welcome evening
1 st -31 st Oct	Black History Month
4 th -10 th Oct	World Space Week
Mon 10 th Oct	World Mental Health Day (wear yellow)*
Sat 15 th Oct	TBC HPA Autumn festival 12-4
Mon 17 th and Tue 18 th Oct	Parents' consultation evenings
Fri 21 st Oct	Bring a pumpkin to school HPA Hallowe'en Disco 3:15-5:30
24 th -28 th Oct	Half term break
31 st Oct-4 th Nov	Open mornings for Rec 2023
Fri 11 th Nov	Armistice Day World Kindness Day
14 th Nov	Individual photos
14 th -18 th Nov	Anti-bullying week
Fri 18 th Nov	Odd socks day Children in Need*
Thur 24 th Nov	Divali
Fri 25 th Nov	Occasional day (no school)
Fri 2 nd Dec	Decs day (children in old clothes)
Sat 3 rd and Sun 4 th Dec	Christmas Tree Festival, St Nicholas Church
Tue 6 th Dec	Panto
Fri 9 th Dec	HPA Christmas Fayre 3:15-5:15
TBC Dec	Santa Run
Wed 14 th Dec	Christmas dinner day TBC Christmas jumper day TBC
Wed 15 th Dec	Christmas service at St Faith's
TBC Dec	Christmas performance
TBC Dec	Christmas carols
Fri 16 th Dec	Christmas parties
Weds 21 st Dec	End of term 1:30 pm – non-uniform day
22 nd Dec-4 th Jan	Christmas holidays



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: Finley

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



Weekly Sports Star

Congratulations to our sports stars:

Acorn: Hugo

Oak: Lily

Miss Meadows said that Hugo and Ben showed resilience while practising their passing skills. Carter, who is the new PE Leader, has shown responsibility by setting up sessions. Lily showed good progress in football and the whole of Oak were ready to learn. Well done to all of those mentioned!



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

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 Benstead, Oliver Benstead, Finley Butts, Freddie Clark Lyman, Carter Lyman, Ayla Anastasiou-Clare, Nancy Cole, , Evie Hall, Lily Hall, Eliza McSkimming, Iris McSkimming, Lillie Richardson-Jones, Roman Simpson, Ben Wallace, Charlie Williams & Lenore Williams

Staff snapshot: Mrs Calvert

Each week we will introduce a member of the team so you can get to know us better.

This week, it's our new KS2 TA, Mrs Calvert:

Hello, my name is Cathy Calvert. I am so happy to have joined you all at Hexton School as Teaching Assistant to Oak Class. I first trained (nearly 40 years ago) as a Nursery Nurse and have enjoyed working in many different roles within primary schools ever since. I live with my husband and my dog Tommy. Tommy is a Wire Haired Fox Terrier, he is very friendly and loves taking us for long walks. We have five grown up children and five (soon to be seven) grandchildren. I enjoy gardening, travelling and spending as much time as possible with our large family. I look forward to meeting you all.

Bank Holiday

As I am sure you are aware, Monday has been declared a bank holiday, as a mark of respect to HRH Queen Elizabeth II on the day of her funeral. School will be **closed on Monday**. We will be open as normal on Tuesday morning.



The SENCo coffee morning (originally planned for 19th) will now take place on **Monday 26th September** from **9:30-11:00 a.m.**

School communication

Over the next term, you will see some changes being made to the school website. It is my intention that we will use this alongside the weekly newsletters and our social media pages to give you as much information as we can about your child/ren's education. Please do visit the website here: <https://www.hexton.herts.sch.uk/>. All of the dates from the newsletter have been added into the calendar, with further changes to come! I would welcome any feedback about what information would be useful or any changes that you noticed so far.



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