

## Headteacher's message

On Monday this week, we started the week by learning about Burns Night in assembly. The children looked at traditional Scottish poetry compared to English versions, heard about the traditions of Burns Night and listened to bagpipe music.

On Tuesday, I visited English lessons. I saw how teachers differentiate their lessons so that all children have access to their year group's accurate pitch. Children take part in their lessons more actively, practising sentences using new grammar they have been taught using the texts they have been studying, 'The Gruffalo' in Acorn, 'The Secret of Black Rock' in Y3/4 and 'The Arrival' in Y6. We have some adaptations to practice planned for later in the term to help children to internalise story language, but for now it is great to see children enjoying exciting texts and practicing skills which will enable them to improve their independent writing.

In Acorn class this week, children painted and described their Gruffalo-style monsters. They have also decorated their foster homes. In Oak class, children have started their science work on forces and magnets and have a lovely display in progress.

Over the last three weeks, the teaching staff have had training in 'STEPS,' a therapeutic behaviour approach. Our new behaviour policy will be up on the website this afternoon for you to read. I hope that this will help your children to feel happier and better understood during their time with us.

## This week's letters

Milk letter, NEU strikes letter, tennis club letter, holiday camp leaflets, Uplay sports leaflet.

### **Dates**

#### \* £1 donation optional

| Dates                                   | LI donation optional             |
|---|----------------------------------|
| Date                                    | Event                            |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Feb   | Children's mental health week    |
| Tue 7 <sup>th</sup> Feb                 | Safer Internet Day               |
| Fri 10 <sup>th</sup> Feb                | HPA Valentine's Disco 3:15-5:15  |
| 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>    | Book week                        |
| Mar                                     |                                  |
| Sat 29 <sup>th</sup> Apr                | Spring Fayre 12-3                |
| 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*                    |
| Fri 24 <sup>th</sup> Mar                | Reports out to parents           |
| Mon 27 <sup>th</sup> and                | Parents' Evenings time TBC       |
| Tue 28 <sup>th</sup> Mar                |                                  |
| Thu 30 <sup>th</sup> Mar                | Sponsored walk & Easter Egg Hunt |
| 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)            |
| Sat 27 <sup>th</sup> May                | HPA ball TBC                     |
| Sat 10 <sup>th</sup> Jun                | HPA Mad Hatter's Tea Party TBC   |

## Survey monkey feedback

We are always keen to receive constructive feedback at Hexton to ensure that we are not only providing a high standard of education, but also that our families and children are happy with school provision. With this in mind, please take two minutes to complete this survey (100% anonymous):

https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/NWDVF3P

If you prefer, a paper copy can be made available for you to fill in and return. Your feedback will help us to continue to make improvements in how we communicate with you and where we focus our attention over the next year or so.



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: Nancy, Ben Oak class: Jack, Lillie

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

#### 100% Attendance

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

Ayla, Ed, Oliver, Finley, Freddie, Nancy, Isla, Lily, Joe, Carter, Clark, Eliza, Iris, Hannah, Hugo, Lillie, Roman, Ben.

Whole school attendance this week: 96.7%

#### **TT Rock Stars**

We are starting to celebrate children's achievements on TT Rock Stars and NumBots with certificates in our golden ticket assemblies on a Friday. Children will be rewarded for achieving the most minutes or for excellent progress. If they do not have regular access at home, laptops will be made available in all school clubs to enable them extra practice.

## **Weekly Sports Star**

Congratulations to our sports stars:

Acorn: Ben Oak: Finley



Both showed some of the Hex 6Rs in their PE lessons this week. Mr Miah has been very impressed with Hexton pupils since starting with us this term.

### **House Points**

Each week children collect house points in school. Our target is 750. The total number collected so far this term is **612!** Only 138 to go until a whole school reward...

### **Enrichment**

So far this year, Oak class have had weekly drama lessons and sessions with Daryl from SFCF. From after half term, Acorn class will begin their weekly drama sessions and they will also have a session with Daryl every week. This means that over the space of the year, all children have had access to the drama and SFCF sessions. Over the next few weeks, I am putting together some information which I intend to share with you after half term on the school's enrichment, to outline this provision for you in more detail.

# A week in photos





Examples of Acorn class's Gruffalo-style stories and foster homes (left).

Examples of Oak class's science (right), which are both beautifully presented.

Below: we are replacing our 'Zones of Regulation' displays with feelings displays as part of our new behaviour policy.









Mighty oaks from little acorns grow...

