



<https://haddenhaminfant.eschools.co.uk/website>

Newsletter no.2 – 7th December 2018

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

School News

This is our last newsletter for 2018. We are at the beginning of the festive season and the children are becoming very excited! The children are looking forward to performing our Christmas Concert, 'Children of The World' to you.

Please remember to come to our Christmas Bazaar next Friday, 14th December, where there will be Santa's Grotto, Christmas crafts, private stalls, refreshments, Christmas present tombola and much more.

Christmas Card Post Box

It is looking a lot like Christmas in school now with our beautifully decorated tree in the hall and main reception. Our Christmas post box has been put out in the shared area ready for the children to post their Christmas cards into. Please can you ensure that the children write the full name and class of the person they are sending their card to on the envelope. Thank you.

Morning Bell

In the morning the Y1 and Y2 children (and YR after Christmas) line up in their classes after the bell has gone at 8.50am and are led into school through the rear door. Please can we ask that if you arrive after the lines have left the playground to bring your child into school through the main front door.

Attendance

As a statutory requirement we monitor every child's attendance. We would like to let you know that if a child's attendance has fallen below 90% we are required to write to you. 95% attendance or below is a cause for concern.

We would like to remind you that it is important that children come to school regularly and on time. Children are not permitted time off school to go on trips, shopping or holidays. If parents do request time off for such events they will be unauthorised by the school.

We are committed to offering children the best start to their school life. Promoting regular attendance is part of this commitment. We are confident you will support our efforts.

Diary Dates:

Fri 7th Dec—Mufti Day (bring a gift for the Christmas Bazaar); PTA Film Night

Tues 11th Dec—Christmas Concert @ 9.30am

Weds 12th Dec—Christmas Concert @ 9.30am

Fri 14th Dec—Christmas Bazaar 3.30-5.00pm

Mon 17th Dec—Cinderella (Chaplins Theatre)

Tues 18th Dec—Christingle @ 9.15am

Weds 19th Dec—Christmas Party (children to wear party clothes); End of Term; PTA Hot Dog Friday

Weds 2nd—4th Jan—Inset Days

Mon 7th Jan —Term Begins @ 8.50am

Fri 8th Feb—PTA Valentine's Disco

Mon 11th Feb—HASSP Dance Festival (details to follow)

Tues—12th Feb—HASSP Dance Festival (details to follow)

Fri 15th Feb—Term Ends; PTA Hot Dog Friday

Mon 18th—Fri 22nd Feb—Half Term

Mon 25th Feb—Term Begins @ 8.50am

Mon 4th Mar—HASSP Rugby Event (details to follow)

Tues 12th Mar—Y1 Palaeontologist Visit

Fri 15th Mar—Red Nose Day

Tues 19th Mar—Curriculum Governor Mtg

Weds 20th Mar—Formal Governing Body Mtg



News, Views and Celebrations

Christmas Bazaar-Friday 14th December, 3.30-5.00pm

Please come along to our Christmas Bazaar. There will be a Santa's grotto, craft stalls, refreshments, Christmas present tombola and so much more! *Please invite your family and friends.*

Tables for Hire—£10 (Please contact the school office if you would like a table)

Raffle Prizes Needed— If you have a business or work for a company and would be able to donate a raffle prize we would be very grateful. Any donations of non perishable items would be greatly appreciated.

Mix 96 Toy Appeal

Thank you very much for kindly donating a children's gift for the Mix 96 Appeal. The children enjoyed placing their present under the tree at the special assembly on Monday.

We will be taking the presents to the collection point at Haddenham Garden Centre next Thursday. If you have not donated a present but would like to please bring your wrapped present, stating if it is for a boy or girl on it, by Wednesday 13th December for your child to place it under the tree.

Clubs

Our clubs will start again the first Tuesday 8th and Thursday 10th January that we return to school in the New Year. Next term we will be continuing with Football Club and introducing Games Club. Here is a description of both clubs. If your child would like to join either of these please sign them up to the sessions via the Schoolgateway. Please select Clubs in the Schoolgateway and book your sessions here.

Sports Factor Football Club (Tuesday After School)

This after school football session is designed for boys and girls aged 4 to 7. Children will practice and develop key skills such as passing, dribbling and turning as well as to improve confidence, social skills and teamwork. A 'world cup themed tournament' will be held at the last club of each half term. There is also a certificate presentation at the end of term for each child that attends. Football club is held outside on Haddenham playing fields. In the event of heavy rain or snow, alternative activities will be put on indoors.

Sports Factor Games Club (Thursday After School)

Lots of fun and games for boys and girls in reception, year 1 + 2. Children will learn and participate in a variety of different sports and games. Games on offer include:

- Dodge ball
- Bench ball
- Parachute games
- Cross the river
- Multi-Skills
- Dance games with our party speaker!

Plus much, much more! Every child that attends games club will receive a certificate at the end of term. *In the event of bad weather, most games activities will be held indoors.*



News, Views and Celebrations

Parent Forum

Thank you for all your feedback and comments shared at the Parents Forum held on 6th December. It is imperative to us that we listen and respond to suggestions from yourselves to help us continually improve your child's education.

Feedback included;

- Star pegs - parents have said they are working well and children have been motivated to earn them and excited to share this with their parents when they go home.
- Trips and visit - parents discussed with positive feedback of the quality so far this year.
- Clubs - Parents questioned how the Ukulele and French club work; the differentiation across the year groups and the content for each half term. We will ask the club organisers to send out a paragraph each half term so parents know and understand what the club will entail for each half term.

We also discussed the attendance of after school clubs which has been less well attended, particularly on Thursday afternoons. Parents who attended the forum thought this was possibly due to swimming and other commitments.

Tennis club was also discussed as the attendance has dwindled this year. The parent forum representatives will be collecting views on tennis club and whether there is still a desire for this lunchtime club and will feedback at the next meeting.

- Homework - The homework in Y2 was discussed and the main feedback was that the level and quantity was appropriate. However, we will look at the run up to Christmas next year when many children in Y2 may have lines to learn as well as homework and tailor this accordingly.

Handwriting homework was discussed as Y1 parents wondered why this was not part of the homework tasks this year. The feedback from last year's Y1 parents was that there was a large volume of homework so we revised the homework needs for Y1 in September. The handwriting it was decided we would not send out to be done as part of the homework cycle because it is taught very specifically and it is harder to "unlearn" formation which may be incorrect.

- Photos/Videeing of the Christmas Play - Parents discussed people videoing the performances which inadvertently blocks other's views of the play. An item in this newsletter requests those who are wishing to video please stand at the back so as not to obscure others' views. Photos, as usual, we will request parents only use these for their own use and not put these on to social media so as to protect other children's privacy and safeguarding (as some children cannot be photographed and displayed).
- Reading books in Y1- Parents feedback that on the whole changing the books on a Monday and Friday was working well, the same procedure as the rest of the school, but there was a request that they could be changed earlier in the week. The changing of books is monitored in school and it therefore relies on helping parents. A request was sent out in a recent letter asking for more help in changing books. So far no one has offered extra help. Please can you contact the school office if this is something you think you would be able to help us with on a Thursday or Friday.
- PE- Feedback from parents was that this was enjoyed by all children and was excellent.



News, Views and Celebrations

Book Bags and Toys in School

Please can we ask that children only attach one key ring to their book bag that will easily fit into their classroom drawer. When there are lots of toys attached to book bags the classroom drawers are unable to close. Children shouldn't bring in any other toys into school unless the teachers have requested them to do so, for example for 'Show and Tell'.

Year 2 Green Dragon Rare Breeds Farm and Eco Centre

On Wednesday 14th November, Year 2 went on a super trip to Green Dragon Eco Farm. Luckily, the sun shone for us and we got to spend lots of time with the animals. We fed the goats and pigs, learnt about what different animals need, discussed life cycles and met some of the interesting reptiles! After lunch we got to play on the equipment and then headed to the new Wildlife Zone. It was a fabulous day and we are very grateful to the helpers who joined us :) Thank you Mrs Magnall, Mrs Mitchell and Mrs Fitton! [Click here](#) to see our photos of the day.

School Travel Plan Christmas Tree—THANK YOU!

Thank you for the lovely Christmas bauble designs that the children made for the School Travel Plan Christmas tree. It looks lovely, [click here](#) to take a look. Please do go and have a look at the Community Christmas Tree Festival and spot your bauble. The festival is from at Haddenham St Mary's Church from Friday 7th to Sunday 9th December.

The libraries in each of the schools in Haddenham have also got together to create a library tree at the festival. The children have all created a bauble by designing a cover of their favourite book to hang on the library tree.

WASPS—Casual Play Workers Vacancies

We are looking for Casual Play Workers to work in WASPS. If you are interested or know someone who is please contact Tasha Alleyne at wasps@haddenhaminfant.bucks.sch.uk.

Governor Website

We have updated our website to include information about our new Governors. Please take a look to read their biographies. [Click here.](#)



News, Views and Celebrations

'Maths Puzzler' and 'Maths Surgery' - For Years 1 and 2

Here is our 'Maths Puzzler' page for this month that includes optional puzzles (not homework) for you to solve with your child.

We are holding a 'Maths Surgery' during every 'drop in' for our Year 1 and Year 2 children. This will give you the opportunity to ask class teachers questions or for support in maths areas or homework that your child has found tricky. The 'Maths Puzzler' will can also be found on our school website , [Maths Puzzler](#).



Our Learning Warriors this last month are:

Reception: Penny Cowle, Brodie Ehrenreich, Amelia Arkin, Pippa Johnson, Ethan Fletcher, Gabriella Garraway, Ellie Maltby, Charlie Gruar.



Year 1: Sophie Jinks, George Holmes, Ella Packham, Gabriel Bewick, Poppy Hill, Angus McDonald, Niamh Richardson, Finley Garman.

Year 2: Fintan Barr, Martha Wyatt, Kaiden Emery, Erica Craig, Joe Kelloway, Lily Corbett, Sam

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink.

Lucy McNeil