



Hamsey Community Primary School

Newsletter

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the new academic year

Our children have all enjoyed being in their new classes and have already settled back into school. A particular welcome is extended to the new children in Hedgehogs class - Leo, Vincent, Casey, Eden, Albert, Henry, Amelie O, Soren, Amelie P, Indha, Joy and Bonnie. We also are delighted to welcome Devon in Badgers class and Mia in Owls class.

Thank you to all the children and parents who have warmly welcomed the new staff to Hamsey. We welcome Mrs Curran to our Support Staff team; she will be working as a Teaching Assistant in Hedgehogs. We also welcome Mrs Pryor as our Inclusion Manager. She will be at Hamsey on Thursday and Friday afternoons.

I would also like to personally thank you for making me feel so welcome in your school community during my first week at Hamsey. Please come and say hello to me on the playground if you have not managed to yet.

Mr James, Executive Headteacher, will be available in school at the following times:

- Monday afternoon
- Thursday morning
- Friday morning

At all other times, please feel free to contact either myself or Mr Wright, or alternatively, book an appointment in the office.

School environment

We are extremely fortunate to have such spacious school grounds. To maximise outdoor learning and play opportunities, please ensure your child brings a pair of named wellies into school together with a suitable outdoor coat to be placed on their pegs.

Take One Dahl!

To celebrate what would have been Roald Dahl's 100th Birthday, each class is taking part in an exciting Dahl themed learning journey to start this new school year. These are the first experiences that have been planned across the federation and we are excited about this collaboration.

We will be celebrating Roald Dahl's birthday on Tuesday 13th September with a 'Dahlicious Dress Up Day'. Please can your child come into school wearing something yellow, which was Roald Dahl's favourite colour.

Dates for your diary!

Please note these dates are not exhaustive and can be subject to change.

September 2016	
Tuesday 13 th	Dahlicious Dress Up Day
Tuesday 20 th (6.30pm)	Chailey Open Evening (Year 6)
Thursday 22 nd (6pm-9pm)	Priory Open Evening (Year 6)
October 2016	
Monday 3 rd (2pm)	Harvest Festival at Offham Church
Friday 7 th (1.30pm-3pm)	Celebration of Roald Dahl Open Classes
Thursday 20 th	End of Term One
Friday 21 st	INSET Day
Monday 31 st	Start of Term Two
November 2016	
Tuesday 15 th (5pm-7pm)	Parents Meetings with Teachers
Wednesday 16 th (4pm-6pm)	
Thursday 17 th	Individual and Family Photographs
December 2016	
Wednesday 14 th	KSI Christmas Performance (am)
	KS2 Carol Concert (pm)
Wednesday 21 st	End of Term Two

Volunteer Helpers

We welcome parents to volunteer in classes to hear children read. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer helper, please contact the Office to register your details for a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check to be completed.

Eligibility for Free School Meals

All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are currently entitled to free school meals.

Your child may be entitled to free school meals for all their time at Primary School.

If you are in receipt of Income Support, Income-based Jobseekers Allowance, Income related Employment and Support Allowance or some other forms of support, your child may be entitled to free school meals throughout primary school and possibly beyond.

If your child does qualify, they also receive Pupil Premium funding for at least 6 years. This funding is used to support children's learning and help towards the cost of, for example, school uniform, after school clubs and school trips. If you would like to apply for these 'long-term' free school meals you just need to complete a form that is available from the school office.

If you qualify, please contact the office by TUESDAY 20th SEPTEMBER so we can register this information in time.

Remember, if you are in receipt of benefits, you need to register for free school meals, even if your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 to ensure they receive free meals beyond Year 2, and also for your child to receive the pupil premium funding.

Administration of medicines in school

Our school policy states that we should only administer medicines to children if they are prescribed by a doctor and need to be taken at intervals that include the school day e.g. some antibiotics.

We are not allowed to administer medicines such as cough mixture, Calpol, Junior Nurofen etc. but you are welcome to come to school to administer a dose during the day.

This guidance does not apply to asthma inhalers or prescribed 'emergency medicines' but does include any homeopathic medicines. Please contact the office if you are unsure.

Breakfast Club

Mrs Whitehorn will be running Hamsey's Breakfast Club from Monday 12th September 8.00am-8.30am. Each session costs £2.00 which can be paid for on the day. A choice of breakfast will be on offer (toast or cereal) together with a drink.

School Gate

To ensure the safety of your children the school site is kept securely locked during the school day. The side gate for children coming to and leaving school will be open at the following times:

Morning: 8.30 to 8.45 a.m.

Afternoon: 3.00 to 3.20 p.m.

After school clubs will be starting on 19th September (further details to follow). These usually run until 4pm unless stated.

Consent Forms

Throughout the year the children make visits to local schools, walk to Beechwood Hall and other parts of local area and visit Lewes for swimming or other activities.

We will send one form for you to sign giving consent to travel to these venues and take part in the activities, which means you don't have to keep returning forms. We will of course keep you informed of when children will be going 'off-site' and, no doubt, be asking for assistance with transport from time to time.

This form also has permission for internet use and the use of photographs which will also need completing.

End of Day Arrangements

If your child is in Owls (Years 5 and 6) and is to walk themselves home, or is catching a bus at the end of the day, could you please complete a form in the office.

If your child is to be collected by someone other than yourself, could you please notify the office, in person or in writing, of who will be collecting your child. Teachers will not release your child to an unauthorised person, as we have a duty to safeguard your children until they are in your care or that of an authorised person.

On a final note, the staff at Hamsey are really looking forward to an exciting year full of incredible learning experiences. We are looking forward to moving forward within the new federation with your ongoing support.

Best wishes,



Gemma Roxburgh
Head of School



Stewart James
Executive Head