

Head Talk

Welcome back to the second half of the Autumn Term. Over the holidays we had a number of improvements take place across the school. Some of these I have tweeted! The new floor in Year R looks great and the new drop bolt for the gate on Constantine Road is lovely too. The wisteria was trimmed and we have removed the rotten stage backing from the junior playground too. Mr Williams was very busy. He removed and refurbished the Year R toilets and also painted one of the Year R classrooms. This term is very busy. Do keep an eye on the website for updates. Have a good week.

New School Website

We very proudly launched our new website on the last day of term. Please do have an exploration of it. If there are improvements that you think that can be made to the information on the site, please do jot us an email or catch me in the playground. The search bar on the website's front page is very useful if you can't find something you need. We are also aiming to put copies of the letters that we send home on the site so if your child misplaces them on the way home you can print your own copy. Our web address is www.hamiltonprimary.com You can also reach the site from our old address as this is redirecting to our new site. We have a calendar on the new site which contains useful dates and up and coming events. Do keep a watch on it.

EACH

This year the school council has voted to raise money for the East Anglian Children's Hospice (EACH). A representative from EACH visited the school on Wednesday this week to let the children know what they do and how they use money that has been raised for them. The school is planning a massive sponsored circuit training event this month. Sponsor forms will be coming home. I would love for the school to raise some money for this very worthy charity. Please do give generously. As Hamilton chooses a charity for the year we tend not to raise money for other charities during the year.

Learning Conferences

Next week will see the start of our Learning Conferences. Parents will have booked appointments via the Parentmail App and you will have your time slot logged on the App. You will receive a reminder from Parentmail before the date of your appointment at school. This year there will be a bell ringing every 15 minutes to signify the end of the appointment. Please do end your meeting promptly as it allows for the next family to see their child's teacher.

Year 2 trip to Ipswich Transport Museum

Last half term, both Year 2 classes separately visited the Ipswich Transport Museum. They were not only excited about the coach trip itself but by the

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fascinating variety of transport the museum had to offer. We were shown around the buses, trams, bicycles, emergency vehicles and even electric vehicles; many of which had been beautifully renovated by volunteers. The children also got a chance to sketch certain vehicles and answer quiz questions with their groups.

'I liked it when we went on the tram and the seats changed direction so we could face the direction that the tram is going.'
Harry 2SMR



'I liked getting on the bus because we got a ticket.'
Isabella 2JG/LE

Many thanks to the parent helpers for their support over the two days.

Year 1 History of Toy Day

On Tuesday 18th October the children from Year One took part in a Toy Day. We were visited by the History Off the Page Company who ran an exciting day of activities in the upstairs hall. The children got to look at and play with a wide variety of old-fashioned toys including dolls, board games, puppets, vehicles, early construction toys etc. They learned about the kind of materials used to make old toys compared to those used to make modern ones. The children also took part in an "archaeological dig" discovering parts of toys and discussing what they might be. In the afternoon the children made their own toys. We all had a wonderful and stimulating day and the children learned a lot. A big thank you to all our parent helpers.

Year 6—Moot Hall Organ Recital

All of Year 6 went to the Moot Hall to listen to some organ music. We listened to ten different pieces of music inspired by the BBC school initiative "Ten Pieces". The organ was played by Gillian Ward Russel an organ recitalist.

Our favourite piece of music was the Pink Panther. It was phenomenal to listen to and we all had an amazing experience.
Isabelle & Chris

The music was inspiring and Year 6 will have this memory forever. The end piece of music was my favourite. (Nun Danket alle Gott by Sigfried Karg-Elert) The ten

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pieces were intriguing and a treat to listen to. At the end we each had a turn to play the organ. We all had a wonderful experience and the lady at the Moot Hall said, "We were a pleasure to have!"

Ella & Max

It was a fascinating and inspirational trip. My favourite piece was "Trumpet in D Major" which made the organ sound exactly like a trumpet!

Alec

PSA Cake Sale

A reminder that we will be holding our ever popular cake sale on Friday 11th November after school in the Infant playground. Thank you in advance to Years 1, 3 & 6 who will be providing their baked goods for this term's sale.

Please bring in any cakes that morning and put in the Infant library. If there is anyone able to help with setting up (from 2.50pm) or able to man the stall please contact Helen Moore—07798 737635. Your support will be gratefully received.

Nurse drop in session

The next drop in session to see the Health Improvement Practitioner will be on Tuesday 8th November at 2.45—3.30pm in the Infant library.

SATs info evening

I would like to let Year 6 parents know that we will be having an information evening providing you with the opportunity to see the types of questions

your children will be answering in the national assessments in May next year. It will also be an opportunity for you to ask any questions that you have.

The evening will take place on Wednesday 23rd November at 7pm. It should last about an hour and will be in Miss Keitch's classroom.

PSA—Christmas Cards

Just a reminder that all orders for the Christmas Cards must be back to school by **3.15pm on the 9th November** at the latest.

Pupil News

Thank you very much to Katie Bunyan, Erin Pomery, Annie Ashdown and Annika Jones for holding a Bake Sale in September and donating some of the proceeds to the school charity EACH.

Josefine Bäckman-Juliff (4SR) & Annella Mayne (3ND) competed in a Scottish Highland Dance in Woodford Green in September. It was a very hard competition. Both girls were in the 7-15 year old category with 11 competitors. JJ gained 4 medals, 1 silver, 2 fourth & 1 fifth. Annella did very well and came close to medal position. Both girls danced 7 dances and 3 of those were very new to the girls.

Data Collection Sheets

Thank you very much to the parents who have returned the data collection sheets.

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We are still awaiting some to be returned. Could these be returned asap to the school office so we can be sure we have the correct telephone numbers etc. for parents.

PSA Meeting

The next PSA meeting is on Thursday 17th November at 7.30pm in the school staffroom. Please feel free to pop along to find out how you can help raise money for your children. Any new (and old) faces will be warmly welcomed!

Halloween Pumpkin Ball

A huge thank you goes out to Samantha Parker and the army of volunteers who helped make this event such a huge success. We raised an unprecedented £1,000 and the children had a spooktacular time! Everyone put in such a lot of effort with their costumes and there were some incredible pumpkins. Congratulations to Florence Winter, Daisy Gordon, Aris Pralea, Yarrina Poianna-Lazarec and Bea Elphick who won prizes on the night.

Topic Overviews

Please find attached topic overviews for this term for your child.

Calendar Dates

Autumn Term 2016

Wednesday 9 th & Thursday 10 th November	Learning Conference
Friday 11 th November 2016	Foundation Autumn Walk, 9.00 – 10.30 am
Monday 14 th & Tuesday 15 th November	Learning Conference
Thursday 17 th November 2016	Year 4 Roman Day
Monday 21 st November 2016	Break the School Rules Day!!
Monday 28 th November 2016	Year 6 to watch Cinderella at Philip Morant
Wednesday 30 th November 2016	Influenza Vaccine Day (forms to follow)
Monday 5 th December 2016	Year 5 trip to Royal Observatory, London
Wednesday 14 th & Thursday 15 th December	KS1 – Carol Concert
Monday 19 th & Tuesday 20 th December	KS2 – Carol Concert
Wednesday 21 st December 2016	Last day of term for pupils

Spring Term 2017

Thursday 5 th January 2017	First day of term for pupils
Mon 13 th February – Fri 17 th February	Half Term
Friday 31 st March 2017	Last day of term for pupils

Email Information

If contacting the school via email please use the parents@hamilton.essex.sch.uk address.