

Head Talk

Welcome back to the second part of the Autumn Term. I do hope that you had a restful break and got to do some fun things. This part of the term tends to be very busy. We have a new event in the shape of the PSA Christmas Market taking place on Saturday 25th November, between 2pm and 4pm. Please do come along to support the school. It will be great fun! We also have our Learning Conferences taking place from the 14th—16th November. You should have been able to book your slot via parentmail. These are a great opportunity for you to chat with your child's class teacher and discuss current progress and expected outcomes for the year. We also have the Infant Nativity taking place at Christ Church on the 13th and 14th of December and the Key Stage 2 Carol Service taking place on the 18th and 19th of December. The school Christmas lunch will be taking place on the 13th of December. We will be encouraging everyone to wear a Christmas Jumper for the day. This week the Year 5 and 6 children have taken part in the 'Show Racism The Red Card' training. They had a great day and learnt lots of new things. This links brilliantly with the Core Values of the school and our British Values. Year 2 have a Great Fire of London Day next week.

Do keep an eye on the school website and the calendar on our home page. This is constantly updated and shows our up and coming events.

And just a reminder to finish: There are only 52 shopping days until Christmas!!!!

Harvest Thanks

The Salvation Army were very grateful for the food gifts from the school. In the end they took just under 10 banana boxes of food away to support the people who turn up on the Salvation Army door asking for support. Thank you to everyone who contributed.

Parking

I would like to remind parents that the zigzag lines outside of the school on Constantine Road **are not a drop off zone**. It is illegal to stop on the markings during the times advertised on the signs. By parking on the lines you are putting children's and parents lives at risk. I must also advise parents that there is a 20 mph speed limit on Hamilton and Constantine Road. It is almost impossible to drive over this limit during the end of the school day, due to the traffic in the roads, but after school has finished cars are travelling down the road breaking the limit. We still have a number of children on the school site until 5.45pm. Please do obey the signed limits of the road.

Year 6 Assembly

Year 6 will be holding an assembly for parents on Friday 10th November 2017 at 1.30pm in the KS2 Hall.

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Healthy vs Non Healthy Packed Lunches

It has come to the attention of the lunch time staff that packed lunches are containing increasingly unhealthy foods. Whilst we are happy for children to have one 'treat' item, such as a cake or a chocolate bar in their packed lunches, we would like to remind you of the importance of a healthy lunch for your child's health. It is very difficult for children to concentrate during the afternoons if they have had too much sugar, due to the fact that their bodies will have a sugar 'rush' and after that follows a sugar 'crash'. This causes them to feel lethargic and therefore they are unable to function at their optimum.

Below is a link to a website with some more information and some ideas for healthy packed lunches.

<http://www.childrensfoodtrust.org.uk/childrens-food-trust/parents/your-childs-food-at-school/packed-lunches/what-to-put-in-a-lunchbox/>

PSA—Christmas Cards

The PSA are organising Christmas cards designed by the children again this year. You should have received your child's design home this week.

If you wish to place an order then you must return the design making sure it has your child's name on the back with the money to the Class Teacher by **Friday 10th November at the latest.**

PSA—Halloween Disco

The Halloween Disco was another roaring success, with Samantha Parker at the helm. She did an fantastic job organising the event again, raising an incredible £1,282.86—an increase in profit of £275 from last year! A huge thank you for all the generous food donations and a special thank you to all the parents and teachers who gave their valuable time before, during and after the event. Congratulations go to Joel Waites in Year 2, Arthur in Year 1, Thom Rayne's in Year 3 and Scarlett Richie in Year 3 for best pumpkins. To Freya Weaver and Sonny McDonald in Year 1, Jude Collins in Year 5 and Penny Evans in Year 4 for their amazing costumes. Florence Winter and Matthew Evans both in Year 2, Ethan Fennell in Year 4 and Poppy Hughes in Year 3 won prizes for their groovy moves.

PSA—Christmas Market

We are very busy organising the Christmas Market for you and your family to enjoy but are sad to say that we have only received 10 reply slips out of 420. We cannot run a smooth event without the volunteers, and it will have to be cancelled unless more people come forward to offer their help. There are still lots of jobs available, including some small ones that require half an hour of your time. Please, please return your slip ASAP to the PSA letterbox in the foyer. If you have lost yours, spares are located in the office. Alternatively, you can reach us on hamiltonpsa@gmail.com.

Calendar Dates

| Autumn Term 2017 | |
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| Tuesday 7 th November 2017 | Year 5—Space Morning |
| Wednesday 8 th November 2017 | Year 2—Great Fire of London Day |
| Friday 10 th November 2017 | Year 6 Assembly—1.30pm in KS2 Hall |
| Monday 13 th —17 th November 2017 | Learning Conference Week |
| Friday 24 th November 2017 | September 2018 Open Afternoon—1.30pm |
| Saturday 25 th November 2017 | PSA Christmas Market 2–4pm |
| Monday 4 th December 2017 | September 2018 Open Afternoon—1.30pm |
| Friday 8 th December 2017 | Foundation—Christmas Bauble Workshop |
| Wednesday 13 th December 2017 | Christmas Dinner—Wear a Christmas Jumper |
| Wednesday 13 th December 2017 | Infant Nativity |
| Thursday 14 th December 2017 | Infant Nativity |
| Monday 18 th December 2017 | KS2 Carol Service |
| Tuesday 19 th December 2017 | KS2 Carol Service |
| Wednesday 20 th December 2017 | Last Day of Term |

Spring Term 2018

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| Tuesday 2 nd January 2018 | First Day of Term |
| Monday 15 th —Friday 19 th January 2018 | Book Fair after school |
| Monday 12 th —Friday 16 th February 2018 | Half Term |
| Thursday 22 nd February 2018 | Individual Pupil Photos |
| Thursday 29 th March 2018 | Last Day of Term |

Email Information

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