



Hamsey Community Primary School

Newsletter

Executive Headteacher: Stewart James
 Advisory Headteacher: Caitlin Yapp
 Deputy Head(s) of School: Matt Dean; Rea Hamilton

office@hamsey.e-sussex.sch.uk
<http://www.hamsey.e-sussex.sch.uk/website>

Address: Cooksbridge, Lewes, East Sussex, BN8 4SJ
 Tel: 01273 400370 Fax: 01273 400370

Dear Parents and Carers,

Term 2 is nearly at the end of its second week and we have been busy. There are lots of events planned over the next few weeks as you will see from our date list and the details below.

Anti-Bullying Week

Next week, the week beginning Monday 12th November, is Anti-Bullying Week. This year's theme for this national event is **Choose Respect**. We will be launching our Anti-Bullying Week at Hamsey with **Odd Socks Day** on Monday. Our children are welcome to wear their funkiest, most colourful, eye-catching socks-but they must be odd! Next week is about standing out and respecting differences. There is no cost for wearing odd socks; we look forward to seeing some fabulous footwear.

The National Anti-Bullying Alliance wants children all over the UK to think about how their behaviour is their choice. We want our Hamsey pupils to set a positive example by opting to respect each other at school, in their homes and communities, and online. Throughout the week we will be talking about the definition of respect, helping our children to understand that we can respectfully disagree with each other, and that we all need to respect each other, both face to face and online.

Tuesday 13th November is **World Kindness Day**, Thursday 15th November is **Stop, Speak, Support Day** (focussed on stopping cyberbullying) and, of course, Friday 16th November is the BBC's **Children in Need Day**. We will be celebrating Children in Need Day with a non-uniform day. We are encouraging the children to stand out with what they wear on this day, with a donation of £1 to support the Children in Need charity. Patterns, dots and stripes are all welcome; we want you to really stand out!

Our school takes bullying seriously throughout the year and we will continue to work on initiatives with the children in our Personal, Social and Health Education sessions.

Flu Vaccination

The children's flu vaccine is offered as a yearly nasal spray to young children by the NHS. In the autumn/winter of 2018/2019 the NHS is offering this vaccine for children in Reception and in Years 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5. The vaccine will be offered at Hamsey on **Friday 9th November in the afternoon**. You will already

Breakfast Club

Hamsey's Breakfast Club is open daily from 7.45am-8.30am. To attend, there is a cost of £3.00 for 7.45-8.30am and £2.00 for 8.00-8.30am. This can be paid for in advance or on the day. There is a discount for siblings of 50p per session. A choice of breakfast will be on offer (toast or cereal) together with a drink. We are looking for table top games that are quick to play for our Breakfast Club. If you have any games to donate we would be extremely grateful. Please contact Mrs Whitehorn.

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 3.15 p.m.

Please ensure that your child is in school promptly and, at the latest, **by 8.45am**. We place great importance on good punctuality here at Hamsey and are pleased with the improvements we have seen over the past year. We are hoping that this year will be even better with the support of our parents and carers.

Car Parking around our School

Please park considerately and safely when you are dropping off your child in the morning or collecting them at the end of the school day. We would ask that parents **do not** drive onto the school site at the beginning or end of the school day (from 8.30am-8.45am, and from 3.00pm-3.15pm). We understand that space is at a premium in and around the school at peak times but it is important that parents and children are able to access the site safely.

Coats and Shoes

The weather is becoming colder and wetter. Please ensure that your child has a coat to wear when they are outside for playtimes and lunchtimes. Also, please ensure that their shoes are appropriate for winter conditions. We want our children dressed appropriately for the weather and the activities that they are doing.

have received information about this and have been asked to return your consent forms to the School Office.

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 form 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.

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.

Attendance at Hamsey

Attendance matters at Hamsey; we want our children in school every day. As a school we are working hard to improve the education of our children. Attendance is a major factor that affects the attainment and progress that our pupils make. Regular attendance supports their well-being, too. Our attendance target is 96%; currently our overall attendance is 94.7%. Attendance in Hedgehog Class is 97.5%, Foxes are at 95.7%, Badgers are at 95.0% and Owl Class is at 92.0%. We have had a very clear message from the Local Authority that we need to improve our attendance.

Writing at Hamsey

Writing remains a key area of focus for us at Hamsey School. We are working with a Senior Leader from another East Sussex school on a research project at the moment and she is interested in finding out the thoughts of your children and you about writing. Your child will bring home a questionnaire (there is one for Key Stage One pupils, and one for Key Stage Two), and we would really appreciate it if you could complete this and return it to the School Office. Your thoughts and feedback are important to us. If you could return these by Wednesday 14th November that would be much appreciated.

Dates for your diary!

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

November 2018	
Thursday 8 th	Our School Book Fair begins
Friday 9 th	Flu Vaccination
Monday 12 th	Anti-Bullying Week begins; Odd Sock Day
Wednesday 14 th	Year 5/ 6 Netball Tournament at Chailey School
Friday 16 th	Children in Need; non-uniform day!
Tuesday 20 th	Open Morning for prospective Reception Parents (for September 2019) Tree Planting at Beechwood Hall
Wednesday 21 st	Badgers Class Assembly – 9am
Tuesday 27 th	Open Morning for prospective Reception Parents (for September 2019)
Friday 30 th	Badgers visit to Gold Property Development.
December 2017	
Tuesday 4 th	KSI Dress Rehearsal @ Beechwood Hall
Wednesday 5 th	Fox Class and Hedgehog Class Christmas Performance
Wednesday 12 th	Dance Assembly – 9am Y6 to see Chailey Performance. Y4 Science Workshop @ Cumnor House.
Thursday 13 th	Children's Christmas lunch (tbc)
Tuesday 18 th	Badger Class and Owl Class Christmas Performance
Wednesday 19 th	Last day of Term 2
January 2019	
Thursday 3 rd	Term 3 begins

PTA Events

Thank you to our PTA team for the recent events that they have organized. The Halloween Party was enjoyed by everyone and there were some fantastic-and scary!-costumes seen. They are planning more enjoyable activities during the school year; their support and commitment really make a difference for our children.

With best wishes,



Stewart James
Executive Head Teacher