



Hamsey Community Primary School

Newsletter

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

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the new academic year, 2018/2019

We are delighted to welcome you all back to Hamsey for what promises to be an exciting year. Thank you for getting your child(ren) ready for the new term. It has been lovely to see the children settling into their new classes. Our class organisation for this year is as follows:

Hedgehog Class (Year R/Year 1) - Mrs Baker/Miss Finch
Fox Class (Year 2/Year 3) - Mr Dean/Mrs Hamilton
Badger Class (Year 4) - Miss Jarrell
Owl Class (Year 5/Year 6) - Mrs Shinebourne

Thank you to all the children and parents who have warmly welcomed our new staff to Hamsey. We welcome Mrs Shinebourne and Miss Jarrell to our teaching team; we are looking forward to working with them.

Mr James, our Executive Headteacher, will be at Hamsey on Mondays and Tuesdays. Ms Yapp, the Advisory Headteacher, will be at Hamsey on Wednesdays and Thursdays. On Fridays, Ms Shannon, the Skylark Federation SENCO/Inclusion Manager, will be leading the school.

At all other times, please feel free to contact Mr Dean or Mrs Hamilton or, alternatively, book an appointment in the office. Ms Shannon, our SENCO/Inclusion Manager, will be in school on Wednesdays and on Fridays should you wish to book an appointment.

Take One Flight

We have lots of very exciting learning opportunities planned for this new academic year. We are starting this with our whole school learning journey, *Take One Flight*. Each class is taking a different approach to this topic and we are looking forward to seeing their work.

We hope you will join us for our *Take One Flight* Open Afternoon on Wednesday 3rd October at 2.30pm. This is an opportunity to celebrate your child's learning and to see your child's classroom in action.

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 also accept child care vouchers.

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 attendance and 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.

After school clubs will be starting on 17th September (further details to follow).

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.

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 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.

If you qualify, please contact the office by Thursday 4th October 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.

Hamsey Helpfulness

We will be thinking about helping others this year at Hamsey; kindness and collaboration are key values for us. The children will be choosing a charity for their class to support, as well as having the opportunity to fund raise on special days including Children in Need, for example. We have set up an Eco Council and are keen to reduce our plastic usage at Hamsey; how plastic-free can we become...?!

Our children will select their Pupil Governor representatives very soon. These representatives will replace the former School Council. It will be exciting for Hamsey's Pupil Governors to have the chance to work alongside our Skylark Federation Governors this year.

Dates for your diary!

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

September 2018	
From Monday 17th	Clubs start
Monday 17th	Badgers Class Curriculum Meeting 3.10pm
Tuesday 18th	Hedgehogs Class Curriculum Meeting 3.10pm
Wednesday 19th	Foxes Class Curriculum Meeting 3.10pm
Friday 21st	Owls Class Curriculum Meeting 3.10pm
Wednesday 26 th	Visit to the Science Museum in London for Owl Class and Badger Class
October 2018	
Wednesday 3 rd	Take One Flight Open Afternoon from 2.30pm
Tuesday 9th	Harvest Service at Offham (tbc)
Monday 15th	Parent Consultations 3.30-5.30pm
Wednesday 17th	Parent Consultations 4.00-7.00pm
Thursday 18th	INSET DAY
Friday 19th	Last day of Term 1
Monday 29th	Term 2 begins
November 2018	
Tuesday 6th	Individual and family photographs
Wednesday 7th	Owl Class Assembly 9am
Wednesday 21st	Badger Class Assembly 9am
December 2017	
Wednesday 12th	Fox Class and Hedgehog Class Christmas Performance
Thursday 13 th	Children's Christmas lunch (tbc)
Tuesday 18th	Badger Class and Owl Class Christmas Performance
Wednesday 19th	Last day of Term 2
January 2019	
Thursday 3rd	Term 3 begins

With best wishes,

Stewart James
Executive Head