

Newsletter 2

Friday 8th October 2021

Message from Mrs Hopkins:

Dear Families,

It's been a very busy, exciting and happy time back at school! The children are now in great learning routines and I can already see them thriving as I walk around the school each day. We are very much looking forward to sharing with you how your child has settled in at the Parent consultation evenings after half term. More details will be sent out about this nearer the time.

Our Chair of Governors visited this week and had a tour round the school and was very impressed with what she saw. Her summary was that all the children looked very happy, she was blown away by the writing she saw in the Packham Class and commented on how passionate and enthusiastic the staff were. We are very much looking forward to rescheduling our Open Mornings with you as soon as we can so hopefully you can see the same things! We are keeping a close eye on what is happening locally in terms of the COVID19 cases and we will release new dates for this event as soon as we are able.

We also had another visitor in school this week when Mila's Dad, Frazer Clarke came in to show the children his Olympic medal in assembly. The children had a chance for a Q&A and Caitlyn in Year 3 even got to wear the medal! A huge thank you to Frazer for his time - the children were thrilled and I'm not quite sure how I'm going to follow that in next week's assembly!

Please read on to find out about key events and other news.

Very best wishes,

Mrs Hopkins & The Henhurst Ridge Family

Parent Governor: We are looking to extend our governing body and elect an additional parent governor. We currently have William's mum in Year 2, Hannah as a parent governor and now our school is bigger are looking for one more. Please see a job description attached to this email of what this involves and also an application form should you be interested. If you'd like to know more or have a chat about it, please don't hesitate to contact Mrs Hopkins, Mrs Dennis or Hannah Horsewell who'd be happy to talk through what it entails. The deadline for applications is 9am on Wednesday 20th October. Thank you.

Friends of Henhurst meeting on Tuesday 12th October at 6:30pm: We are going ahead with this meeting in person but it will be socially distanced in the school hall. We hope you will come and join us for a chat about some great events we can put on for the children like discos and cinema nights that not only provide fun and enjoyment for the children but also raise funds for the school to buy even more fabulous resources for the children! Hope to see you there!

COVID19: Thank you for all the parents that have been super vigilant and acted quickly if their child has appeared symptomatic getting PCR tests when needed. Your actions have really helped us keep everyone safe and the school operating as usual!

Reading books & Home Learning: Please ensure you are listening to your child read every day, it is so important. Our revised Home Learning policy will be sent home next week with a view to start it after half term. We've tried to get the balance right of practising basic skills whilst also giving a chance for the children to express their creative side!

Road works on Henhurst Hill: It looks like they are nearly finished! Once they are gone, the official start time of school is 8:45am so please do all you can to be here by then.

Parking: Thank you to the vast majority of our parents for parking responsibly and considerately. It really is appreciated by the school, the local residents and the children as you are keeping them safe. Please do not reverse onto residents' drieways to turnaround. This is highly dangerous - it is unlikely that you would see a small child pass behind the car as you reverse so please do not do this. We need to keep all our children safe.

Reception parents' Phonics information session: This is scheduled for Tuesday 12th October at 9:30am via Zoom. Parents should have received a zoom link for this. Please speak to Miss Johal or Miss Crean if you haven't.



Macmillan Coffee morning: Thank you for all those that turned out for our coffee morning a few weeks ago and for all those who donated cakes for the event. A special thanks to Summer's mum for the gorgeous cake she made for the raffle that was won by Ava's mum (we were all very jealous!). The event raised a massive £227 for this amazing charity. Thank you!!

Uniform: Please read the following information and do your best to adhere to it.

Ties are a key part of our uniform, please ensure your child is wearing one each day and that it is labelled in case it comes off. Jewellery is not allowed due to health & safety reasons except one small pair of stud earrings and a watch. The earrings should be removed on PE days or taped over so that it is safe for them to do PE. Nail varnish is not allowed.

PLEASE LABEL ALL ITEMS OF SCHOOL UNIFORM. We have a huge amount of Lost Property already due to names not being put on clothes. Please see the Lost Property box on the playground to reclaim any items you have lost.

Catering: Unfortunately, Chartwells have still been unable to appoint a replacement for Ms Karina's Maternity Leave. However, we are still receiving super support from Christchurch Primary school and their catering team so a massive thank you to them! Again, we have received so many lovely comments about our children's behaviour and manners from them. We therefore are still offering only one main course.

Here is next week's menu:

Day	Menu choice
Monday	Vegetable Pizza
Tuesday	Mac & Cheese
Wednesday	Quorn Roast
Thursday	Veggie Balls in Tomato Pasta
Friday	Fish Fingers and Chips

A fond farewell: As mentioned in an email last week, the lovely Mrs Dennis will be leaving Henhurst at half term. We just wanted to give her a big shout out for all that she has done for us since she joined the school at the very start of its journey. Mrs Dennis - you have been awesome! We're going to miss you so much, make sure you come back and visit us as much as you can! Love the staff and children of Henhurst xx



Upcoming dates for your diary:

Monday 18 th October	Flu Vaccinations	Please contact the Immunisation Team directly on 0300 124 0366 with any queries.
Wednesday 20 th October	School Photographer	More details to follow.
Thursday 21 st October	School Photographer	More details to follow.
Wednesday 3 rd November	Possible Halloween Disco for children	5:30-6:30pm - awaiting confirmation from DJ.
Friday 12 th November	Children in Need day	Children wear their own clothes for £1 for charity.
Tues 23 rd November	Parent Consultations	3-5pm More details on how to book and whether it will be via Teams/person nearer the time.
Thursday 25 th November	Parent Consultations	4-6:30pm More details on how to book and whether it will be via Teams/person nearer the time.
Friday 26 th November	INSET DAY - children not in school	This is a change of date from 19/11, please make a note.
Week beginning 29 th November	Year 2 Phonics Check week	More information at parent meeting on 28/9/21.
Tuesday 14 th December	Attenborough, Thunberg & Silva Class Christmas Performance	9am - we are hoping there will be no restrictions and it will be in the hall.
Wednesday 15 th December	Packham & Kamkwamba Class Christmas Performance	As above.
Wednesday 15 th December	Christmas Dinner day	12pm - children only in the hall.
Thursday 16 th December	Nursery Christmas Performance	9:10am - hopefully there will be no restrictions & it's in the hall!
Friday 17 th December	'Save the Children' Christmas Jumper Day	Wear a Christmas Jumper for £1 to donate to charity.