



Halstead Community Primary School

Otford Lane Halstead Sevenoaks Kent TN14 7EA

Tel/Fax: (01959) 532224

Head Teacher: Leslie Hawkins

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Monday 7th September 2015

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back!

Surprise, surprise! We return to school and the sun pops it's head back out from behind the rain clouds! As the title says, "Welcome back!" The holiday seems to have gone by in a flash but then maybe that's because of making sure that everything is ready for the arrival of Ofsted before Christmas. On that note, here are the notices from me to start the term.

New Intake

We are very pleased to welcome ten new children to the school. They came to assembly this morning and introduced themselves to everyone – so grown-up and brave on their first day! We also welcome the new parents to the school. Don't be afraid to ask anyone, staff or parent, any questions you may have.

Ofsted

At some point between next Tuesday, 15th September, and December 13th, Ofsted will return to make their judgement on us. Before they ring me to let me know they are coming, they will already have done three things; looked at the school's data for the last three years, checked that the website has all of the statutory information on it (along with a little nosing around about the school, I've no doubt!) and looked at Parent View to see what you, the parents, think about the school. Some of you will have registered and passed comment two years ago but they will be looking for more current views of how parents see the school now.

If you wouldn't mind sparing a few minutes to highlight a few boxes sometime between now and the text to say they are visiting, I should greatly appreciate it. The web link is as follows:

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Clubs

Clubs will begin next week and a letter outlining what is on offer will be sent home in the next couple of days.

Pick-Up

Just a quick reminder that Reception and Key Stage 1 children MUST be collected from the playground; staff will not release them to walk along the pavement to meet you outside of the school. Also, if you have a regular arrangement with another parent around collection at the end of the day, or, for Y6, to say your child can walk home, please let the school know **in writing**.



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School Teams

We have had a rethink around the school teams while our numbers remain relatively small. For now! As a staff, we agreed to change to THREE teams, each with 25 or 26 children in. This does not affect the old HEVER children who are still entitled to wear their own clothes this Friday as the winning team for Term 6 last year.

The new teams needed new names and the theme of famous people associated with Kent was chosen. The new team names, with their colours in brackets are as follows: Nesbit (red), Churchill (blue – of course!) and Darwin (green).

A list of who is in which team should be coming home with this letter.

School Uniform

For those of you who have tried to order new uniform on the Tesco website, I appreciate that it has been rather frustrating. I can only apologise on their behalf.

Forthcoming dates

The bulk of these will follow in the official September newsletter but I should like to let you know that we are hoping to hold our Harvest Festival at St. Margaret's Church on Friday 2nd October at 9.30am. We are waiting for confirmation as I type.

Here's looking ahead to a great year at Halstead!

Best wishes,

Leslie Hawkins