



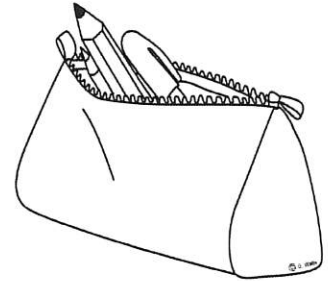
Halstead Community Primary School

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Tuesday 4th September 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

Start OF YEAR NEWSLETTER



Welcome to the new school year! I hope you had a lovely summer. It felt like a proper 'old school' summer with actual sunshine (although the rain came on the day I was pitching a tent!) Here are the important new year notices:

Welcome

At this time of year, we like to welcome our new Reception children. They all had a lovely first morning in Buds both outdoors and in the classroom. We would also like to welcome Luella to Willow class. Welcome to Halstead, all of you.

Staffing

Our three new members of staff are settling in well, having been bombarded with information and policies. Just to remind you, Mrs Prendergast is the new teacher in Saplings, Miss Bensted is working in Saplings with her and Mrs Welsh and Miss Pullen is working in Buds.

Attendance

Attendance remains on our school plan this year following a disappointing year in 2017-18 when the local authority had to come and visit us because of it. Please remember that sickness absences must be reported by phone or email EVERY day that your child is off and remain unauthorised until we have a letter or email following their return that explains the absence.

For all other absences and lateness, please refer to our Attendance Policy which is on the school website (<http://www.halstead.kent.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Attendance-Policy-2018.pdf>) or speak to us for a paper copy.

Roald Dahl Day

This is taking place next Wednesday, 12th September! The £1 donations you bring in for dressing up as a Roald Dahl character or wearing yellow go towards the Roald Dahl foundation supporting specialist children's nurses within communities.

Swimming

Sevenoaks Leisure Centre have allocated us a different time for our swimming sessions this year; 11-12 o'clock. For the ten sessions leading up to Christmas, Oak will be going swimming. Due to the new timings, the returning swimmers will miss the beginning of the lunch service. We are therefore asking that ALL of the class going swimming bring a packed lunch to eat on their return. As always, if

you are entitled to a free school dinner, please let the office know and a packed lunch can be provided by the kitchen.

School Dinners

I am just going to repeat what I wrote in the end of year newsletter:

Just a reminder that dinners must be paid for in advance. We have been lenient about this up until now but the lady who sorts out the dinner money has been subject to abuse over the phone in the last couple of weeks when asking for people to settle debts they have built up. As a result, we shall be sticking strictly to the Principles rules from now on. Please do not be offended if we ring you asking to bring a packed lunch in if you haven't paid by 9.30am (or 9.00am online).

PE Days

Oak and Willow will have PE on Monday (with Oak swimming for most of the weeks this term). Willow MUST bring their PE kit to change into, Oak should come to school in their PE kit when swimming. Saplings will have PE on a Friday. Buds, who do not have the same kind of PE as the rest of the school will need their PE kit on a Wednesday and a Thursday.

The POD

You may already have seen the POD on the playground. It has been funded through the Sports Premium budget as it will enable us to meet some of the trickier criteria that we have to evidence we are using it for. The way it is used will develop over time but to begin with, it can be considered as an electronic notice board. Watch this space...

Uniform

It was lovely to stand at the gate this morning and see all of the children looking smart coming in. Please check the uniform information as there are a few non-uniform items on show. I shall speak to those individuals if they remain beyond this week.

Thank you


I should just like to thank Mrs Dunmall, Adrian Dunmall, Mr Collier and Jim for the extra work they did at school during the holidays. We really appreciate the difference it has made to the school site!

Term dates

Key dates for this coming academic year will be coming on a separate sheet of paper.

Let's have a fantastic new academic year!

Best wishes,



Leslie Hawkins

Diary Dates

05 SEP 2018

2018 – 2019

Term 1	
4.9.18	Term 1 starts for the children
12.9.18	Halstead Roald Dahl Day
18.9.18	Parent phonics, spelling and reading workshop 9:00
25.9.18	Class expectation meetings for parents 3:30-5:00pm
4.10.18	National Poetry Day
5.10.18	Harvest Festival (9.30am at St. Margaret's Church)
8.10.18	Parent Consultations 6:00 – 8:00pm (not Buds)
9.10.18	Parent Consultations 3:30 – 5:00pm (Buds 3:30 – 6:00)
9.10.18	Maths Day
18.10.18	Celebration Assembly and Poetry Recital 9:00am
19.10.18	INSET DAY
Term 2	
29.10.18	Term 2 starts
29.10.18	INSET DAY
13.11.18	NHS Flu Vaccines yrs R, 1, 2, 3 and 4
20.11.18	Open afternoon for prospective parents
12-16.11.18	Anti-bullying week
21.11.18	Open books
10.12.18	Nativity 2:30pm
11.12.18	Nativity 3:30pm
13.12.18	Panto 10:30
14.12.18	Christmas Jumper Day
19.12.18	Carol concert 9:30am
19.12.18	Class Christmas Parties pm
19.12.18	Term 2 ends
Term 3	
3.1.19	Term 3 starts
5.2.19	Safer Internet Day
15.2.19	Celebration Assembly and Poetry Recital (9:00am)
15.2.19	Term 3 ends
Term 4	
25.2.19	Term 4 starts
5.3.19	Parent Consultations 3:30 – 5:00pm (Buds 3:30 – 6:00)
6.3.19	Parent Consultations 6:00 – 8:00pm (not Buds)
7.3.19	World Book Day
5.4.19	Easter Service 9:30am
5.4.19	Term 4 ends
Term 5	
23.4.19	Term 5 starts
1.5.19	Open books
w/c 13.5.19	KS2 SATs
25.5.19	Celebration Assembly and Poetry Recital 9:00am
24.5.19	Term 5 ends
Term 6	
3.6.19	Term 6 starts
20.6.19	Sports Day (Reserve 27.6.18)
9+11.7.19	Leavers' production
17.7.19	Music Recital 9am
19.7.19	Year 6 leavers' assembly
22+23.7.19	INSET DAYS