



Head Talk

As I write this week's newsletter, I am aware that we only have 4 weeks until Christmas Day. I'm not quite sure where the time is going! We therefore have a very busy 3 and a bit weeks coming up at school. Year 4 are busily preparing for their year group play to parents/carers. It does have a Christmas Theme, so lots of children are getting quite excited about performing it. At the same time our infant children are preparing for the Nativity that will be celebrated in the last week of term at Christ Church. The junior children have also started their singing practice for the Christmas service at Christ Church in the final week too.

I would like to thank everyone for their donations for the 'wear something red and yellow' day in support of the Essex and Herts Air Ambulance Service. It was such a soggy day, but the children really enjoyed listening about how the service support people in the area. I would like to thank the team who came to school to talk with the children.

The PSA are busy organising for the Christmas Grotto in the final week of school and more information will be shared with you all in the coming weeks. Keep an eye out for the Rainbow and Sunshine class singing at the end of the school day date. This will be an opportunity to see your child sing a few songs, and for you to have the opportunity to buy some mulled wine and mince pies!

Mr Greateorex and I are on the school playground most mornings and afternoons for you to come and have a chat. Please feel free to do so. Have a good couple of weeks!

E-Safety Nugget

As we move towards the Christmas season, please be aware of any scam texts, emails and social

media messages that may come to your child. Please talk to them about not clicking links and not visiting sites that could be bogus.

Questionnaire Outcomes

Thank you to all parents/carers who managed to fill in our annual questionnaires. Your feedback is very important to us as a school and we will use this information to plan for improvements next year. You should have received a copy of the result electronically this week. If you missed that email, the results for the last 3 years can be found on the school website. [You can click this link to get you there.](#)

Attendance

Attendance at school is still a focus this year. We have started well, and we currently have an average attendance rate of 96.8%. This is great, and I would like to see this maintained or even improved. Currently, Year 3 has the highest attendance rate of 97.7%!!!! Keep up the amazing work.

We also have far too many children arriving 5-10 minutes late for school. This needs to improve drastically. Children arriving late are disruptive for the class they are joining and the child who is late. It disturbs learning and means that the late child is walking into a lesson that has already started. Please leave a little earlier from home to get to school on time. **The gates close at 8.55am every morning. After this, your child will be registered as late.**

Our Attendance Policy can be found on the school website:

<https://www.hamiltonprimary.com/office/policies>



Year 1 and 2 Nativity

Just a reminder to **Year 2** parents that the deadline to return your ticket request for the Nativity is 9am on Monday 2nd December.

KS2 Carol Concert

Just a reminder to **Year 3, 4, 5 and 6** parents that the deadline to return your ticket request for the KS2 Carol Concert is 9am on Monday 2nd December.

Year 4 Play

Year 4 would like to invite their parents/carers to watch their play 'When Annie went up the Chimney' on Wednesday 11th December in the afternoon. Time to be confirmed.

Year 5 visit to Philip Morant

On Thursday 12th December the Year 5 children have been invited to watch a Primary Christmas Concert at Philip Morant School. 9.30 to 11.45am

FACE Family Advice

Please find attached information on courses run by FACE Family Advice.

Christmas Cards!

As a Green Flag Eco School we are always striving to reduce waste. On this theme, the Eco Committee would like to ask that all staff and children at Hamilton aim to send just one Christmas card to their class this year please. This would be addressed to the class as a whole and could be used to decorate the classroom in the lead up to Christmas. Not only will this reduce waste but it will also save everyone time and money. Should you still wish for your child to give out more than one card, please can this be done outside of school. Many thanks for your support and cooperation with this and rest assured we will be celebrating Christmas in plenty of other ways at school!

Reception Intake September 2025

The Applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions. 99% of parents in Essex applied online last year.

All of the application information is available on the website above.

Calendar Dates

Autumn Term 2024

Wednesday 11 th December 2024	Year 4 Play - start time to be confirmed
Thursday 12 th December 2024	Year 5 to Philip Morant School for a Christmas Concert
Monday 16 th December 2024	Years 1 & 2 - Nativity at Christchurch - 2.15pm to 3pm
Tuesday 17 th December 2024	School Christmas Dinner Day
Tuesday 17 th December 2024	Years 1 & 2 - Nativity at Christchurch - 5pm to 5.45pm
Wednesday 18 th December 2024	Years 3 - 6 - Carol Concert - 2pm to 2.45pm
Thursday 19 th December 2024	Years 3 - 6 - Carol Concert - 5pm to 5.45pm
Monday 23rd December 2024 to Friday 3 rd January 2025	Christmas Holidays

Spring Term 2025

Monday 6 th January 2025	First Day of Term
Monday 17 th February to Friday 21 st February 2025	Half Term
Monday 24 th February 2025	Non-Pupil Day
Tuesday 4 th March 2025	Parents Forum 2-3pm
Tuesday 11 th March 2025	Learning Conferences - 3.40pm to 6.00pm
Thursday 13 th March 2025	Learning Conferences - 3.40pm to 6.00pm
Monday 7 th April to Monday 21 st April 2025	Easter Holidays
Tuesday 22 nd April 2025	First Day of Term
Thursday 1 st May 2025	Non-Pupil Day
Friday 2 nd May 2025	Non-Pupil Day

Email Information

If contacting the school via email, please use:

parents@hamilton.essex.sch.uk