



## NEWSLETTER

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2025

[www.hamiltonprimary.com](http://www.hamiltonprimary.com)

**CORE VALUE - RESPECT**

### Head Talk

This week I would like to start with a thank you to every member of the school community. This week the Year 6 children have been taking part in national assessments and the whole school has adapted to the timetable to allow rooms to be used, to be quiet during the assessments and to change break times where needed. The assessments are just a snapshot in time for the children, we know that one set of papers does not sum up a child. We will continue to provide an exciting and rich curriculum experience for all the school.

We now only have 1 week left in a very short term. Next week will be busy! We have the Year 3 play to parents/carers and we have the class photos too! Looking ahead to the final half-term of the year we will have the summer fair, the celebration evening, the Year 6 final play and transition days for Year 6 in June and all other children in July. Keep an eye on the dates in the newsletter so that you can keep up with all the different activities.

I also have a SEND forum for parents/carers taking place online. The details to attend are below:

SEND Parents' Forum

Tuesday, 20 May · 1:30 – 2:30pm

Time zone: Europe/London

Google Meet joining info

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/hpc-hcpb-dkx>

Or dial: (GB) +44 20 3957 1017 PIN: 388 526 961#

More phone numbers: <https://tel.meet/hpc-hcpb-dkx?pin=3304734624470>

This term the standard Parents' Forum is taking place on the 24th June. The invite is here:

Parents' Forum

Tuesday, 24 June · 2:00 – 3:00pm

Time zone: Europe/London

Google Meet joining info

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/gfi-drrv-yvw>

Or dial: (GB) +44 20 3910 5059 PIN: 515 877 023#

More phone numbers: <https://tel.meet/gfi-drrv-yvw?pin=6067314745071>

As always, Mr Greateorex and I are available to have a chat with on the playground on most days. Please do pop over to see us!

### E-Safety Nugget

This week I would like to recommend an article from the Children's Commissioner on the use of mobile phones. The link is here:

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/resource/school-phone-policies-in-england-findings-from-the-childrens-commissioners-school-and-college-survey/>

### Borrowing books electronically

This week I thought it would be helpful to share the 'Borrow Box' App with you. This is an app that allows children to borrow e-books from Essex Libraries, using their library card number. The link to follow is here:

<https://libraries.essex.gov.uk/digital-content/using-our-elibrary/borrowbox>

We often forget that we don't need to purchase every book that we want to read. We can borrow them in physical form and online.

If your library card has expired or you don't have one, you can follow this link to register:

<https://libraries.essex.gov.uk/user/register>

### Attendance

At this time of year children often have colds and runny noses and feel generally under the weather. School attendance is still vital for children as any



## NEWSLETTER

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2025

[www.hamiltonprimary.com](http://www.hamiltonprimary.com)

**CORE VALUE - RESPECT**

missed time means missed learning and catching up for your child. The NHS has a document that supports parents/carers in deciding if their child is too ill to go to school. The link to this is here:

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Our Attendance Policy can be found on the school website:

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

Our current attendance is 96%. This is low, but we are above the national average and the Essex average. We have had a number of children who have been unwell, and some families have taken holidays too. If your child has below 90% attendance, they will be classed as being persistently absent. This is not good. It means your child is missing too much education. Please ensure your child attends school. If we have concerns about your child's attendance, we will be writing to you and offering you a meeting to discuss any support that you may need. Our attendance should be 97% or above. Please help us to help your child. Our leading attending year group is Year 3 with 96.7% attendance. Keep up the excellent work.

### Spotlight on Send - PDA Training

Last month teachers received training on PDA, Pathological Demand Avoidance, from the local authority. This is an acronym that is becoming more widely used in society so it was interesting to learn that PDA is not something that is diagnosed as a separate condition. It is recognised as part of a subset of symptoms as part of the autistic diagnosis criteria. We can all present as being demand avoidant at times when we feel anxious or stressed due to direct and indirect demands, this

does not imply that you are autistic, rather that the demand is overwhelming at that time. If you would like to know more about supporting your child when they are being demand avoidant, the PDA Society have some useful and easy to access information. <https://www.pdasociety.org.uk/>

### Reception Assemblies

The Sunshine children would like to invite their parents/carers to their Class Assembly on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May at 2.30pm.

The Rainbow children would like to invite their parents/carers to their Class Assembly on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May at 2.30pm.

### Year 1 Assembly

Year 1 would like to invite their parents/carers to their Assembly on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May at 9.30am.

### Year 3 Play - Minotaur

Year 3 would like to invite their parents/carers to watch their play on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May in the afternoon. The Constantine Road gate will open at 2pm for a 2.15pm start.

### Class Photos

On Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May Van Cols will be visiting us to take Class Photos.

### Year 4 Assembly

Year 4 would like to invite their Parents/Carers to their Assembly on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June starting at 1.30pm.

### School Uniform

The blue gingham dresses are **NOT** part of the school uniform. Therefore they should **NOT** be worn to school.

### Sports Day – Infant and Junior

In a break from tradition we will now have both the Infant and Junior Sports Days on the same day. The Infant Sports Day will take place from 9.30am on the Junior Playground on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> July and should be concluded in an hour. The Junior Sports Day will take place at the Garrison Track as per normal and will start from about 1.20pm. Further information will be released nearer the time.

### 11+ 2026 Entry

Registration for the 11+ 2026 Entry will commence on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2025 and close on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2025.

The 11+ will be on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2025.

### Letters

The Office needs 2 weeks' notice in order to provide letters backing up your application for a passport or visa from your Embassy.

### Sickness and Diarrhoea

The school have a clear 48-hour policy for children who have been sick or had diarrhoea before they can return to school.

Making sure your child has a clear 48 hours after their last bout of illness helps to prevent it from spreading around the class/year group.

## Calendar Dates

### Summer Term 2025

Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> May 2025	Sunshine Class Assembly to parents 2.30pm – 3pm
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> May 2025	<b>SEND</b> Parents Forum 1.30pm – 2.30pm
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> May 2025	Year 1 Assembly to parents 9.30am start
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> May 2025	Year 3 Play to parent's gates open at 2pm
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2025	Class Photos – Van Cols Ltd
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2025	Rainbow Class Assembly to parents 2.30pm – 3pm
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> May to Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> May 2025	Half Term
<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2025</b>	<b>Non-Pupil Day</b>
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> June 2025	Year 4 Assembly to parents 1.30pm start
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> June 2025	Parents Forum 2-3pm
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2025	Celebration Evening 6-8pm
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> July 2025	Sports Day for Infants – 9.30 am Junior Playground Sports Day for Juniors – 1.20pm Garrison Track
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> July 2025	Year 2 Play to parents – 9.30am start

### Autumn Term 2025

Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2025	Non-Pupil Day
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2025	First Day of Term
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> September to Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October 2025	Year 6 Residential to Aylmerton
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	Non-Pupil Day
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> October to Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2025	Half Term

## Email Information

If contacting the school via email, please use:

[parents@hamilton.essex.sch.uk](mailto:parents@hamilton.essex.sch.uk)