

Head Talk

Welcome to this week's newsletter! We have had a busy week with all children back at school after our Year 6 children visited the north Norfolk coast for a week. We are making preparations for our Harvest Festivals next week. Please can you bring in food donations by Monday at the latest. The types of food that we require were in the last newsletter. We will not be accepting any further donations after Monday. You are all very welcome to visit the Salvation Army at the bottom of Butt Road if you would like to donate further.

The individual photos took place on Tuesday this week, and you will be notified when they are available to view. My thanks go to the office team, who managed to get all children and staff photographed with military precision.

Next week I will be running a parents' forum. This will be online and we will be discussing the building works that were completed over the summer, staffing updates and the latest news from Ofsted. The link is on the school website calendar, but I have included it here too. We will start at 2pm.

Parents' Forum

Tuesday, 15 October · 2:00 – 3:00pm

Time zone: Europe/London

Google Meet joining info

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/dgm-otde-wtv>

Or dial: (GB) +44 20 3957 1796 PIN: 655 058 616#

More phone numbers: <https://tel.meet/dgm-otde-wtv?pin=7504348692898>

Mr Greateorex and I are on the playground at the beginning and end of each day for you to have a chat with us if you need.

Have a great couple of weeks.

Supporting your child at school

I am often asked by parents and carers about the homework that is set for children at school and my response is always that we have a homework policy, which is viewable on the school website, but the most important things you can do for your child are to listen to them read and help them to learn their times tables. Children need to reach certain milestones at school and we need your help. By the end of Year 1 children need to be able to understand phonics. We teach this to your child, but they need further practice at home to help. Here is a website to visit to make sure you can help your child sound out correctly: <https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

By the end of Year 4 children need to know their times tables up to 12 x 12. At the moment we are finding children in Year 4 struggling with their 2-, 5- and 10-times tables. The children need to answer random questions within a 6-second limit. Times tables are part of our Maths Fundamentals: <https://www.hamiltonprimary.com/key-information/maths>

Please help us to help your child. If you can hear them read for 10 mins a day at a minimum and read them a story and if you can help them with learning their tables, this will enable your child to be successful at school.

E-Safety Nugget

Here is the CEOP website. This is a really useful resource for you to look at which explains some of the risks that your child may face online.

<https://www.ceopeducation.co.uk/parents/>

Parking and drop off at school

I would like to encourage parents/carers to walk, ride or scoot to school with their children. Recently I have seen a significant uptick in children arriving at school by car and often after the school

gates have closed. I have also witnessed what has become a 'rolling' drop off and pick up zone in both Hamilton and Constantine Roads. Vehicles are stopping in the middle of the road, stopping the flow of traffic and letting children out opposite the school gates. This needs to stop. I have also seen cars using our loading bay and zig zag lines as drop off or parking zones. These are in place to protect the children. Please leave earlier for school. Please choose to park a little further away from the school and walk in, to ease the congestion at a very busy point of the day.

Leaving the school site at the end of the day

I would like to remind parents/carers to make a swift exit from the school grounds at the end of the day. This is because we have after school clubs that use the playground, and they need to make a start to the club as soon as they can and they can't do that with members of the public on the playground.

Attendance

Attendance at school is still a focus this year. We have started well, and we currently have an average attendance rate of 97.3%. This is great, and I would like to see this maintained or even improved. Currently, Year 3 has the highest attendance rate of 98.1%!!!! 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 and doors 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 6 Assembly

The Year 6 children would like to invite their parents/carers to their assembly on Tuesday 15th October starting at 2pm.

Flu Nasal Spray

The school nursing team will be at school on Thursday 17th October for the annual Flu Nasal Spray Vaccine.

You will have received an email with the link to put your child's name down.

Wear Red

On Friday 18th October, children can wear an item of red in support of Show Racism the Red Card.

Earrings – PE Days

If your child has their ears pierced, they will need to have them covered with tape when they come to school on PE Days.

Collection from the hub

If the children are in the playground when you collect them from the hub please stay outside the gate and a member of the hub staff will come to you.

Learning Conferences

There will be **NO CLUBS OR HUB SESSIONS (AM & PM)** on Tuesday 12th and Thursday 14th November due to Learning Conferences.

Student Emergency Information Report

Thank you to everyone who has already returned their form.

For those that haven't please return it asap so we can make sure we have up to date contact details for you.

Paxman Academy Tours

Due to the huge success of our Open Morning Tours on the 2nd and 4th October, our Open Evening on 3rd October, and the large number signed up for our 10th October Tour, we are now offering a further two morning tours to cater for demand. These are on:

- **Tuesday 15th October from 9:30 to 10:30am,**
- **Wednesday 16th October from 9:30 to 10:30am**

The sign-up form is on Paxmans website.

SEND Roadshow

Please find attached information on SEND Roadshow that Essex County Council are organising.

Football Tournament

On Thursday 10th October, a team of children from years 5 and 6 competed at Shrub End in a football tournament. After seven games, the team finished on 12 points with four wins and three defeats. 11 goals were scored and Will Traill ended as our top scorer, netting 7 of them! The team did themselves proud with their endeavour, enthusiasm and resilience. It was not obvious that this team had never played competitively before. They came together brilliantly and were gutted to miss out on the next round by just one defeat. Thank you to the parents that helped with transport and were there cheering them on in the rain!



MDA Vacancy

Scale 2 point 3 to 4 (£11.78 to £11.98)

One hour and 15 minutes per day. Your hours will need to be worked between Midday and 13:45pm (this will be discussed at interview). This is a term time only post.

We are looking to recruit two enthusiastic and friendly people to work during the school lunch break to supervise the children. You will be required to work independently and as part of a team with a flexible approach to the position.

Duties include:

- Supervising the children in the lunch hall and classrooms
- Clearing of tables, plates and food waste
- Cleaning floors and tables when required
- First aid (training will be given)
- Playground duties
- Playing and organising games with children

Application forms are available from the school office or alternatively you can apply through the Essex Schools Jobs website.

Calendar Dates

Autumn Term 2024	
Tuesday 15 th October 2024	Parents Forum 2-3pm
Tuesday 15 th October 2024	Year 6 Assembly for parents 2-3pm
Thursday 17 th October 2024	Flu Immunisations (Nasal Spray)
Friday 25 th October 2024	Non-Uniform Day/Bake Sale after school
Monday 28 th October to Friday 1 st November 2024	Half Term
Friday 8 th November 2024	PSA – Quiz Night
Tuesday 12 th November 2024	Learning Conferences - 3.40pm to 6.00pm
Thursday 14 th November 2024	Learning Conferences - 3.40pm to 6.00pm
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 23 rd 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

Email Information

If contacting the school via email, please use:

parents@hamilton.essex.sch.uk