
HATCH WARREN JUNIOR SCHOOL

Gershwin Road, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG22 4PQ

Tel: 01256 328252

Email: office@hwjs.hants.sch.uk

www.hwjs.hants.sch.uk



Friday 9th January 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Firstly, I hope you had an enjoyable and restful break over the Christmas holidays and managed to enjoy some family time. The children have come back to school happy and positive. They were especially excited to see some snowflakes falling from the sky too!

I just wanted to write to you to remind parents about a few key areas at the start of a new term.

Change of staffing – welcome to Mr Lingard

Following Miss Grainger leaving at the end of last term to go travelling, we have welcomed Mr Lingard to the school this week – he has joined the teaching team in Year 6. Class 12 have been brilliant this week and really made him feel very welcome. I am very proud of them for settling straight back in to their learning and helping Mr Lingard get to know how everything works as well.

School information and dates

We try to ensure that all mailing is sent on a Friday so that you are not bombarded with information all week. However, this does rely on parents reading the information that we send out. The email (and attachments) sent by Mrs Rynott every Friday contains key information and dates, as does the newsletter which is sent out every two weeks. Please can I urge you to make sure you have scanned through these so that you know what is happening and do not miss key events or information.

The weather!

We have had a really cold snap this week which has obviously had an adverse effect on our site. We will communicate with you if we have to close entrances due to ice or snow. Our site is large and it is just not possible to put salt down everywhere – this means that key routes will be cleared to enable staff and children to get into school (the front entrance and path to the classrooms from the front of the school will be prioritised). We also have three playgrounds which tend to be very sheltered and can remain icy throughout the day. It is extremely important for us that children get fresh air outside but we do have to risk assess the site and make decisions about whether it is safe to allow the children to play outside. We will always do our best to ensure children get outside to play but this is not always possible. The office sent out a communication at the end of November regarding our snow and ice plan so please refer to that if you need to. We would always liaise with the infant school regarding any school closures in the event of snow and communicate with you via email, text and via the website if the school does have to close. Fingers crossed we don't have to – I hate snow!!!

Uniform

Just a reminder to please check the uniform expectations which have been sent out in previous mailings and can also be found on the website: <https://www.hwjs.hants.sch.uk/uniform/>
PE uniform must not have any logos on it and tracksuit trousers for PE and for school uniform generally should be plain black. T shirts for PE should be red or white only.



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We are also getting a variety of footwear being worn at the moment. School shoes should be plain black shoes or plain black trainer-type shoes with no logos. PE trainers can be any colour. In adverse weather conditions, sensible black ankle boots are acceptable with school uniform.

We are getting a lot of lost property at the moment – it is extremely difficult to return lost items if they are not named!

Nail Varnish and Jewellery

Children must not be wearing nail varnish to school and jewellery must be limited to small stud earrings and a watch if children wish to wear one. 'Fitbit' style watches are fine but smart watches that can take photos and receive messages must not be worn to school.

Behaviour

The children have been working so hard and behaving so well that they managed to accumulate an incredible 188,790 green points last term! This total was over double the points in the Autumn term of 2024. This is so impressive and is indicative of the excellent attitude and behaviour that is being shown by our children – you should be very proud of them. The Hatch Warren Learning Hero target of 1200 green points will be broken very soon I expect and the school council are going to have a look at what targets they want to set next. The children have loved receiving their certificates and I hope you have enjoyed celebrating with them at home.

In September, we implemented our new Positive Relationships and Behaviour for Learning Policy which outlines our approach to positive behaviour management in school. If you would like to find out more, the policy can be found on the school website here:

<https://www.hwjs.hants.sch.uk/policies/>

Communicating with staff

As you know, you can often find either myself, Mrs Chappell or Mrs Turner (sometimes all three of us) at the school gate by the Year 3 classrooms in the mornings. It is lovely to talk to members of our community in the mornings and you can give us any quick messages that you want us to pass on to class teachers if you need us to. The classroom doors open at **8.45am**. If you need to talk to the class teacher, you are very welcome to do so but please could you ensure this happens by **8.50am**. If you arrive at school close to 9am, it may not be possible to have a conversation with the class teacher as they need to focus on the classroom of children. Messages can be passed on to us at the gate or you are welcome to make an appointment with the class teacher for another time. The gate is always shut promptly at 9am.

At Hatch Warren Junior School, we are very proud and fortunate to have a dedicated and supportive school community. The education of our children is a partnership between all parties, staff, governors and parents alike. As a partnership, we recognise the importance of solid working relationships and for this reason, we welcome and encourage parents to participate fully in the life of our school. Our Appropriate Conduct Policy, which can be found on the school website (<https://www.hwjs.hants.sch.uk/policies/>), sets out our expectations regarding the conduct of all parents, carers and visitors when on the school site. We understand that everyday frustrations can



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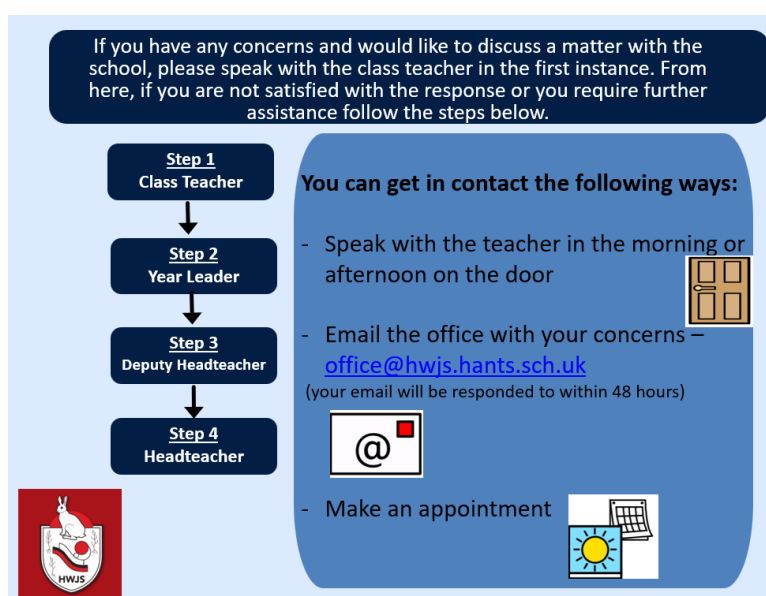
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cause misunderstandings and have a negative impact on our relationships but we strongly believe it is essential that we all remain committed to resolving difficulties in a constructive manner through open, positive dialogue. Any concerns parents or carers may have must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking firstly to the class teacher, followed by the year leader, Deputy Headteacher and then the Headteacher, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively on behalf of all concerned. Please can we remind you that the first point of contact should be the class teacher.



Our staff and children have a right to feel safe on the school site so your cooperation with appropriate communication would be very much appreciated.

Events this term

There are a lot of events happening this term so please keep an eye on your emails. Here are some of the key events:

Week of 12 th January	Year 6 residential to Runways End (Monday to Friday) Year 5 swimming lessons start Clubs start this week
16 th January	Year 4 Portals to the Past – Viking Day
19 th January	Class 8 visit to QMC Science Centre (am)
22 nd January	Class 7 visit to QMC Science Centre (am) Class 9 visit to QMC Science Centre (pm)
26 th January	Year 3 class 2 visit to QMC Science Centre (am)
26 th January	Year 3 class 3 visit to QMC Science Centre (pm)
27 th January	Year 3 class 1 visit to QMC Science Centre (am)
3 rd February	Netball match vs Chalk Ridge Primary



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4 th February	Year 6 Heights and Weights (school nurse in)
6 th February	Whole school outcome event 2.30pm
Week of 9 th February	Children's Mental Health Week
10 th February	District cross county competition
13 th February	INSET Day – school closed for pupils
16 th -20 th February	HALF TERM
23 rd February	1 x Year 6 class visit to QMC Science Centre (am)
24 th February	1 x Year 6 class visit to QMC Science Centre (am)
	1 x Year 6 class visit to QMC Science Centre (pm) Information about these visits to be confirmed shortly.
26 th February	Netball match vs St Mary's Junior School
Week beginning 2 nd March	Book week, which will include reading events in class during the week and World Book Day dress-up on Thursday 5 th March if children want to come in costumes. More info to follow.
10 th & 12 th March	Parents evenings – 3.30 – 6.30pm
11 th March	'Finding our Voice' singing event with selected children (more information to follow from Mrs Curtis)
18 th March	Year 4 Listen2Me concerts (pm – times to follow shortly)
18 th March	Year 6 trip to Fort Nelson
18 th March	Year 3 Listen2Me concerts (pm – time to follow shortly)
20 th March	Year 5/6 friendly football match vs Manor Field
23 rd March	Rock2theBeat end of term concert 10am
23 rd March	Year 6 Listen2Me concerts (pm – times to follow shortly)
24 th March	Year 5 Listen2Me concerts (pm – times to follow shortly)
26 th March	Year 5 Portals to the Past – Ancient Greece Day
27 th March	Year 3 Outdoor Learning Day

National Year of Reading

You may have heard in the news that this year is the National Year of Reading. Throughout the year, we are aiming to complete a reading event every month in school. Reading is such an important skill for children to develop – good readers have a much better chance of being good writers and developing strong reading skills helps children fully engage with the whole school curriculum. Please keep a look out for information about our reading events!

Number Sense Maths

We are pleased to share that we have introduced a new programme called 'Number Sense Maths' to further strengthen pupils' confidence and fluency with their times tables. More information is included in this email for families who would like to learn more about the programme. From this term, Year 3 and Year 4 will be following the scheme in full, while Year 5 will be working with a slightly adapted timetable to best support their learning. This programme takes place during maths



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lessons. Times Tables Rock Stars will continue to be used to support the practice of times tables both in school and as part of weekly homework.

Thank you for reading all of this information! I would like to thank you for your continued support. There is always a lot happening in school and we are looking forward to another term of working in strong partnership with our whole school community.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'L Thomas'.

Mrs Laura Thomas
Acting Headteacher

