



Head Talk

I do hope everyone enjoyed the extra-long weekend last week. I know some families managed to get away on a relatively cheap break and I hope this provided some well-earned rest and relaxation for all.

Next week sees Year 6 children taking part in the National Assessments (SATs). This is a very stressful time for them and one that the school has tried its best to neutralise. The children have worked very hard and I am sure you will join me in wishing them all the best of luck.

Dogs on the playground

I would like to remind parents that dogs are not allowed on the school playground. We have some children and parents who are quite frightened of dogs. Thank you.

School Uniform

I would like to remind parents that children may wear either black socks with grey trousers or shorts or navy socks with a navy skirt or pinafore. White sock are not allowed except for PE uniform. Thank you.

Celebration Evening

Just a quick mention of the Celebration Evening taking place on **Wednesday 12th June from 6pm-8pm**. This is an opportunity for parents and children to enjoy the school, have a try of a taster menu of school food and informally chat with class teachers. It is a lovely evening and the school gates will be open for parking on the rear playground. Please do pop along.

Non-Pupil Day for European Elections

The school is closing on **Thursday 23rd May** for European Elections. I realise this is frustrating for parents; it is also quite frustrating for the school

too. We don't have a choice as a school to refuse being a polling station. Please do make arrangements for your child/ren to be cared for on the day.

Class Photos and Year 5 Play – revised dates

As a result of the European election, class photos are now taking place on **Wednesday 22nd May**. Please ensure your child is in the correct uniform and if they have a logo top, this would be a good day to wear it. The Year 5 play is taking place in the afternoon.

Parents' Forum

The next forum will be on the 5th June in the infant hall at 2pm. It will be run by Mrs Smith and she will be talking about the school behaviour policy. We are aiming to review this, and she will be looking for volunteers to sit on a working party. It would be helpful to have a parent rep for each year group in the school. If you feel you would be able to support the school with this and have time during the day to meet (up to 3 meetings before the summer holiday) then please do let Mrs Smith know at the Parents' Forum.

Year 4 Anglo Saxon Day

Year 4 enjoyed a great day learning about the life of the Anglo-Saxons. We learnt where they came from and where they settled and had fun learning which Anglo-Saxon words are still used today and trying to translate some Old English! We were shown how the Anglo-Saxons loved to feast and listen to music and stories in the feasting hall as well as the weapons they may have used. Our costumes were very colourful and authentic, and the children looked superb in them. We thoroughly enjoyed the day which was a great way to learn the history of Britain as it is today.

Essex Primary Cross-Country Finals

A remarkable 4 teams and 3 individuals qualified for the cross-country finals at Hadleigh, Benfleet which took place on 26th April. All the children ran very well, and the team results were as follows: Year 5 Girls 4th, Year 5 Boys 12th, Year 6 Girls 5th and Year 6 Boys 6th. These were great results as we were competing against the top 14 teams in Essex. Our individual qualifiers were Hugo Trim who was 34th in the Year 3 boys race and Benedict Batchelor who was 20th in the Year 4 boys race. Many thanks to all the parents who came to help and for providing the gazebo and picnic blankets!

Play Therapist



"My name is Becca and I am a Certified Play Therapist. I have worked as a Learning Disability Nurse for the past 11 years, and have been practising Play Therapy since 2014. Play Therapy is about empowering children to discover who they are, that real sense of self and identity, and to identify and resolve any issues that may be troubling them. Children can find all sorts of things difficult, at different times in their lives - low self-esteem, difficult relationships at home, poor peer relationships, and difficulties with school work - Play Therapy is about providing a safe space and therapeutic relationship to help navigate these difficult times, to help improve children's resilience and problem-solving skills, whilst developing their independence. I work at the school on Friday

mornings, but am contactable throughout the week on 07814 514306. Referrals to my service can be made through your child's Class Teacher or via the school SENCO, Mrs Arnold."

Topic Overviews

Please find attached topic overviews for your child for this term.

Rotary Club Art Competition

A huge congratulations to our finalists of the Rotary Club art competition! Celeste Bell, Morna-Ray Abraham, Hanwen Jiang, Arthur Elphick, and Isabella Nagi. There were 12 finalists in total. Hanwen was the winner for the infant category, with Arthur runner-up - congratulations to you! Well done to everyone who entered, there were over 90 entries for the competition in total! And thank you to parents for supporting, especially those who came to the prize giving evening.

Parent Support Advisor

I am very pleased to announce that the school is now working with Amanda Rowe. I have asked Amanda to write a small article to explain what she does:



I have worked as a Family Support Worker firstly for Essex County Council and then independently for the last 12 years. I am also a facilitator for MAZE which is a support group for parents with children



who have additional needs in particular Autism Spectrum Condition. In my role I support parents with many of the challenges that face modern parenting such as children with challenging or aggressive behaviours, sibling rivalry, self-motivation and anxiety among other things. I have four adult children and I was also a foster carer for several years. My work is largely regarded as Early Intervention and I can support families at home through home visits or in meetings with school or other professionals, or by sign posting to other agencies that may be able to offer support as requested.

You may be asked by the school if you would like us to refer you to Amanda, or you may approach the school if you would like to meet with her.

PSA Quiz Night

Thank you so much to Faye Sully and her team for organising a fabulous evening. There was such a good atmosphere, as always! A little over £790 profit was raised, which is a huge amount to put towards the PSA's interactive whiteboard project. We have 7 boards to buy so a huge thank you to those who parted with their cash! Last but not least, the PSA are eternally grateful to James Burton, our quiz master. He is a new parent at Hamilton, and he did an incredible job writing a hosting the quiz. We're sure you will all agree-the playdough round was genius wasn't it? Congratulations to Kirsty Harvey's team for achieving the top score, you clever lot!

Easter Eggstravaganza!

The PSA were delighted to see such happy little faces at the Easter Eggstravaganza. Those that went through the effort of making a hat-well done, they were phenomenal! Congratulations to the following runners up and winners: William (preschool), Ishbel (FS), Erin (KS2), Aaron (preschool), Thomas (FS) and Rhys (KS2). Additionally, we would like to congratulate the

other winners from the day - Joel W. (cake raffle), William (name the bunny), Kimberly (Weight of the giant egg) and Joel in Yr 6 (Eggs in a jar)

Special thanks go to all the wonderful stallholders and volunteers. And to our Easter Bunny-you know who you are! Leeza Morley, thank you for making and donating that stunning cake for the raffle. Lastly, a huge thank you to the teachers who stepped in to help last minute due to a lack of parent volunteers. You are all so very busy, but it was heart-warming to see you all get stuck in. The children loved it!

A whopping £1,100 profit was raised from the afternoon's festivities. Well done everyone, we are another step closed to financing the interactive whiteboard project!

PSA Summer Disco

The PSA are organising a Summer Disco for the children on Friday 14th June. More details to follow.

Summer Fayre

If you haven't heard already, the Summer Fayre is arranged for Saturday 13th July. Please put the date in your diary. Please look at for more details shortly and think about how you can help be a small cog in this huge machine.

One huge money earner is our raffle and we need your help! We are in need of a raffle team who are able to source and collect raffle prizes, as well as organise tickets and the stall on the day. To get prizes in, the team needs to be in place ASAP. Please email us at psa@hamiltonprimary.com if you would like to take on this fun little project.

Christian Aid Big Brekkie

Please see attached information regarding a Christian Aid Big Brekkie happening on the 18th May.



Pupil News

Well done to Elizabeth Chilvers (2SMR) who performed in a Ballet Dance Show "All Around The World" on the 05.04.19.

Congratulations to William Ames (RLG) who has been selected to join the elite gymnastics boys' squad in Ipswich as well as Colchester.

Congratulations to Katherine Ames (4NB) who passed her grade 1 singing exam with a merit.

Congratulations to Addison Ames (2SMR) who passed her level 5 trampolining exam.



Calendar Dates

Summer Term 2019	
Wednesday 22 nd May 2019	Class Photos
Wednesday 22 nd May 2019	Year 5 Play
Thursday 23 rd May 2019	NON-PUPIL DAY due to European Elections
Monday 27 th May to Friday 31 st May 2019	Half Term
Monday 3 rd June 2019	Non-Pupil Day
Friday 7 th June 2019	Break the School Rules Day
Wednesday 12 th June 2019	Celebration Evening 6-8pm
Thursday 13 th June 2019	Rainbow Class Assembly at 2.30pm
Friday 14 th June 2019	Sunshine Class Assembly at 2.30pm
Friday 14 th June 2019	PSA – Summer Disco
Monday 17 th June 2019	KS1 – Sports Day at Garrison Athletics Track
Monday 1 st July 2019	KS2 – Sports Day at Garrison Athletics Track
Saturday 13 th July 2019	PSA – Summer Fayre
Tuesday 16 th July 2019	Year 2 Play
Wednesday 17 th July 2019	Year 6 Play in the afternoon
Thursday 18 th July 2019	Year 6 Play in the evening

Email Information

If contacting the school via email please use:

parents@hamilton.essex.sch.uk