

Head Teacher's Message

2nd October 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a wet week we have had! Although the weather has been miserable, the atmosphere across the school has continued to be positive and purposeful. I wanted to say a huge well done to all pupils for their amazing efforts and in particular to our wonderful EYFS pupils who have had a brilliant week. I'm sure parents will have a few tired Reception pupils this weekend!

Last academic year, we had an extremely generous donation from a parent, thanking the school for the support and efforts during lockdown. With the money, we have purchased dictionaries and thesauruses to use across the school. I would like to thank the parent greatly from everyone in our learning community; I know the children will be very pleased with the new books.

Just before lockdown, a pupil (Lilly-Ann Negus) came to see me to express that she would like to see more charity work as she felt it was important to support everyone, in particular those less fortunate than ourselves. I was ever so impressed with her mature attitude and kindness that this year, there will be more charity events and a children's charity committee - led by Lilly-Ann - so that we gain pupil's views and ideas. You should have all received a couple of letters in relation to charity events this week. One of the letters was in regards to #HelloYellow and the other for a sponsored run to raise money for MacMillan. At Halling, we believe that it is fundamental to support everyone in our direct and wider community and therefore we believe that participating in charity work is paramount. We know how generous and kind you all are and would fully appreciate your support with the two fantastic causes.

As well as the charity letters, you should have all received a letter from the PTA in regards to the Christmas photographs. This event has been extended until 3pm as it is proving very popular. It is not too late to sign up! I would like to say a huge thank you to the PTA who donated £2500 last year to be used towards reading books and a further £2000 this year. Their hard work, commitment and support for the school is impressive and we are ever so grateful. If you are interested in being a member of the PTA, please do not hesitate to contact either Kayleigh Trowell or Lisa Hoy via pta@halling.medway.sch.uk

Usually, in the past, there would have been Parents Evening in term 1. This year however, we felt that it would be more beneficial for Parents Evening to take place in Term 2. Unfortunately, we will be unable to allow all parents into school as per usual which is a real shame as we love to welcome you all in to see our brilliant school. We will instead be having Parents Evening via a telephone consultation. Within the next couple of weeks, we will set up timings via the SchoolGateway app so that you can book your slot. In addition to the telephone consultation, you will receive a document which summarises the conversation. In the meantime, if you have any questions/concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher who will be more than happy to help.

Unfortunately, I have had several comments from our neighbours who are concerned about the parking of some parents/carers on Howlsmere Close. Please can I remind you all that if you are not in your cars, you should turn off your engines as leaving them to run will have a huge impact on the local air quality. In addition, please do not park on pavements as this will mean our families will need to walk on the road and reduces visibility. Finally, please be mindful and show consideration for our neighbours by keeping clear of gardens and driveways. I would like to thank you in advance for your support in the matter.

To aid with parking and children's physical health, we would like to encourage families to participate in 'Walk on Wednesdays.' Exercise aids our mental health and well-being so why not get involved? Not only will you be developing your physical health, you will also be helping our environment! Class teachers will be recording the number of people that walked on Wednesdays. The winning class will be rewarded with a small treat and each child that participated will also be rewarded. I look forward to sharing the results of Wednesday 7th October's Walk on Wednesday in next week's newsletter. This will then become a permanent fixture in the newsletter.

Finally, this week, I will be meeting with the SLT to finalise our plan for remote education should a year group, class, group of pupils or an individual need to self-isolate. Once we have finalised, I will ensure that our plan is fully communicated with you all so that you know exactly what to expect as I'm sure that you will all agree that children mustn't (wherever possible) miss anymore valuable learning time.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend and I look forward to seeing you all on Monday.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Selmi
Head Teacher

Celebrations!

Highest number of correct answers on TTRockstars over the last 7 days
(week commencing 21st September):

Year	Name	Correct Answers
2	Elivia	1,074
3	Lucy	1,580
4	Mubashira	1,160
5	Katie	509
6	Belle	500

Spelling Shed:

KS1 Superstar Speller - Mason (Egypt Class) - 2,448,328

KS2 Superstar Speller -Felix (India Class) - 8,227,786

Top 3 Classes:

1st - India - 24,352,785

2nd - Fiji - 7,027,962

3rd - Egypt - 5,779,537

Keep up the hard work 😊

Celebrations!

Highest number of correct answers on TTRockstars over the last 7 days
(week commencing 28th September):

Year	Name	Correct Answers
2	Adriana	866
3	Jack	3847
4	Steven	1460
5	Troy	598
6	Olivia	643

Spelling Shed:

KS1 Superstar Speller - Kaamil (Egypt Class) - 1,281,804

KS2 Superstar Speller - Tillie (India Class) - 15,267,524

Top 3 Classes:

1st - India - 43,563,604

2nd - New Zealand - 9,974,331

3rd - Fiji - 6,692,294

Keep up the hard work 😊

Your challenge for this week is to beat the scores above - you can do it!

If children have any celebrations or achievements that they have accomplished outside of school, please email them in as we would love to hear all about them!

We will share in our newsletter, on our website and Facebook page.



CORONAVIRUS STAY ALERT TO THE SYMPTOMS

**HIGH TEMPERATURE
OR NEW CONTINUOUS COUGH
OR LOSS OF TASTE OR SMELL?**

No one in your household should leave home
if any one person has symptoms.

Find out how to get a test, and how long to
isolate, at [nhs.uk/coronavirus](https://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus)

STAY ALERT ▶ CONTROL THE VIRUS ▶ SAVE LIVES



HM Government

NHS

WASH



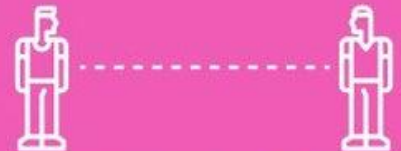
HANDS

COVER



FACE

MAKE



SPACE