



NEIGHT HILL
HIMBLETON
DROITWICH
WORCS
WR9 7LE

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www.himbleton.worcs.sch.uk
HEAD TEACHER: Mrs C A Gent

NEWSLETTER – NOVEMBER 2014

School Log Book December 15th 1926:

The School Dentist visited the school and attended to the teeth of those children who were found to be needing attention at the last visit.

I am glad this has been taken out of the school day!!!!!!

Dear Parents

WELCOME & GOODBYE

A warm welcome to Faith Wood and her family who are moving from New Zealand. Faith will soon be joining Year 4.

At the end of last half term we said goodbye to Morgan Adams who has transferred to a city school.

BOOK WEEK

Yet again book week was a great success and enjoyed by everyone. Thank you for all your support during the week. As always, dressing up as a book character was great fun, and finishing the week coming back to school in the dark in our pyjamas for bedtime stories was a first for us all!

Visits to the Hive, Droitwich and Number 8 in Pershore made for a busy week and it was good that several more children took the opportunity to become members of the library.

Sharon Hopwood, a real children's author set the week off with a lively start, and we were lucky to have Joshua's mum to share the books she has written too. Both were very impressed by the children's enthusiasm and with the amount of questions they asked.

Costs for all visits and Sharon Hopwood were paid with money donated by the 'Friends'. Please take time to look on the photographs on our school website.

STAFFING

I am really pleased to inform you that Miss Thomas has joined us as a Teaching Assistant for the remainder of this academic year. She is well known to everyone in her role as After School Care Assistant and will be working with Key Stage 1 classes. Mrs Griffiths spends some of each day in Lower Key Stage 2 providing some children with specific additional support.

'AVONBROOK CLUSTER' FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

Last half term we took part in our first ever Avonbrook Cluster football tournament for Year 4 children at Inkberrow. Teams of mixed boys and girls from 6 cluster schools played each other in a round robin of games. Our team came 6th, but as they unanimously and emphatically announced: "IT WAS GREAT!"

SCHOOL UNIFORM

All children need to be wearing their winter uniform now. Please can I remind you that the boys should be wearing white shirts and ties once they start wearing long trousers and that the polo shirts are summer uniform and are worn with their shorts.

Please, please, please name all items of school uniform.

We will endeavour to return all lost items to their owners. However, if the owners of un-named uniform cannot be quickly found then these items will be passed on to Chantal (Harry's mum) who coordinates second hand uniform collection and distribution and she will offer them for sale.

New school pinafore dresses for girls can now be ordered from school.

If you wish to order any items of uniform please see Mrs Hodgson for an order form immediately.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

As previously advised outdoor PE will continue within school grounds for as long as weather permits. However, children will need a warm tracksuit (named) in addition to their usual PE kit. Girls will also need socks if they wear tights to school.

FOOTBALL

Football started again today with Mr Nathan Smith, Sports Coach, and will continue weekly, with last sessions on 24th/25th November. Mr Smith is being funded using our Primary Sports Grant. Details of how we are spending this grant can be found on our school website.

We will then finish the term with our annual School Football Tournament which will be played on 15th & 16th December. There will be mixed age teams of boys and girls and once again a trophy will be awarded to the winners.

The children will be playing in all weathers and can get very muddy therefore they need to wear a warm tracksuit and old trainers. Football kits need to be in addition to the normal school kit and brought into school and taken home on football day:

Years 3 & 4 ~ Monday

Years 1 & 2 ~ Tuesday

AFTER SCHOOL GAMES CLUB/ MULTI-SKILLS CLUB ~ YEARS 2, 3 & 4

From this Wednesday After School Games Club will become Multi-Skills Club. Activities will remain broadly similar, ie. outdoors whilst the weather permits but will now finish at 4.30pm. Mr Nathan Smith & colleagues will now be responsible for running this club. Once again we will be using some of our Primary Sports Grant to fund this activity.

Please note: NO Multi-Skills Club or Stay & Play on Wednesday 3rd December due to the school Nativity.

'FOREST SCHOOL'

Just a reminder to ensure that waterproofs are waterproof, and will withstand a heavy shower- we are expecting lots from now on! Waterproofs are best left dirty as once they are washed they must be reproofed. The washing powder reduces their effectiveness and they become absorbent.

REMEMBRANCE DAY

Following the reading out of the Himbleton Roll of Honour of servicemen killed in the First and Second World Wars everyone in school will respect a minutes silence at 11am on **Tuesday November 11th**. All children and staff will wear a poppy. Poppies will be available each morning in the playground.

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPH

The photographer from Tempest will be visiting School on **Monday 10th November** from 8.45am. All children will be photographed individually. She will also take photographs of siblings together.

There will be an opportunity for family photographs (with pre-school children if desired), these will be taken first – please let Mrs Hodgson know if you want a family photograph.

MATHS EVENING for PARENT

An evening has been arranged later this half term on the teaching of maths in the school. Each class teacher will lead a series of activities which are typically used in their class.

More details will follow nearer the time, but please make a note of the date:

Thursday 13th November, 7.30-9pm

NON-UNIFORM DAY

Children can wear their home clothes to school on **Friday, 14th November**. ‘Payment’ to do so is a contribution to the ‘Friends’ Christmas Grotto Tombola. Please contribute from the following: anything Christmassy, chocolaty, alcoholic or anything that needs re-gifting. Alternatively, if you prefer, a monetary donation can be made.

SCHOOL POLICIES/ DOCUMENTS

The following policies/ documents have recently been reviewed in school:

- Home/ School Agreement
- Primary Sport Grant Statement
- Pupil Premium Statement
- Religious Education (RE) Policy
- Special Educational Needs/ Disabilities (SEND) Report 2014
- Safeguarding Policy

These, alongside many other school policies, can be found on our school website. Alternatively, a hard copy is available on request from the School Office. Parents are automatically issued with a personal copy of all policies as they are initially written or when significant changes have been made.

A new ‘Intimate Care Policy’ has also been agreed and a copy is enclosed.

A copy of ‘Guidance on Infection Control’ provided by Public Health England is enclosed. This contains straight forward advice on managing a whole range of infections etc.

NEW NATIONAL CURRICULUM

A new National Curriculum was introduced to all schools in September and significant changes have been made with the intention of improving standards. Please find enclosed:

- a leaflet outlining the most significant changes for Primary School children
- a leaflet showing the expectations for your child/children at the end of their academic year

A full set of these leaflets: one for each year group can be found on our school website.

SEND REFORM ROADSHOWS

Following the recent Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Reforms Worcestershire County Council and SEND Information, Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS- formally known as Parent Partnership) are joining together to offer some short information sessions (just one hour long) for parents and carers about the new changes.

If you would like to know more about Special Educational Needs and the impact of the reforms, details of local events can be found on the parent carer family tab on the SEN reform website www.edulink.networcs.net/senreform or call SENDIASS on 01905 610858 for details.

NEW ENTRANTS

We are now accepting applications for Reception 2015 places. It is really important that all places are filled and in the past we have achieved this through your recommendations.

If you know of anyone who has a child due to start school next September and who may be interested, please ask them to contact us as soon as possible.

We also one place available in Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4. Please do let me know if you know of anyone who may be interested in taking up these places.

MEDICATION

As winter draws closer, the need for medication often increases. For the safety of our children, I would like to remind you of the following arrangements:

- **Only prescribed medications will be accepted in school.**
- Medication must be named.
- Dosage, with times, must be clearly written on the bottle/container.
- An 'Administration of Medicine in School Form' (available from the School Office) must be completed giving permission for a responsible adult to administer it.
- Medication must be delivered to and collected from the office at the beginning and end of the day by an adult (not a child).

Please note:

If doses can be administered at home then we will always ask you to do this. Present arrangements for medication for asthma sufferers still apply.

SEVERE WEATHER CONDITIONS

Work to alleviate flooding at the bottom of Neight Hill has been taking place during the half term break. Local flooding has increasingly become a problem but hopefully the situation will be improved. However, snow and ice always make local weather conditions challenging. We always endeavor to keep the school open for as long as it is safe for staff, parents and children. However there may be a time when the school needs to close.

As soon as we can after a decision has been made to close the school, text messages will be sent and the information will be posted on the school website – www.himbleton.worcs.sch.uk.

It is imperative that school has up to date mobile numbers.

In addition, I will endeavor to have messages broadcast on BBC Hereford and Worcester Radio. Please tune in if weather conditions are poor and listen for instructions.

PARKING at the GALTON ARMS

Parents must use the rear car park at all times. Using the 'Walking Bus' relies on abiding by this rule.

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

Wanted!

Someone to video our school Nativity.

Please see Mrs Hodgson immediately if you, or if know someone, are able to help.

Arrangements are well underway and full details will follow in a separate letter. However you may find it useful to know the dates of the main events.

Christmas Nativity:	Tuesday 2 nd December 2pm
	Wednesday 3 rd December 2pm
	Thursday 4 th December 6.30pm
'Friends' Christmas Grotto	Friday 5 th December 5-7pm
Christingle Service:	Sunday 7 th December 11am
Christmas Lunch:	Tuesday 9 th December
Family Carol Service:	Sunday 14 th December 11am
Christmas Party:	Friday 19 th December

TERM DATES

Our last day of term is Friday 19th December 2014

Spring Term starts on Tuesday 6th January 2015

Please note:

The above dates may be different to other schools.

Yours sincerely

Mrs C A Gent
Head Teacher