



NEIGHT HILL  
HIMBLETON  
DROITWICH  
WORCS  
WR9 7LE

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www.himbleton.worcs.sch.uk

HEAD TEACHER: Mrs C A Gent

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## NEWSLETTER – JANUARY 2015

Dear Parents

Happy New Year!

Hope everyone has had a lovely holiday and a chance to enjoy the break.

School Log Book December 10<sup>th</sup> 1914:

*Children in standards IV, V & VI visited a 'Poultry Farm' in Fepsinton for instruction in Poultry Keeping*

### **WELCOME & GOODBYE**

We extend a warm welcome to Perdita Cottrill and her family who have recently moved into the area. Perdita will be joining Year 2.

At the end of last term we said goodbye to Harriet & Ellis Empson who have relocated to Gloucestershire.

### **STAFFING**

Just before Christmas we said goodbye to Mrs Hedges as she started maternity leave. We will let you know as soon as we have news - it could be very soon! I am pleased to inform you that Mrs Sarah Stevens will be covering her absence, and starts on Thursday.

### **WORK EXPERIENCE**

The following students from Pershore High School will be joining us later this term on work experience: Charlie Tufft & Jessica Dowell ~ February 23<sup>rd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>

### **PERSHORE HIGH SCHOOL**

Students from the High School will be in school on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February to deliver a Spanish taster session to children in Mrs Rogers Class.

### **CHRISTMAS NATIVITY DVD**

DVD's are now available at a cost of £5. If you would like a copy please see Mrs Hodgson. Please remember they are only for the parents and governors of the school and only one copy per family may be purchased.

### **EMERGENCY CONTACT DETAILS**

A copy of the emergency contact details held in school is attached. Please check thoroughly and amend if necessary. All forms must be signed, dated & returned, to indicate they have been checked. All sheets must be returned even if no amendments are made.

Please be aware that if we need to contact you, the school number will show as 'withheld' on your 'phones. If you do not answer, precious time is lost and whilst we will leave messages, when this is possible, it does mean delays and extra worry.

**It is important that all family members are aware of this.**

## **CURRICULUM**

**Topic** - Our whole school topic this term is 'Our World'. The focus will vary from class to class & will include:

My class: Dinosaurs, Creation & the human/physical geography eg farm, city, hills.

Mrs Holdway's class: Dinosaurs, Countries around the world

Mrs Rogers' class: Bronze Age, Iron Age & Celts, Britain, Volcanoes, Earthquakes, Rainforests

**Values** – Our school values for this term are Honesty & Forgiveness

**Worship** – Each term we follow a theme in worship & this term's is Modern Britain ie Democracy, Mutual Respect, Appreciation of others & Law. Contemporary issues will also be covered as appropriate. A copy will be on our website.

A curriculum guide for parents will follow shortly.

## **SCHOOL LINK**

Last term we started a link with Somerville School, Birmingham when a Year 2 class attended our nativity in church. We have since received thank you letters and cards from them. This term we aim to further this link with them joining us for a session of Forest School. It is also hoped that we will begin a link between staff and possibly governors. Our schools are vastly different in many ways and we see this as an opportunity to learn from each other. If you would like to know more about Somerville School please have a look at their website: <http://web.somerville.bham.sch.uk/>

## **YEAR 1 PHONICS**

All Year 1 children have to complete a phonic screening test each year. This is a statutory requirement with results being reported centrally. A brief meeting to explain the process will be held on **Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January, 9-9.30am.**

**It is very important that all Year 1 parents attend.** Please let me know immediately if you are unable to do so.

## **'FOREST SCHOOL'**

'Forest School' for children in Reception and Year 1 will commence **next week**. Please remember that children will require layered clothing and waterproof trousers and coat and to name everything!!

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

All P.E. lessons will take place in the school grounds this term. Children must have a clearly named tracksuit and girls who wear tights to school must also have a pair of socks in their PE kit.

**Tag Rugby** – Continuing on from last term we will be using our Primary Sports Grant to employ a sports coach for children in Years 1, 2 3 & 4. Miss Hazel Adams will teach Tag Rugby on Monday afternoons, starting next week. As with football, the children will need to bring in additional kit each Monday ie tracksuit, old trainers & a towel. This kit needs to go home each Monday.

Please note that all children will also need PE bags which should be left in school for the half term. This needs to contain normal kit, including tracksuit.

## **STAY & PLAY and MULTI SPORTS**

Stay & Play for Reception and Year 1, and Multi Sports for Years 2, 3, and 4 begin **next week**, Wednesday, **14<sup>th</sup> January.**

## **AFTER SCHOOL CARE**

Just a reminder that After School Care is available until 5.30pm Tuesday – Friday at a cost of £7.50 per session. This includes a drink and a snack. Ad hoc sessions are available for £10 each but you will need to check availability with Mrs Hodgson.

## **CHILDREN'S BELONGINGS**

Children's belongings that were left in school at the end of last term (including items of clothing) will be in the play shed this week. Please claim any that belong to you before the end of the week when any items remaining will be disposed of.

## **UNIFORM**

Should you wish to make an order for uniform please contact Mrs Hodgson in the office for an order form. Orders along with payment need to be returned to the office by January 16<sup>th</sup>.

## **SEVERE WEATHER**

Although forecasters are not predicting any severe weather at the moment, we need to be prepared as it can come with very little notice!

**Flooding** – As you are aware flooding can be an issue both in the village and along the surrounding lanes. We will always do our best to keep you informed of the flooding situation, via text messages and the school website. We strongly recommend that you familiarise yourselves with alternative routes so everyone is prepared.

Please make sure we have your current mobile number and notify school immediately when numbers are changed.

**Snow** – Again, please be assured we will always do our best to keep the school open as long as it is safe to do so. Neight Hill can be a problem area and it is best to completely avoid it during cold/icy spells. Parking in the village at the pub and walking up to school via our permissive path is the safest route.

Also, if there is enough snow on the ground we will take the opportunity to go outside and enjoy the snow whilst it lasts. All children need to wear suitable outdoor clothes on 'snow days'. Please name everything – initials will do!

The most reliable and up to date information on school closures can be found by listening to Hereford & Worcester radio who give out very regular bulletins. They also post the information on their website. In addition the local authority gives full information on their website [www.worcestershire.gov.uk](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk).

**It is important that all family members are aware of the above information.**

## **E-SAFETY INFORMATION**

The following information was issued to all parents last year. In support of our School Policies on Safeguarding Children and Acceptable Use, we are providing the details again. Please do take time to have a look at them and to discuss these important issues with your child. These particular websites have been recommended by the Worcestershire Safeguarding Children Board and links are available via our school website.

- CEOP Parents and Carers [www.thinkyouknow.co.uk/parents/](http://www.thinkyouknow.co.uk/parents/)
- KNOW IT ALL FOR PARENTS [www.childnet.com/resources/know-it-all-for-parents](http://www.childnet.com/resources/know-it-all-for-parents)  
This is a unique interactive e-safety guide containing advice and information for parents and carers
- NSPCC online safety for parents [www.nspcc.org.uk/help-and-advice/for-parents/online-safety/advice-for-parents/what-parents-need-know\\_wda99629.html](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/help-and-advice/for-parents/online-safety/advice-for-parents/what-parents-need-know_wda99629.html)
- NSPCC Advice for parents about talking to your child about creating, sending or receiving explicit images [http://www.nspcc.org.uk/help-and-advice/for-parents/talking-about-sex/sexting/sexting\\_wda96795.html](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/help-and-advice/for-parents/talking-about-sex sexting sexting_wda96795.html)

## **PARENT VIEW**

Schools are encouraged by OfSTED to make parents aware of the Parent View website. You are able to give your opinion on 12 aspects of the school, from the quality of teaching, to dealing with bullying and poor behaviour. By sharing your views you will be helping us to improve, and you will also be able to see what other parents have said, not only about us, but about any school in England.

Please take a look at the website: <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/> and spend just a few minutes reviewing the 12 statements.

## **READING & WRITING ~ PARENTS of RECEPTION CHILDREN**

Learning to read and write are the most important skills we can teach our children and it is essential that they are given every opportunity and chance to develop these as early as possible. It is a proven fact that school and home working together has the greatest impact.

In order to support your child in the best way possible it is very important that you attend one of the following sessions:

- Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 7.30 -9pm
- Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February 9-10.30am

Please indicate on the slip below which session you will be attending.

## **PARENT'S EVENINGS**

There will be an opportunity to discuss your child's progress with their teacher next half term on 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> March. Further details will follow nearer the time.

## **SCHOOL PLACES for SEPTEMBER 2015**

The deadline for applications for Reception 2015 is 15<sup>th</sup> January.

As you are probably aware our school typically relies on between 40 & 60% of 'out of catchment' children each year. You may be aware of advertising banners and leaflets distributed locally, but there is nothing better than parents recommending our school to others to ensure the school remains viable.

In order to maintain the school as it is, we need your help in recruiting new families. Therefore, if you know of anyone who has a child due to start school this year, or may be interested in the other places we have in the school, please see Mrs Hodgson immediately.

Parents of children in Year 4 who will be transferring to Middle School in September also need to make their applications by 15<sup>th</sup> January. If you need assistance, please ask Mrs Hodgson.

## **E MAIL**

If you would like to receive school letters by e mail then please give Mrs Hodgson the e mail address you would like them sent to. For the time being we will continue to issue paper copies with the long term aim of going paperless wherever practical.

Yours sincerely

Mrs C A Gent  
**Head Teacher**

# TERM DATES

| TERM             | OPEN (at 9am on)          | CLOSE (at 3pm on)         |
|------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| SPRING TERM 2015 | 5 <sup>th</sup> January   | 13 <sup>th</sup> February |
|                  | 23 <sup>rd</sup> February | 27 <sup>th</sup> March    |
| SUMMER TERM 2015 | 13 <sup>th</sup> April    | 22 <sup>nd</sup> May      |
|                  | 1 <sup>st</sup> June      | 17 <sup>th</sup> July     |
| AUTUMN TERM 2015 | 3 <sup>rd</sup> September | 23 <sup>rd</sup> October  |
|                  | 2 <sup>nd</sup> November  | 18 <sup>th</sup> December |
| SPRING TERM 2016 | 4 <sup>th</sup> January   | 12 <sup>th</sup> February |
|                  | 22 <sup>nd</sup> February | 24 <sup>th</sup> March    |
| SUMMER TERM 2016 | 11 <sup>th</sup> April    | 27 <sup>th</sup> May      |
|                  | 6 <sup>th</sup> June      | 22 <sup>nd</sup> July     |

School Closure/TED Dates for 2014/15

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2015

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2015

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2015

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2015 ~ Bank Holiday

School Closure/TED Dates for 2015/16

To be advised

## Himbleton Church of England First School MILK – SPRING TERM 2015

- My child does not wish to have milk this term.
- I enclose £10.26 for the whole Spring Term 2015
- I enclose £5.51 for the 1<sup>st</sup> half Spring Term 2015

Child's name.....

Signature of Parent/Guardian.....Date.....

*Please make cheques payable to Worcestershire County Council*

# **Himbleton Church of England First School**

## **Reading & Writing ~ Parents of Reception Children**

Please indicate below which session you will be attending:

- I / We will be attending on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 7.30 – 9pm
- I / We will be attending on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February 9 – 10.30am

Child's Name.....

Signed.....Date.....

Points I/we would like to be included in the presentation: