

Head Talk

Happy New Year to you all. I hope you had a restful break, although Christmas often feels like it is quite a rush! It was also an earlier start back for children and staff on the 2nd of January too! The children have settled well this year so far. They were straight back into their learning. We have already seen the Year 6 children taking part in Bikeability in the first week back (Very brave in the cold and wet weather!!). Year 5 have taken part in their first swimming session of the year at the Garrison pool. Next week is busy as we have Martin Rapley 'The Bug Man' attending school, we have the Book Fair and a special school dinner on Thursday. As always, I can be found on the playground at the beginning and end of the school days if you need to see me about anything. Have an enjoyable couple of weeks.

Lunchtimes

I have spent lots of time in the dinner hall again this week and will be over the next few weeks. I have been very pleased to have some children seek me out to show me how they are using their knife and fork properly now having practiced over the holidays. Please can I remind parents to continue to practice how to use cutlery with their children at home. It makes a huge difference to the Midday Assistant workload if children don't need to have items cut up. Thank you.

Our New Core Values

Our Core Values are a vital component in preparing our children for today, their next steps and the wider world. Last term, in partnership with pupils, parents and staff we reviewed our Core Values with the purpose of reinvigorating them, ensuring they are relevant and accessible to everyone. In addition to reviewing the Core Values we also thought about new values. After a lot of work and thought we have produced our new Core Values. Some have remained the same but you will notice some new ones.

Our new Core Values are:

Autumn term—Respect and Fairness
Spring term—Friendship and Courage
Summer term—Effort and Honesty

You will soon see our new Core Values displayed in prominent communal places. For example, the entrance foyer, school halls, classrooms and playgrounds enabling our whole school community to access them. Thank you to everyone that contributed to the positive changes we have made.

Air Conditioning

I would like to say a very big thank you to the PSA for paying for the Air Conditioning that was installed in Miss Batchelor's class room just before Christmas. It will make the classroom more comfortable for the children in the

(Continued on page 2)

summer months.

Staffing News

Mrs Gavin has been called up for Jury Service this week and next week. Mrs Eves will cover full time while Mrs Gavin is away.

Special Meal Day

On Thursday 18th January we will be having a special Chinese meal day. This will consist of Sweet and Sour Chicken/ Quorn with egg fried rice, prawn crackers and mini spring rolls with ice cream factory for desert.

If you would like your child to partake in this meal please contact the office by 10am at the latest on Monday 15th January using the parents@hamilton.essex.sch.uk email address.

Book Fair

On the week beginning Monday 15th January, we will be holding another Book Fair each evening after school in the KS1 hall. There will be over 150 books from just £3 for sale and many books have up to 75% off publishers' prices. The school will earn commission for any books sold and this will be used to buy new books for the KS1 and KS2 library. We earned an amazing £350 in commission for new books in the autumn term so please show your support by having a quick browse. Thanks Mrs Wright

Topic Overviews

Please find attached topic overviews for

your child for this term.

Poppy Appeal

Thank you very much for the donations to the Poppy Appeal in November. The school were able to donate £196.42 to the appeal.

Lost Property

We have looked through the lost property and have found some items that we feel could easily be identified even though they have NO NAME.

Grey waistcoat from Next age 10-11 years

Two tone grey coat Wilderness from TU age 9-10 years

Navy Blue coat Outdoor expedition from M&S age 9-10 years

Mauve coat from Head Essentials

Girls flowery coat from Tigerlily Debenhams age 6 years

Checked Vans Shoe

Black Mountain Warehouse Boot

If you think any of the above items might belong to your child please come to the office to claim them. If not claimed within two weeks they will be donated to charity.

(Continued on page 3)

PSA Quiz - 'Save the date!'

School quiz fundraiser on Friday 2nd March. Forms will be coming out soon so start organising your team (a maximum of 6 people).

Pupil News

Congratulations to Otto Friedlein (6SM) who won two regional tennis tournaments over Christmas and secured a place in the national final in Sunderland.

Congratulations to Izzy Pyle (5DW) for being awarded the Colchester School of Gymnastics 2017 Junior Role Model Award, Trampoline.

Calendar Dates

Spring Term 2018	
Tuesday 2 nd January 2018	First Day of Term
Monday 15 th —Friday 19 th January 2018	Book Fair after school
Monday 15 th —Friday 19 th January 2018	Science Week—Bug Man to visit
Wednesday 17 th January 2018	Year 5—Road Safety Sessions
Friday 2 nd February 2018	Year 5 Assembly—Afternoon
Tuesday 6 th February 2018	Parents Forum 7–8pm
Monday 12 th —Friday 16 th February 2018	Half Term
Wednesday 21 st February 2018	Year 6—Sats Information Evening 7–8pm
Thursday 22 nd February 2018	Individual Pupil Photos
Friday 2 nd March 2018	PSA Quiz 7.30pm
Monday 5 th —Friday 9 th March 2018	Learning Conference Week
Tuesday 13 th March 2018	Mr Gibbon (Philip Morant) to discuss homework with parents
Tuesday 13 th March 2018	Year 3—Greek Day
Wednesday 21 st March 2018	Foundation Play 2pm—RAINBOW PARENTS ONLY
Thursday 22 nd March 2018	Foundation Play 2pm—SUNSHINE PARENTS ONLY
Tuesday 27 th March 2018	Foundation trip to Marsh Farm
Thursday 29 th March 2018	Last Day of Term

Email Information

If contacting the school via email please use the parents@hamilton.essex.sch.uk address.