

# Hatfield Heath Primary School Weekly Bulletin

5<sup>th</sup> October 2018

## Message from Mrs Gelston

Since the last newsletter children, from across the school, have enjoyed taking part in BBC Music Day (last Friday) and National Poetry Day (yesterday). Such events are often talked about in the press so it is important that our work in school reflects what is happening around the country.

I'd like to draw parents attention to the updated diary dates on the second page of the newsletter as there are a number of new dates on there now.

## Our School Development Plan



During September the senior leadership team in school have been working on formulating our school's development plan for the year ahead. The purpose of this plan is to identify areas that need improvement in the school and develop actions for the year ahead. The following are keys areas for development this year:

- Raise attainment and improve progress for all pupils across the school
- Further develop the teaching and learning in the core areas of Mathematics, English and Science
- Further develop the creative and cross-curricular curriculum
- Further develop pupils' emotional well-being, resilience and self-motivation
- Further improve opportunities for parental engagement

So far, during the month of September, the following has already taken place:

1. The big focus has been on knowing what your children can do and what their next steps are. All teachers have had a meeting to discuss your child's progress and plans are now in place to support children further particularly in Reading, Writing and Maths.
2. We have introduced a new Maths scheme called Maths No Problem. This scheme supports teachers in following a particular approach in Maths that ensure children fully understand the Maths they are doing and are able to apply this to problems.
3. All teachers now set your children a 'Cold' writing task before starting a new genre of writing. The idea of this task is to identify exactly what your child may have difficulties with so that the teaching that follows is matched to your child's needs. Once the teaching has taken place (could be two weeks worth of work), a 'Hot' task is completed which identifies progress made. The cycle then begins again. Senior leaders in school have had a good look at books this week and we have already seen a great deal of progress in children's books.
4. We have introduced behaviour boards in all classes so that we can celebrate great learning behaviours. We have also used assemblies to remind children about having the right attitudes for learning.

Over the coming months we will share more about the work taking place in school and particularly how it relates to your child and their learning. During parents evenings, you will be able to see your child's books and look out for the actions mentioned above.

## Christmas Events

Following lots of discussions with staff, we have decided to make a change to when the different year groups put on productions for parents and other family members.

This year, we have decided that Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will hold Christmas productions for parents and family members to come along and watch. Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 will put on an end of year production towards the end of the Summer Term.



This decision is based on the amount of space the school has for everyone to prepare and rehearse and to ensure that older pupils' learning is not interrupted too much at a crucial time of year.

Please see the diary dates below for dates of performances this term.

## Parent & Child Behaviour Survey

Thank you to all the parents (84 in total so far) who have completed the survey sent out last week – your support in completing such surveys is really appreciated. If you haven't had chance yet to complete the survey, please follow this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/HMF27FN>.

## Dates for the Diary

Date	Event
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> October	Reception parents Reading Workshop at 9.05am
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> October	INSET Day – Pupils not in school
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October – Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> October	Half Term
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> October	Children return to school
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> October	Parents Evening
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> November	Parents Evening
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 6 Visit to Warner Bros Studio Tour
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> November	Flu Immunisations for Pupils
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> November – Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> November	Anti-Bullying Week
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 4 Visit to Colchester Castle
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> November – Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> November	Road Safety Week
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> December – 2.00pm	Year 1 & 2 Christmas Play for Parents
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December – 6.00pm	Year 1 & 2 Christmas Play for Parents
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> December – 9.45am/ 2.30pm	Reception Christmas Singalong for Parents
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Reception, Year 1 and 2 Classes at the Pantomine
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	Last Day of Term
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> January 2019	INSET Day – Pupils not in school
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2019	Pupils return to school