



Head Talk

Welcome to the final newsletter of the half term! Lots has gone on over the last few weeks. The Year 6 children had a wonderful time in Norfolk and the weather was very kind. The Year 5 children have started learning about 'Space' and there are a couple of pictures on our website that show the brilliant work that is being produced.

Year 4 have had a lovely time visiting the Roman Circus this week and you can find out more about their trip in this letter.

The PSA have planned a great after school activity for next week with Halloween just around the corner. Leaflets were sent home with the children on Wednesday 10th October.

Have a lovely last week at school and remember we are breaking for half term on Monday the 22nd October and returning to school on Monday the 29th October.

Play equipment at the beginning and end of the day

I would like to remind parents that the playground equipment is not to be played on before or after school. Thank you.

Parent Forum

The next Parents' Forum is taking place on the 17th October at 2pm. We will be covering School results, an update on building works and clarification of Non-Pupil Days. Do come along. We will have some drinks and cakes too.

Illness

Just to remind parents that the school operates a clear **48 hours policy** from when children are last sick or suffering with a stomach bug.

Year 1 Walk

On Wednesday, 3rd October, as part of our geography topic, The Local Area, Year One went on a walk round the roads near the school. We had already studied the map of our route and looked at it on google street view. The children learned about the different human-made features of our local environment - the shops, the hairdressers, the vets, the garage, the pharmacy, the dentist, the hospital, the Grammar School, the church and the nursery. Travelling Ted came with us and had his photo taken at the different locations. The day was fine, and the children enjoyed their walk and learned a lot about their local area. Many thanks to all the parents who came with us and helped.

Year 5 Football Tournament

Last Friday a group of Year 5 boys took on different schools in a football tournament at Shrub End Playing field. The boys played 8 different 7 a side matches that lasted 8 minutes each. All 10 boys were fantastic representatives of our school. They played exceptionally well, all displaying brilliant sportsmanship. These boys had never played a match of football together as a team and I could not fault their level of skill and professionalism. I hope that they are as proud of themselves as I am. They have done their school proud. A massive well done to Dihan, Kobe, Louis, Oliver, Josh, Ethan, Jed, Charlie, George and Alessandro!





Year 6 week at Aylmerton

Last week Year 6 went to Aylmerton for their residential. We thoroughly enjoyed ourselves! It's really hard to choose our favourite activities because there were so many but Twilight Safari; Monster Trail; Pirate Activities; Blakeney Point to see the seals, walk through the mud and collect stones on the beach were some of the highlights. We learnt about Encouragement, Communication and Cooperation. These helped us to work successfully as a team and support each other throughout the week. The leaders were really funny, kind, caring, helpful, knowledgeable and helped make our trip memorable.

We liked sharing rooms with our friends and it helped us to become a little bit more independent and confident. The food was better than we were expecting, the cooked breakfast was another highlight and we were surprised to get a 3-course meal each night!

Back in school, we have started writing stories based on the tale we heard on the Twilight Safari, we have made Gargoyle art and are looking forward to creating our own mini rockpools.

We would like to say a huge thank you to all the adults that helped us and made the trip enjoyable and exciting. Year 5 have lots to look forward to next year!

By Lucy Charad, Noah Jones, Amelie Taylor.

Year 4 Roman Circus visit

Both Year 4 classes visited the Roman Circus this week. They enjoyed taking part in a quiz as well as looking at the model of the Roman Circus, which had a seating capacity of about 10,000 people, and at the many Roman artefacts including a tile which has a footprint of a dog, a cat and a Roman sandal imprint! We finished the morning with some team races from the starting gates. All the children behaved extremely well. They learnt a lot but also demonstrated their knowledge and understanding of chariot racing throughout the morning. Thank you very much to all the parents who came to help - this was much appreciated.

Secondary School Applications

The closing date for Secondary School Applications is 31 October 2018. Applications must be made online via the Essex County Council Applications page. It can be found at: <https://www.essex.gov.uk/Education-Schools/Schools/Admissions/Pages/Apply-Online.aspx>

Please make sure you do list more than one Secondary School.

Lost Property

The red dustbin by the Infant toilets is overflowing with jumpers and cardigans. Please come and check if any belong to your child.

Harvest Festival

On Thursday 18th October we will be having two Harvest Festival services. Key Stage One will be having a special assembly at 9.30am in school and Key Stage Two will be going to Christchurch, Ireton Road, in the afternoon. Unfortunately, due to constraints on numbers, we are not able to invite parents to these services.

As part of these services, we would like to give food donations to the Salvation Army and the Food Bank to support those people less fortunate than ourselves and these donations can be brought to school from Monday 1st October. The kinds of food items that we would like donations of are: Oxtail, Vegetable, Tomato, Chicken or Mushroom Soup. Tinned meat, tinned fruit, custard, pickles and pasta. Tea and coffee are used daily, but they have a policy that it must be fair trade.

If your child is in Key Stage One, then any donations that you send in need to be taken to the Key Stage One Library and if your child is in Key Stage Two, then any donations you send in need to be put on the stage in the Upstairs Hall.



Learning Conference Week

Learning Conference Week is Tuesday 13th November to Thursday 15th November. There will be **NO** clubs this week.

Sexual and criminal exploitation of children – will you spot the signs?

Please find attached a letter from Essex Police regarding the above for your information.

Data Collection Sheets

A second data collection sheet has been sent home for those children that haven't returned the original sent home in September.

Please check the details especially phone numbers are still correct, sign and return to the office **ASAP**.

This will enable us to contact you in case of an emergency.

Christmas Market

The PSA are organising a Christmas Market on Saturday 1st December. More details to follow.

Cleaner Required

We currently have a vacancy for a cleaner. The role is for 1 hour 40 minutes each day after school. If interested, please contact Mrs Bain in the school office.

Colchester Bus Stop Reallocation

Please find attached information we have been asked to forward to you from Essex County Council about Colchester Bus Stop Reallocation.

Pupil News

Well done to Bonnie Thorpe (4FN) who took part in the Colchester Fire Swim with her Brownie Pack and helped raise £125.00. All participants earned a medal.



Calendar Dates

Autumn Term 2018	
Wednesday 17 th October 2018	Parents Forum – 2pm
Friday 19 th October 2018	Year 4 visit to Colchester Castle
Monday 22 nd October – Friday 26 th October 2018	Half Term
Tuesday 13 th November – Thursday 15 th November 2018	Learning Conference Week - NO CLUBS AFTER SCHOOL
Friday 16 th November 2018	Year 6 Class Assembly – 2.30pm
Wednesday 28 th November 2018	Flu Immunisation
Friday 30 th November 2018	Year 1 and Year 2 visit to watch Jack and the Beanstalk
Saturday 1 st December 2018	PSA Christmas Market
Monday 3 rd December 2018	Year 5 visit to First Site
Thursday 6 th December 2018	Year 4 Play
Friday 7 th December 2018	Foundation Bauble Workshop
Monday 10 th December – Tuesday 11 th December 2018	Infant Nativity – Christchurch 6pm
Wednesday 12 th December 2018	Christmas Dinner
Wednesday 12 th – Thursday 13 th December 2018	Junior Carol Service – Christchurch 6pm
Monday 17 th December 2018	Christmas Songs performed by Rainbow Class
Tuesday 18 th December 2018	Christmas Songs performed by Sunshine Class
Wednesday 19 th December 2018	Last Day of Term
Spring Term 2019	
Thursday 3 rd January 2019	First Day of Term
Monday 18 th February to Friday 22 nd February 2019	Half Term

Email Information

If contacting the school via email please use:

parents@hamilton.essex.sch.uk