



Hundon Community Primary School  
Newsletter  
Friday 16th November 2018



Link to our website is [www.hundon.suffolk.sch.uk](http://www.hundon.suffolk.sch.uk)

Friday 23rd November ~ Willow Class Presentation

Head Teacher's Awards

Acorn Class ~ Aimee Kenwood

Willow Class ~ Keira Roberts & Harrison Bentley

Oak Class ~ Gabriel Parker-Hall

Hawthorn Class ~ Freya Richardson & Eloise Keyte

A little note from Mrs Fitzgerald...

Goodness me this week has flown by! I have been wowed this week by the children's empathy and thoughtfulness in relation to our work related to World Kindness Day and the theme of 'respect' as part of anti-bullying week.

Don't forget our 'Parent Forum' session which is planned for before our Class Celebration Presentation on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> November. As mentioned last week I will be keen to hear your thoughts on the information shared on our Pupil Progress sheets as well as the always 'hot' topic 'Homework'. I have kept the homework information in this week's letter for anyone who may have missed it and do want to 'flag up' the mention of adjustments being available for pupils with particular circumstances, needs and/or difficulties.

I do hope some of you will be able to make the Parent Forum. As I said last week, I know how much the forum is valued and appreciated.

Be sure to check the 'Dates for Your Diary' section!

Have a lovely weekend!

Warmest regards, Mrs Fitzgerald

**Please note date change!**

**Making the world better with a festive sweater!**

On Thursday 13th December the children are invited to donate £1 to the charity **SAVE THE CHILDREN** and wear a christmas jumper / something christmassy.

Your donations will help bring essential healthcare, education, protection and food to millions of children around the world who don't have access to these basics.



**Save the Children**  
**CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY**

## **FREE SCHOOL MEALS AND PUPIL PREMIUM**

**HELP US TO ENSURE YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL IS AS WELL FUNDED AS POSSIBLE!**

You will already be aware that children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are offered a free healthy school lunch if they wish to take it, funded by central government. What you may not realise is that if you register for free school meals (and are eligible) it could raise an extra £1320 for your child's school, irrelevant of what year group your child is in and your child doesn't have to take the meal if they don't want it!

This can fund things like extra learning support hours for individual children, groups and whole classes as well as provide extra tuition, additional teaching staff, and supplementary resources for all children, even after-school / extra-curricular activities.

This additional money is available from central government for every child whose parent receives one of the following welfare benefits:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support from NASS (National Asylum Support Service) under part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual income of no more than £16,190
- Working Tax Credit run-on
- Universal Credit.

It is really important to sign up for free school meals, even if your child is in one of the funded year groups for meals so that we receive as much funding as possible.

As already stated your child does not have to take the meal and if they do, no one will know how it was paid for. We are committed to ensuring personal and sensitive information that we hold is protected, kept safe, secure, and confidential, and we have measures in place to prevent the loss, misuse or alteration of your personal information.

Please take a few moments to complete the form sent along with the newsletter to help us make sure your child's school is as well funded as possible.

## HOMEWORK



The Governors and staff of Hundon and Thurlow Primary Federation believe that homework is "an important aspect of a child's education", as described by the Department of Education. We believe it encourages children to realise that learning can take place outside the classroom as well as promoting independent learning, thus encouraging the child to take greater responsibility for their personal progress. Homework allows parents, carers and our schools, to work in partnership for the benefit of their child.

We also know most parents do appreciate the value and importance of homework, whilst some feel that we do not set enough, others feel there is too much and a few feel homework is unwarranted and choose that their child should not do homework.

As a Federation we acknowledge the theme of homework can be contentious as well as a source of conflict and as a result we are, in effect, 'stuck' between a rock and a hard place, not least because we are also aware of the expectations in the next educational setting. At secondary, the children are expected to undertake up to 6 hours of homework weekly (in Year 7) to reinforce and enhance their learning in school as well as prepare them for the rigours of the independent study required by GCSE's and beyond. We recognise we have to contribute to preparing the children with home learning and developing independent study skills to ensure they have the stamina and self-motivation for such demands.

Up until now we have with varying success, endeavoured to provide a range of homework activities, with varying degrees of difficulty and involvement, in order to best accommodate, as much as we can, the many and various 'pulls' on family time. The amount and type of homework has been set at a level which has been believed to be reasonable and manageable for the 'typical' pupil as well as in line with any guidance and research available. **Additionally, adjustments can be made for particular individuals with particular needs following discussion with Class Teachers.**

Going forward we are planning to trial the following:

Year Group:	Guideline Amount:	When set:	Tasks/Activities/Subject Areas: Our expectations are that:
RECEPTION		Weekly	Children will be encouraged to read / read with you daily with the expectation being a minimum of three times each week for a few minutes. (This can include bedtime stories which form part of night time routines.)  A focused task linked to using and applying sounds with word and Maths tasks being set later in the academic year.  This could be worked on for a few minutes each evening.
KEY STAGE ONE	Up to 1 hour weekly	Weekly	Children will be encouraged to read / read with you daily with the expectation being a minimum of three times each week for a few minutes. (This can include bedtime stories which form part of night time routines.)  Children in Year 1 and Year 2 will complete an English or Topic related task / game / activity weekly. Year 2 will also have a Maths CPG book and need to complete a task within it each week.  Time spent on homework could be built up to 15 minutes each evening or undertaken in a block of time as suits your family time / child.

LOWER KEY STAGE TWO	Up to 1½ hours across the week	Weekly	<p>Children will be encouraged to read / read with you daily with the expectation being a minimum of three times each week of up to 10 minutes. (This can include bedtime stories which form part of night time routines.)</p> <p>Children will complete a consolidating English and Maths task / game /activity each week. Occasional assignments, linked to class themes and topics, will be set for completion over a half term.</p> <p>Time spent on homework could be up to 20 minutes each evening or undertaken in a block of time as suits your family time / child.</p>
UPPER KEY STAGE TWO	Up to 2 hours across the week	Weekly	<p>Children will be encouraged to read / read with you daily with the expectation being a minimum of three times each week for 20 minutes. (This can include bedtime stories which form part of night time routines.)</p> <p>Children will complete a consolidating English and Maths task / game /activity during the week.</p> <p>Assignments, linked to topics and / or Science, will be set for completion over a half term.</p> <p>Time spent on homework could be up to 30 minutes each evening or undertaken in a block of time as suits your family time / child.</p>

### SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Attendance and punctuality are central to ensuring all pupils can fulfil their potential – pupils need to attend school regularly to benefit from their education. Missing lessons leaves children vulnerable to falling behind. It is widely acknowledged that children with poor attendance achieve less in both primary and secondary school.

Thank you for helping us by remembering any **leaves of absence** must be taken in school closure periods unless there are **rare and strictly exceptional circumstances** and for **supporting your child's learning and progress** by ensuring that **non-urgent appointments**, for example, dentist, optician, Doctor, are **arranged outside school hours**.

### Electronic Payments

Following requests via parent forum we are pleased to advise that payments for school trips in addition to paying for school meals can be made online from September. Please see the instructions below.

The links related to electronic payments are as follows:

School Meals

<https://secure.suffolkcc.gov.uk/customerservice/CSD/SCC/product.aspx?ProductID=EDSM01>

School Trips

[https://secure.suffolkcc.gov.uk/customerservice/CSD/product.aspx?ProductID=SCC\\_T\\_SchoolList&SchoolProductName=SchoolTrips](https://secure.suffolkcc.gov.uk/customerservice/CSD/product.aspx?ProductID=SCC_T_SchoolList&SchoolProductName=SchoolTrips)

### CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL PLACES

The admissions round opened on September 12th for primary school places starting next September (2019). Please be aware the closing date for applications is January 15th 2019 with the offer date identified as April 16th, 2019. We recommend families apply online as soon as possible in order to secure their places. Further information regarding admissions can be found on our school website or

[www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/schools/school-places/](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/schools/school-places/)



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### Autumn Term

*Tuesday 20th November ~ OPEN MORNING AT HUNDON*

*For prospective parents for places in September 2019*

*Oak Class Egyptian afternoon (Please see parentmail for details)*

*Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> November ~ Yr 5/6 Sportshall Competition at Sam Ward **CANCELLED***

*Friday 23rd November ~ Willow / Acorn Class Celebration Presentation*

*Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> November ~ Yr 5/6 Basketball comp at Castle manor*

*Monday 3rd December ~ ADVENT 'PAUSE' DAY with Mrs Betts at Hundon*

**Wednesday 5th December ~ Christingle (Carol) Service at the Church at 2pm (TBC)**

*Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December ~ AM & PM Performances of EYFS & KS 1 Nativity Production*

*Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December ~ Children's Christmas Lunch ~ Christmas Jumper Day*

*Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December ~ Hundon PTA Christmas Disco ~ details to follow*

*Monday 17th December ~ Carols On The Playground (PM definitely, time to be confirmed)*

*Tuesday 18th December ~ Lego Visit at Hundon*

*Wednesday 19th December ~ **END OF TERM***



### **Pending Term Dates for the Academic Year 2018-2019**

#### **Christmas Holiday**

Begins 20 December 2018 ~ Ends 1 January 2019

#### **Spring Term 2019**

Begins 2 January 2019 ~ Ends 5 April 2019

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> January PD day**

#### **Spring Half Term**

Begins 18 February 2019 ~ Ends 22 February 2019

#### **Spring Easter Break**

Begins 8 April 2019 ~ Ends 22 April 2019

#### **Summer Term 2019**

Begins 23 April 2019 ~ Ends 24 July 2019

#### **23<sup>rd</sup> April & 24<sup>th</sup> May PD days**

#### **Summer Half Term**

Begins 27 May 2019 ~ Ends 31 May 2019