

HOOTON PAGNELL ALL SAINTS PRIMARY

January School News

Looking back at December

It has been lovely returning to school this week. The atmosphere has been so calm and the pupils have all settled back into school with determined attitudes and an eagerness to learn.

December was a busy time for us in school. We had our Christmas jumper and Christmas dinner day, Christmas themed assemblies, our annual visit to the Pantomime at Cast ("Oh yes we did!"), our Christmas parties, our Nativity and our outdoor carol concerts with delicious hot chocolate refreshments. This year we added in a Christmas Fayre, which was hugely successful. Thank you to everyone who contributed in any way to these events. We managed to raise the following for our school funds, every penny of which will make a difference for our pupils:

Christmas Fayre - £593.55
Concert VIP tickets - £86
Raffles/ Refreshments - £171
Mugs - £52.30
TOTAL - £902.85!

In addition, Kim Bennion's raffle raised over £750!

We are planning to continue our fund raising attempts this year. If you would like to help with this, please contact Mrs Sanderson on class dojo.

Homework

Home learning

As a school, we understand that, for many families, homework can be a battle. We wanted to take the time to explain the main reasons that we set homework:

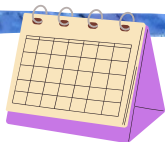
1. Learning at home helps to consolidate the skills taught in school, as well as consolidating what your child has learned.
2. It gives children an opportunity to explore learning in an unstructured setting, encouraging them to be independent and follow their own lines of enquiry.
3. As children reach their later years at Primary School, homework helps them transition into secondary school, as they prepare for a larger workload.

Class teachers have noticed that many of the children in their classes are not completing the required home learning tasks set. For most children this is a maths and spelling task, often set online, as a interactive and fun way to learn. Unfortunately, failure to complete the required tasks means that some of the children are falling behind their peers in terms of progress and achievement.

Can we ask that you please help your child to find the time to complete the tasks set each week? If you have any questions about home learning, please contact the class teacher directly.

Key Dates

- 12/01 - Swimming starts for year 5 (pm)
- 17/01 - Navigator (Years 5 and 6) Wild West Day
- 17/01 - Adventurer Virtual Author workshop - Jess Butterworth
- 22/01 - All classes start their 3 week competency unit
- 22/01 - Bible Assembly
- 05/02 - Bible Assembly
- 09/02 - Last Day of half term
- 19/02 - Back to school
- 19/02 - All classes to start their Conflict- themed unit.
- 21/02 - Sports for Schools afternoon - fitness assembly
- 23/02 - Class Newsletters on dojo
- 26/02 - Parent-teacher meetings (pm)
- 28/02 - Navigators to visit Doncaster Museum (Romans)
- 04/03 - Worship with Mark
- 18/03 - Bible Assembly
- 19/03 - Year 6 visit to Crucial Crew
- 25/03 - Easter Focus Work for all pupils
- 25/03 - Easter themed after school club special event
- 28/03 - Last day of term
- 15/04 - Back to school



Sleep - a guide for school aged children

Getting sufficient sleep has been shown to benefit memory, learning, attention, mood, behaviour and physical health.

How many hours does your child need?

Age	Hours of sleep
3 - 5 years	11 - 13
5 - 9 years	10 - 11 hours
10 - 14 years	9 - 9.75 hours
15 - 17 years	8.5 - 8.75 hours
Adults	7 - 9 hours

(Information from National Sleep Foundation and NHS Choices)

Dinner Money Reminder

If your child is in the Adventurers or Navigators class and has school dinners, can we politely ask that you remember to pay for the dinners at the start of the week. Thank you.

Online Safety - WhatsApp

You must be at least 16 years old to register for and use WhatsApp. WhatsApp is a free messaging app that allows you to send messages, voice notes, photos and videos.

What should I be aware of?

Group chats: One of the key features is the group chat function. Everybody in the group, even if they are not one of your child's phone contacts, will be able to see all messages within that group. If your child is added to a group with someone that they have previously blocked, that person can still see their messages and send them messages within the group chat. In settings, you can change who can add your child to groups. You can leave a group chat at any point so talk to your child and encourage them to leave any chat that makes them feel uncomfortable.

Location sharing: you can share your location on WhatsApp. Talk to your child about when this would be appropriate to use but also the potential danger of sharing their location, for example with strangers.

Blocking/Reporting: Show your child how to block and report other users or inappropriate content. You can find out how to do it based on your child's device here:

<https://faq.whatsapp.com/1142481766359885/>

Further information

NSPCC provide further advice and tips to help keep your child safe:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keepingchildren-safe/online-safety/onlinesafety-blog/2023-01-12-is-whatsappsafe-for-my-child/>



Uniform

Please make sure that pupils are wearing PLAIN BLACK shoes or trainers on uniform days. On PE days, they can wear any suitable trainers.

We all love fashion, but please could you make sure that school skirts and shorts/ PE shorts (ie Nike Pro) are not too short so that they are appropriate for the activities in school

Please make sure that all clothing (especially jumpers, cardigans and sports tops worn on PE days) are clearly labelled.

Next Newsletter - 2nd February 2024