



HOMELINK

3rd September 2021

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Dear Children & Parents,

It has been an amazing start to the school year. Seeing the children coming into school on Thursday was an absolute delight, they looked so smart and so happy to be back. It was a real joy to watch the children during break and lunch time finally all being able to play together. The older children were very excited to be able to go on the adventure playground and there were lots of children taking advantage of our new path around the edge of the field. Today we have had our first assembly, initially it felt a bit strange having nearly 200 people in the hall but with all the necessary mitigations in place it was an absolute delight to be able to come together.

Thank you for your patience as we have adjusted to another way of operating and the end of bubbles. Our feeling was that drop off worked well but pickup was a little bit slower than we anticipated. We will monitor things for a few more days to see if it speeds up while assessing if we need to make any adjustments. Again I thank you for your support and flexibility.

Unfortunately, at the end of the summer term we said goodbye to Mrs Ware, who has decided to return to the classroom as a teacher. We wish her the best of luck and know that while she will be very much missed here she will be absolutely amazing in her new job. Consequently, we've made a few staffing changes, Mrs Lemon is now working in year 2 and Mrs Richardson is doing some additional hours for us while we recruit a new learning support assistant. Details of the role can be found on the Hampshire recruitment website (www.hampshire.education-jobs.org.uk/Vacancy) or you can ask at the office if you or anyone you know is interested in working at our amazing school.

As with previous years I have set out as many dates as possible for you for the coming academic year. At present COVID infection rates are roughly similar to those we saw before the summer holiday. As a school we are continuing with enhanced cleaning, hand sanitizing and hygiene while ventilating the school as much as possible. In the coming days we will be looking at any immediate events and any relevant COVID guidance to ensure all events are done in as safe a way as possible for the whole community.

William Neighbour

Key Dates

September

- 2nd Children Start Back
- 15th Curriculum Afternoons (more details to come next week)
- 27th INSET—School closed to children

October

- 4th Harvest Festival Assembly
- 5th 2022/23 Reception Open Event (2pm & 7pm)
- 18th Parent's Evening
- 20th Parent's Evening
- 22nd Break up for half term

November

- 1st Children Start Back
- 8th 2022/23 Reception Open Event (2pm & 7pm)
- 19th Whole School Flu Immunisation
- 19th Children In Need
- 22nd INSET—School closed to children

December

- 2nd 2022/23 Reception Open Event (2pm)
- 13th Christingle Service @ St Peter's Church, 10am
- 14th Infant Nativity (10am & 2pm)
- 15th Infant Nativity (10am)
- 16th Christmas Lunch & Christmas jumper day
- 17th Break up for Christmas at Lunchtime

January 2022

- 4th INSET—School closed to children
- 5th Children Start Back

February 2022

- 8th Safer Internet Day
- 18th Break up for half term at 3.15pm
- 28th Children Start Back

March 2022

- 3rd World Book Day
- 11th Sports Relief
- 21st INSET—School closed to children

April 2022

- 8th Colour Team Morning (with parents)
- 8th Break up for Easter at Lunchtime
- 25th Children Start Back

May 2022

- 9th KS2 SATs Week starts
- 19th 2022/23 Reception Induction Evening (7pm)
- 27th Break up for half term

June 2022

- 6th Children Start Back
- 6th Y6 Residential Week Starts
- 17th Den Building with parents
- 27th INSET—School closed to children

July 2022

- 13th Y6 Production 6:30pm
- 14th Y6 Production 6:30pm
- 15th Annual Reports to Parents
- 18th Newlands' Got Talent Festival
- 19th Sports Day
- 20th Y6 Leaver's Service
- 21st Break up for Summer at Lunchtime

September 2022

- 1st Children Start Back (Provisional)

PTO for Sports Day photos.



Sports Day 2021

In July the children had the final afternoon of their Olympic-themed Sports Day. Just as with the real Olympics they have been taking part over a number of days earning points for their colour teams. This culminated with a Covid safe afternoon of sprint races for infants followed by juniors.

One beneficial aspect of the restrictions on parent attendance was that we could open up the field and invite any child who wanted to race to take part and the children jumped at the opportunity. Despite sweltering conditions participation was fantastic, with some entire classes able to race. The children also embraced the Olympic spirit and it was quite humbling to see how supportive of each other they were.

Bronze, silver and gold medals were awarded on the podium after each race and after the points were added up the Green team won the Infants competition while the Red team won the Juniors competition. When the points were combined the overall winners of Sports Day 2021 were the Red team by a mere 80 points with a total of 4441 points.

