



Headteacher Newsletter 8th September 2023

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Key Dates:

12 th September- 7.30pm HSPTA meeting	26 th September – Year R Welcome to classrooms
19 th September – Year 2 Meet the teacher	26 th September- school photos
20 th September – Year 1 Meet the teacher	4 th October – Maths Multiply games event

Communications this week:

School Menu & Seasonal Menu	Club reminders
Welcome Back Useful Information	
Y1 Important Info	

Dear Parents & Carers,

Welcome back to all our families with children in Years 1 & 2 and a very big welcome to all our new Year R families. It has been wonderful having all the children back and seeing them settle so well into their new classes. The children and staff have coped very well with this very hot September weather! Mrs Flood and I have enjoyed getting round the classrooms, engaging with the children and spending time with them at playtime and lunchtime. All classes have had a strong focus on building positive relationships and getting to know one another well in this first week as we know this is so important to establish early on. My assembly to Years 1 and 2 on Tuesday was a welcome back and reminder of our three school rules 'Be Safe, Be Kind, Be Ready' which they have remembered really well. We also talked lots about staying safe in the sun with the very hot weather this week!

Classroom welcome sessions

We are welcoming you into your child's classroom after school at 3.15pm, where you will get a chance to meet the teacher, see the classroom and hear about class/year group key messages. If you need time to speak with your child's new class teacher individually, please arrange this at another time as the teacher will not have time to speak to everyone individually in this session. You will receive an information handout next Friday all about your child's new year group, following this if you have any further questions you will be able to ask these in this session. The timings and days for these sessions are as follows:

Year 2: Tuesday 19th September 3.15pm-3.30pm

Year 1: Wednesday 20th September 3.15pm-3.30pm

Year R: Tuesday 26th September 3.15pm-3.30pm

New Look Website!

We are very excited that our new website has just been launched! We still have new information to add as it is still in the development process, we look forward to fully sharing it with you when all these updates have been made.

Annual Dates

Attached is our Annual Dates and Events Calendar. These are in the process of being populated on our school website and there will no doubt be some changes and additions throughout the year that we will communicate with you, when necessary.

Multiply Free Maths Games Night

The Multiply maths team at Hampshire County Council is hosting a family games afternoon at our school on Wednesday 4th October. More details will be sent out next week on how to book and join this fun free after school event.

Snacks/lunchboxes/Nut Free School

We have a fruit/vegetable snack provided for the children daily through the government scheme so there is no need for you to provide your child with a separate snack in the morning.

A reminder that we are a nut free school so if you do send your child with a packed lunch please ensure all products are nut free e.g. no Nutella or peanut butter sandwiches. Please can we also remind you no sweets or fizzy drinks in packed lunches. We would encourage all families to opt for the hot school dinners as these are free for all infant aged children and provide a hot nutritious balanced meal for children at lunchtime.

Play Equipment/Outdoor area

Please could I kindly ask you to not allow your children and their siblings to play on the school play equipment or climb between plant borders before or after school. Due to safety these areas should only be used during school hours with staff supervision.

Summer Reading Challenge

Hopefully lots of the children engaged in the summer reading challenge and enjoyed reading 6 new books. We are really proud of everyone who achieved this challenge. Please do bring in your certificates to show the teachers so we can celebrate your achievements.

Hiltingbury Hangouts Before and After School Club Bookings

We have now taken over the running of the before and after school clubs at Hiltingbury Infants. The school council last year worked with their classes and came up with the new name of 'Hiltingbury Hangouts'. A reminder that you now need to book in advance for both before and after school clubs, through the Arbor app and pay in advance for the days and times you need. Further information is available on our website with a whole information handbook - please visit our school website to find out more and if you still need support contact the school office. We look forward to welcoming lots of children to the club.

Festivals/celebrations

We love to celebrate and recognise our diverse culture within our school community. In the annual dates we have put in some celebration weeks that many of our children celebrate with their families. We would love to add more to our annual calendar so please get in touch and let us know what you celebrate as a family if this is not listed on our annual dates.

Learning Highlights from Each Year Group

Year R

It has been wonderful to visit all of our new families this week; we are really looking forward to working together to ensure a smooth transition into school. It was great to find out about the children, see their favourite toys and even meet some of their pets! All the children looked very smart in their new uniforms on their first day at school today and we were delighted to be greeted by so many excited children, eager to come into their classrooms. We have enjoyed getting to know the children this week, introducing them to their new classrooms and having lots of fun playing!

Year 1

The Year 1 children have settled well back into school and are learning the new routines for Year 1. The Year 1 teachers are particularly proud in the way in which they have returned to school especially when leaving their parents at the door. During the week the children have worked hard to listen and follow instructions in areas of the curriculum and they have enjoyed learning to work in teams. Each class have enjoyed playing parachute games, having circle times, continuing their learning in phonics and reading. Coach Ashley took the P.E session this Friday and all the children were engaged which was lovely to see. Some of the children brought in their little 'This is me' posters, booklets or spoke about themselves to their class teacher. You still have time to complete this task at home and please bring in these next week.

There will be more information to follow about Year 1 however we are very much looking forward to working in partnership with you this year and sharing in your child's learning journey.

Year 2

Welcome to Year 2! We hope you enjoyed a wonderful summer despite the wet weather we had! The children have amazed us with how well they have returned to school and quickly settled into their new environments. They are enjoying learning the new routines of Year 2 and have started to develop and build on new and existing friendships. We are really proud of them all! During the week, we have really focused on relationships and have appreciated all the time and effort they have put into their 'This is me' guide. It has been delightful to share these as a class and to see the children speaking so confidently about their summer experiences. We will continue to explore these further next week; thank you for supporting your child to complete this. We have also continued our Little Wandle phonics learning and the teachers have enjoyed listening to all children read. They have produced some fantastic postcards and aspirations for the year ahead. You will receive further information about Year 2 next week and we look forward to welcoming you at our class welcome sessions on Tuesday 19th September at 3:15pm. We hope that you will be able to attend this session and look forward to working in partnership with you this year to support your child's learning journey at Hiltingbury Infant School further.

Hope you have a wonderful weekend in the sunshine!

Kind Regards

Phillippa Longman

