

Dear Parents/Carers,

A very warm welcome back! I hope that you've all had lovely summer holidays and are ready for another action packed term here at Hunsdon.

STAFF CHANGES – This term we welcome Miss Katie Holmes and Mrs. Jenny Shillito to our ranks and they will be working in Oak and Maple classes respectively. We are also very happy to welcome Mrs. Julia Walker back to the school; she has once again donned her white armour and mounted her charger to ride to our rescue whilst Mrs. Cox is unwell. There is further good news as Mr. Bob Simpson has been persuaded to officially replace Mr. Falchi as our Caretaker and finally I am sure you join us all in congratulating Miss Wade and Miss Wiltshire who both got married over the summer and have now become Mrs. Jewitt and Mrs. Edwards respectively.

WEBSITE – Please take a look at our website for dates and information, it's a labour of love and will be updated regularly throughout the term. On occasions photographs will be taken of children and be placed on our school website or perhaps published in the local paper. We do not name individual children, however, if you do not wish your child to appear on the website or in the local paper please inform the office in writing.

HOMEWORK – Homework for Years 1 - 3 will focus mainly on reading, learning their spellings and tables, Years 4 – 6 will have work relating to English, Maths or Topic subjects in addition to the above. Please ensure that your child completes their homework and returns it to their class teacher on time. Reading with your child on a regular, preferably daily, basis is essential and makes all the difference in terms of their progress and also hopefully encourages a lifelong enjoyment of reading. We would appreciate your support with this and ask that you fill in their reading record book, which we will be checking. Updated curriculum plans will be on the school website shortly.

FRIDAY “SHARE & TELL” ASSEMBLIES – All parents are invited to attend these assemblies that begin again next week, **Friday 16th September** at 2.45pm.

LEPRA VISIT – Monday 19th September – The first of two special assemblies being run by representatives from Lepra, the charity set up to help people affected by leprosy.

HAFSLS – Thursday afternoons 22nd Sept to 20th Oct - 'Herts Adults and Families Learning Service' have very kindly offered to run a short course during school hours for parents and their children to work together on a Reading topic. The course is completely free and will take place over five sessions on Thursday afternoons 1.15 – 3.15pm. There will be a letter coming home tomorrow and places will be booked on a first-come basis.

'MEET THE TEACHER' – **Tuesday 27th September for Years Rec, 1, 2, 4 & 6 and Tuesday 4th October for Years Reception, 1, 3 & 5** – This is an opportunity to see how your child has settled in to their class after the summer break. Appointment times to be sent out nearer the time. These are set dates, and due to high numbers of children, teachers will be unable to make alternative appointments.

MACMILLAN COFFEE EVENT – Friday 30th September – Cedar class are again organising this for the whole school and all parents and carers are very welcome. Please help us in supporting this worthwhile cause by joining us on the morning and sending in cakes and biscuits for us to sell.

WOODLAND WALK – Monday 3rd October – Our intrepid Oak class will be on their travels, bravely exploring the deep and dark woods of distant Broxbourne! More details to follow...

NASAL FLU VACCINATIONS – Wednesday, 12th October – Please remember to hand your Nasal Flu forms back to the office.

HARVEST ASSEMBLY – Monday 17th October 9:15am – This year our Harvest Assembly will be to support the charity 'Farm Africa'; who are asking people to help African farming families by walking in

wellies! Consequently, I would once again like to invite you all to arrive at school wearing your wellies (decorated to your personal taste) and take part in the **Great Welly Walk** around the school grounds before gathering in the school hall for our Harvest Assembly. Sponsorship forms for the children will be strolling towards you next week! Also, we are continuing to support our local foodbank so could you send any tinned or dried food that you can spare in with your child on the morning of the Harvest Assembly please. For more details about the types of food they so desperately need please see their website: <http://mrct.org.uk/>

JEANS FOR GENES – Friday 21st October - This year we are supporting this excellent charity not only by wearing jeans but by again having a special Science day. So bring a pound, pull on a pair of jeans and support the 1 in 25 children who inherit a genetic disorder that makes their life difficult. Please note that as the science sessions run through the day there will be no Sharing Assembly.

YEAR 6 MOVING ON - Just a reminder to Year 6 parents that this is the time to be thinking about Secondary Schools, the online application system is now open and applications need to be in before 31st October 2015. Please do attend the open evenings and ensure your application is in on time. If you would like to discuss this matter, please contact the office and make an appointment to see me. See www.hertsdirect.org for more details.

DATA COLLECTION SHEETS - These will be given to you at the Parents' Evenings, please amend if necessary and return as soon as possible. Please ensure that there is an up-to-date emergency number in case we need to contact you urgently.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS – We are pleased to be offering a wide range of clubs to suit as many of our children as possible. I've attached the timetable for the staff led clubs and will put the clubs run by our children on the website as soon as they have finished pitching for them!

Yours sincerely,

Jon Millward
Headteacher

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

September 2016

1st September		INSET Day SCHOOL CLOSED
2nd September		INSET Day SCHOOL CLOSED
5th September	9.00am	Autumn Term starts
12th September		Clubs start (Please note that the Drama Club will start the following week.)
12th September		Problem Solving - Whole school activity day
16th September	2.45pm	Sharing Assemblies begin
22nd September	1.15 – 3.15pm	HAFSL course for parents and children begins
27th September	3.30 – 6.00pm	Parents' Evening Years: Rec, 1, 2, 4 and 6
29th September	1.15 – 3.15pm	Second HAFSL session
30th September	9 – 10.25am	Macmillan's Coffee Morning

October 2016

3rd October		Oak Class woodland walk trip
4th October	3.30 – 6.00pm	Parents' Evening Years: Rec, 1, 3 and 5
6th October	1.15 – 3.15pm	Third HAFSL session
12th October	1.30pm	Nasal Flu Vaccinations
13th October	1.15 – 3.15pm	Fourth HAFSL session
17th October	9.00am	Welly Walk and Harvest Assembly
18th October	3.30pm	Kingswood Meeting for Cedar parents and pupils
20th October	1.15 – 3.15pm	Final HAFSL session
21st October		Jeans 4 Genes – Whole day
24th - 28th October		<i>Half Term</i>

November 2016

2nd November		Historical Characters Day - Whole school topic day
5th November	5pm	Fireworks Night at Hunsdon
14th November		Anti-Bullying Week
18th November		Children in Need Day and Anti Bullying performance
22nd November	am	Oak Class Ice skating trip at Van Hages
25th November	2.30 – 5.00pm	Christmas Market

December 2016

5th December		Christmas Baubles - Whole school activity day
7th December	2pm	Early finish (<i>although crèche will be available</i>)
12th December	2pm	Reception and KS1 Nativity Performance
13th December	7pm	Reception and KS1 Nativity Performance
14th December	2pm	Christmas Pantomime
15th December	pm	Ash Class Christmas party
16th December	pm	Reception and KS1 Christmas party
19th December	pm	Cedar Class Christmas party
21st December	1.30pm	Autumn Term Final Assembly
21st December	2.30pm	<i>End of term</i>