



Hamilton Primary School

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*Summer
term*

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Dear Parents,

Although our weather is anything but a BBQ summer at the moment, the holidays are almost here. As I am sure that you are all aware, we started this half-term with a two day visit by Ofsted. As you will see from their report, (sent home last Wednesday) the Ofsted inspectors recognised the many qualities that our school has and they enjoyed talking to the children. The inspectors were very impressed with the behaviour of our children both within the classroom and at playtime. The report is also available on line by logging onto [http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/oxedu_providers/full/\(urn\)/110520](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/oxedu_providers/full/(urn)/110520).

Whilst Ofsted were busy at our school, the children in Year 6 were having a fantastic (and educationally valuable) time with their teachers at Green Park. The staff at Green Park praised the children for their politeness; the children had lots of fun, ate well and enjoyed the many activities at Longridge.

Other events this term have included the School Fete, Globetrotters, Year 6 Games at Highcrest, Year 2 Tennis Competition at Highcrest and the Year 2 Tea Parties. Across the school children are continuing to work hard and Year 6 children are very busy preparing for their end of year play and their leavers' assembly. These are always special and memorable evenings, and we are looking forward to enjoying these with pupils and parents.

I have highlighted a few of the many events which take place before we close for the summer holidays on 22 July. Please make sure that you refer to the events calendar attached as there are a number of dates to be added to your diary.

SCHOOL NEWS

Sports Day Report

Thank you to all of the parents, carers and families who supported these events. The children all performed fantastically well and enjoyed themselves. It is always a pleasure to see all of the children involved and smiling!

Well done to Yellow House who came out the overall winners and a big thank you to all those parents who helped to run the Friends of Hamilton refreshments.



School Uniform – skirts

For some time parents have spoken to me about the difficulty obtaining and expense of green skirts. I have made a decision to change the colour of the uniform skirt to grey from next term. There will be a changeover period whilst both grey and green will be acceptable. I will give further information in my next hmail.

Globetrotters

The lack of a marquee and the weather didn't stop the culmination of a colourful and diverse week of learning about different countries and cultures.

As you will be aware, this year it became an outdoor event owing to the removal of the marquee for health and

safety reasons. The event was wonderful owing to the excellent performance from the children and enhanced by the interesting and tasty food donated by our many families. Thank you so much for your time in donating food and in coming to watch. We hope you enjoyed it too. For the next Globetrotters event we will endeavour to leave parents a bit more time to travel between sites so it doesn't feel like a marathon!

Walk To School Results

Well done to all the children who made an effort to walk all or part of the way to school for the whole of Walk To School week in May. There were approx. 350 children in the school who managed to earn themselves a certificate for this. Congratulations to 4G who were the winners of the new Golden Shoe trophy because, at 73%, they had the highest percentage of walkers in the school that week. Additionally this is the first time the Golden Shoe award has been earned by a Priory Road class, so well done!



NOTICES

Sainsbury's Vouchers

We would still welcome any Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers - we have to send them off by Friday 18 July – so please check if you've got vouchers in your handbag or wallet and send them in! Thank you.

Lost Property

The mountain of lost property continues to grow. All unclaimed clothing will be sent to a charity shop at the end of the term. If your child has any missing property, please come into school to check the lost property boxes, which are stored in the hall at Priory Road and outside near the playground at Hampden Road.

Hot School Meals

These continue to be very popular with our children and staff. Whilst we endeavour not to cancel these meals, certain events held within the school prevent us from using the Hall at both sites. Please ensure that you make a note of these dates when letters advertising events come home. A reminder, there will be no hot food at Priory Road on Friday 15 July. A packed lunch will be provided for those on free school meals.

Collecting children after school events

I would ask parents to ensure that they collect their children promptly once an event has finished. Sadly there often seems to be a small number of children who are left uncollected often for a considerable amount of time. Whilst I appreciate that traffic may sometimes be the cause of the delay, it is parents' responsibility to check when an event is finishing and ensure that they are available for their children.



Saying goodbye to staff at the end of term

We will be saying goodbye to a number of staff at the end of term. After many years at Hamilton Mrs Flint and Mrs Walker will be retiring, both to enjoy some well earned time with their families. Mrs Davies will be moving to the Cayman Islands with her husband and family. Mr Blanks will be moving on to teach at Great Kingshill CE School and Mrs Barrett leaves to spend more time with her family. Whilst saying goodbye is never easy, I am sure that you will join me in wishing them all every happiness and success in their futures.



Saying hello and Welcome back

Mr Martin Smith and Miss Sarah Bowen will be joining our staff in September. Mr Smith will be our new PE Co-ordinator and Miss Bowen will take on the role of Numeracy Co-ordinator. We also welcome back Mrs Kemp from maternity leave.



Absence

We continue to monitor this very closely and work with our Education Welfare Officer (EWO) to monitor poor attendance and lateness. Please ensure your child arrives at school on time every day as they are missing important learning at the start of the day if they are late. This also applies to prompt collection at the end of the day. We seem to be seeing the same faces regularly waiting for their parents to arrive. This issue is also being addressed by the EWO.

Please remember that time lost due to absence or lateness has a big impact on your child's learning. Please do not request to take holidays during the school year as these will not be granted.

Unwanted flyers

It has come to my attention that a private education company was handing out leaflets to parents outside the gates of Hampden Road school on Tuesday 28 June. At no time has anyone from the Senior Management Team given permission for the distribution of these leaflets and we do not endorse them.

TRAVEL PLAN NEWS

Car Parking at Hampden Road

There seem to be an increasing number of parents blocking the school driveway and residents' driveways at Hampden Road at the end of the School Day. Please can I respectfully remind parents that they must not park in the staff car-park at any time. Furthermore, no taxis should use the front drive to collect children. Parent parking is available at the end of the school day on the lower playground at the Priory Road site. Parents wishing to use this facility must purchase a parking permit – forms available from the school offices.

FRIENDS OF HAMILTON - news

Summer Fete

The news has just come through that the Fete raised a magnificent £5,800. The figure for the Silent Auction is still awaited. It was a great day and thanks to all who attended and helpers. A separate notice has been sent out by Friends.

Any uncollected tins or plates from the fete should be collected from the non-fiction library area at Hampden Road.

Yours sincerely

Mr G Aldous
Headteacher

Calendar for the remainder of the term.

Thurs 7	HR 11+ awareness evening	7pm
Fri 8	1G Assembly	3pm
Mon 11	Instrumental sign up evening PR Hall (invited parents)	7pm
Tues 12	Instrumental sign up evening PR hall (invited parents)	7pm
Wed 13	Y6 Play HR hall	7pm
Thurs 14	Y6 Play HR hall	7pm
Fri 15	Y3 Great Exhibition - for visitors (no hot food at PR)	11-12noon
	Year 4 seaside visit to Littlehampton	All day
Mon 18	INSET - school closed to children	
Tues 19	Y4 trip to Whipsnade	All day
	Reports to parents	
Wed 20	Leavers assembly HR hall	6.30pm
Thurs 21	All children visit new classes	9.30 - 11.30
	Y6 picnic in Hughenden Park	All day
	Parent helper thank you evening PR hall	6-8pm
Fri 22	Last day of term	

Term dates for 2011/12

	Open on the morning of	Close at end of afternoon of
Autumn term	Wednesday 7 September	Friday 21 October
	Monday 31 October	Friday 16 December
Spring term	Wednesday 4 January	Friday 10 February
	Monday 20 February	Friday 30 March
Summer term	Monday 16 April	Thursday 31 May
	Monday 11 June	Friday 20 July

194 days have been set for the term dates due to the Queen's Diamond Jubilee (5 June 2012).

Five in-service training days for teachers have been included.

Inset days when the school is closed to children:

Monday 5 and Tuesday 6 September 2011

Tuesday 3 January 2012

Friday 1 June 2012

Monday 23 July 2012

Bank holidays during the school year: 26 and 27 December, 2 January, 6 and 9 April, 7 May, 4 and 5 June

