



## HAMPRESTON CE VA FIRST SCHOOL

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**Newsletter 12**  
**Autumn Term 2020**

**4<sup>th</sup> December 2020**

Dear Parents

It was brilliant seeing everyone in their festive finery today – there is a definite feeling of Christmas in the air at school. It is lovely to have the decorations up in classrooms and corridors and we once again thank Haskins for their very kind donation of a Christmas tree.

### Christmas Post – Next Week!!

The Christmas Post Box opens on Monday and will be available for next week only. Cards will then be sorted and distributed the following week by our team of elves. Please help the elves by putting children's last initials AND class wherever possible – as you can imagine, we have a number of children with the same first name (sometimes in the same class) and last names or initials and class will help ensure that they get to the right person.

### Key Stage 1 and EYFS Nativity

The Nativity is almost ready and the children are primed for action. Next week the production will be filmed, with each class taking a different time slot so that they can perform safely. This will then be edited together and released during the last week.

Next week we will release the links and times that the show will be available, including ways for you to order your own copy. To make it feel more like a live performance, the links will only be live between certain times and on certain days during the final week.

### Christmas Bauble Competition

The children should have come home with a Christmas bauble ready for decorating. We would like every child to have a go at decorating theirs as creatively as possible, ready to bring them in on **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December**. There will be a prize for the winning entry in each year group and all of the children will be able to bring their creations back home at the end of term, ready to be hung on the tree.

Good luck everyone!

### Midday Supervisor Vacancies

I am saddened to tell you that Mrs Duncan will be leaving us at the end of term as she embarks on adventures new. She has been a wonderful midday supervisor and the children have loved having her here. We wish her well and look forward to seeing her as she remains a member of our community.

This does mean that we are advertising for a midday supervisor position withing the school. This is a key role for us and we would welcome anyone keen to be involved in the life of the school to apply. Details can be found on the school website and on the [DorsetForYou](#) website. For more details, why not give the office a call? If you know of anyone who may be interested, please put them in touch. Thanks.

### School Meals

Forerunner have uploaded the spring menus and they are available on their website. We will be continuing with our packed lunches for the time being while we await any changes to the current COVID restrictions.



## Festive Fridays

Don't forget that Festive Fridays continue all through December and we love seeing the children wearing something Christmassy. Please help us by ensuring the children's choice of clothing is suitable, comfortable and practical for a school day.

## From the Governors

*Thank you for responding to our recent survey regarding school during the Covid19 pandemic. We really appreciate your participation and honest and constructive comments. We trust this will be the beginning of improved consultation between governors and parents.*

*From the sixty-two responses, data shows that your children are extremely happy at school, with an average rating of 4.56 out of 5.*

*Confidence in the health and safety measures put in place is also high with an average rating of 4.29. Communication between school and home has improved since the first lockdown. Average ratings for communication from the headteacher at 4.39 and 4.03 from class teachers, has increased overall to 4.42 since September.*

*This has been an unprecedented period of change as schools have adapted to delivering online teaching and learning. Quality of online learning during the first lockdown received an average rating of 3.89, with the quantity rated as 3.97. We feel confident that the school has everything in place to deliver good quality virtual teaching and learning, if circumstances require it.*

*We read your comments and suggestions carefully and they have been shared with the school leadership. Some of the comments were regarding safety on the road outside of school. With the friendly village school building comes roads designed more for 19<sup>th</sup> century road users than 21<sup>st</sup> century ones! Last week, I was able to accompany Mr Williams as he marshalled the traffic at end of school. It was great to see parents and children cooperating with social distancing and negotiating the school traffic and narrow road conditions in such a safe way. The school has worked hard to ensure children are kept safe whilst following social distancing rules. The governors would like to thank all the staff at Hampreston for their efforts at this difficult time.*

*With kind regards,*

*Diane French (on behalf of the governors)*

[dfrench@hamprestonfirstschool.com](mailto:dfrench@hamprestonfirstschool.com)

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Finally, as we head into the last few weeks of term, can I thank you for your continued support and encouragement. This term so far has been unlike any other, but the happy and settled children are a testament to you all.

Can I make a plea for continued vigilance regarding COVID-related issues over the coming weeks so that we minimise the risk of disrupting anyone's Christmas plans. Please follow the guidance from Public Health England and the Government so we can make this festive season bright for everyone. Thanks.

Have a great weekend everyone.

Yours sincerely,



**Mr. T. Williams**  
**Headteacher**

*To Love God and to Love one another*

**This Week:**

To help support you at home and to spark conversations about learning, here is what the children have been covering this week.

	English	Mathematics
Reception	<p>This week in Reception Class, in our phonics work we have been continued to consolidate and revisit all of the phase 2 sounds that we have learnt this term.</p> <p>In our English work, we have learnt The Jolly Christmas Postman and have learnt to write some words that related to Humpty Dumpty in the story words using the phonics we know to sound out.</p> <p>Thank you for all the costumes the children looked great this morning in our dress rehearsal and we look forward to filming it on Monday and Tuesday.</p>	<p>In maths, we have been continuing to learn to compare numbers and use the vocabulary more, less, few and fewer. We have written maths story about one less this week using pictures and symbols.</p> <p>We have also played Incey Wincey spider games to read and recognise numerals and move more or less up and down the drain pipe.</p> <p>In our other activities, we have been thinking about Advent, we have drawn and labelled the advent wreath, made paper chains to decorate the corridors of the school, played in our new toy shop and a lot more too!</p>
Year 1	<p>This week in literacy, we have been reading non-fiction books and identifying features of these texts. I was pleased with how well the children were able to work together to extract information and then report some interesting animal facts back to the class! The children then made their own illustrated animal fact books. In phonics, we have learnt the sounds wh, ph and ew!</p>	<p>In maths, we have been focusing on the numbers 11-20. We have used a range of vocabulary to compare numbers, including 'fewer', 'more', 'most', 'least', 'greatest' and 'smallest'. The children have had a go at some word problems relating to comparing numbers and we have continued to talk about these numbers in terms of tens and ones. Year 1 have worked so hard this week!</p>
Year 2	<p>Year 2 have continued writing poetry based on the Shirley Hughes "Annie Rose" poems. We have been focusing on handwriting and learning to use the progressive form of verbs (eg. <i>sitting</i>, <i>walking</i>).</p>	<p>In numeracy we have been learning to use multiplication to solve problems and are learning that <math>3 \times 4</math> and <math>4 \times 3</math> both equal 12 (commutativity).</p>
Year 3	<p>This week, Year 3 have learnt the features of a playscript and how it differs to the narrative version of the story of The Twits. We read stage directions and acted out the parts of Mr and Mrs Twit. Our grammar focus has been adding adverbs to describe how a character has spoken. Spelling for the week ahead will be learning more common exception words (green dots in the front of the yellow spelling book)</p>	<p>We have had fun in maths, testing divisibility using lolly sticks and introducing the idea of remainders. If you have 21 sticks, you can make four squares with one stick left over (remainder). That means that 21 is not divisible by 4. We are beginning to make division sentences around this concept. We are consolidating all the times tables learnt this term: 2,3,4,5,8, and 10.</p>
Year 4	<p>This week we have started looking at Aesop's fables. We started by practicing reading them out loud on the stage using our best reading voices with lots of expression. We then went on to picking speech out of the fables and turning this into direct speech using correct punctuation and reporting clauses.</p>	<p>In maths we finished looking at the perimeter of rectilinear shapes, including those with missing lengths. Then we started to look at multiplying by 10 and 100, dividing multiples of 10 and 100 and also at multiplying 1 and 0.</p>

## Diary Dates 2020-2021

Autumn Term	
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	Festive Friday
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Post
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Festive Friday
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Festive Friday
	Last day of term – Break up @ 3pm
Spring Term	
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	INSET DAY
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> February	Break up @ 3pm
Half Term	
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February	School Opens
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	Last day of term – Break up @ 3pm
Summer Term	
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> April	School Opens
Half Term	
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	School Opens