

**Newsletter**

**Autumn 1**

**2020**



**Welcome**

Welcome back everyone. It seems like ages since we had a school full of children and it is lovely to have our classrooms full with lots of enthusiastic learners.

I wish to express my thanks to all of you for your help and cooperation during the lockdown period and I am sure we are all hoping for a much smoother time this year.

We are trying to operate in the usual manner and include events during this term that would normally occur in the calendar. I am sure you can appreciate things will have to be significantly different.

**House Captains and Vice Captains**

During the first couple of weeks, we always choose our house captains and vice captains. This year their role will probably be very different than normal but they already have a very important task to do.

Our Year 6 children have voted for their preferred house and vice captains. I am pleased to announce they are as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **House** | **House Captain** | **Vice Captain** |
| **Fox** | **Rowan Burnley** | **Jorja O’Hanlon** |
| **Owl** | **Oscar Littlejohn** | **Millie Newitt** |
| **Squirrel** | **Isla Bruins** | **Harley Reyland** |
| **Deer** | **Lewis Allott** | **Lydia Beesley**  |

Congratulations to these children; I am sure they will do a super job in their new role.

**Year of Problem Solving**



2020/2021 is the **Year of Problem Solving** at Hanslope Primary School and we hope to link this special year into lots of different areas of our curriculum. At different times of the year we will be having specific session/days that involve thinking around difficult puzzles or problems. Hopefully it should be a fun year and the children will use their Growth Mindset skills wisely.

**Before and After School**

The new staggered times for coming in and out of school are going well. Thank you for your cooperation; I understand how frustrating it must be for everyone but know that you agree the safety of the children comes first.

Here are a couple of points to remember to keep us all safe:

* Please do not enter the playground until your allocated time.  We need to keep all of our bubbles separate.  Also, please adhere to social distancing when waiting off the playground.
* As soon as your child has entered school please leave the playground.  This also applies if you have a child in another year group.  All children must stay standing next to their adult.
* Please do not play with any of the equipment that is on the playground, including the hoops and climbing equipment. (KS1)
* Please don’t bring scooters/bikes etc. on to the playground.
* As soon as you have collected your child at the end of the day please leave the playground.
* On the KS1 Playground, please could the y2 parents/children stand on the left as you enter the gate and face the school and then we can allow y1 parents in shortly afterwards and they must stand on the right as you face the school. With the y2 parents then gone, the EYFS parents/children can go on the left. This system has been working well.
* Parents are to ensure their children remain on the correct side of the playground within their school bubbles.

**School Expansion**

The final stage of the planning process for our school expansion has begun. The formal plan was submitted for consideration to the LA at the beginning of September and a decision is expected in December. If this is favourable, work is expected to commence at the beginning of the Spring Term.

Due to some decay and distress, a small number of trees have been removed onsite. The plans for the expansion of the school includes planting more trees than we previously have had and this includes tress from the Woodland Trust. It is intended that a number of Rowan trees will be planted on the top of the KS1 playground by the existing brick wall that is nearest to the path/road. Numerous other trees are planned for other areas of the site.

**Be Seen in Green**

 **Thursday 22nd October**

As some of you may remember as a school we have supported the Milton Keynes Hospital Charity and helped by fundraising for the recently opened Cancer Centre. Over the years we have raised over £6,000.

This year we would like to support the charity again so we are asking that children wear their school uniform with an item of green on Thursday 22nd October. We ask that parents/carers make a donation for this via parent pay. Details of how this can be done will be coming from the school office.

This charity is very close to my heart. In 1999 I lost my mother to cancer at the time she had to travel to Oxford every day for her treatment as there was no specialist centre in Milton Keynes. In June 2016 my twin sister was diagnosed with Leukaemia she spent many days receiving treatment in Milton Keynes. Unfortunately, Rachel passed away in April 2017 at the age of 40.

By raising money for this charity we can support others who are being treated for this illness. We will be ensuring that people living in Milton Keynes with cancer can be treated in an excellent environment closer to home.

Thank you for your support

Sarah McGarr Foundation Stage HLTA

**Harvest**

Due to Covid19 we are unable to collect items for MK Food Bank this year. Ironically, it is a time when perhaps the items are needed most of all! Therefore, if you wish to make a small financial donation to the food bank it will be greatly appreciated. Details of how this can be done will be coming from the school office.

**Parents’ Evening**

Unfortunately, Covid 19 restrictions have ruled out a physical parents’ evening this year. We obviously want to keep you up to date with your child’s progress and have arranged to provide a written progress report instead. This will be sent home on the 22nd October 2020.

I am sure you are already aware of how to contact your child’s teacher by email, however below is a list of all the direct emails of our teaching staff:

lisa.lawrence@hanslope.milton-keynes.sch.uk (Maple)

jane.fox@hanslope.milton-keynes.sch.uk (Larch)

louise.edwards@hanslope.milton-keynes.sch.uk (Elm and SENCo)

catherine.jackson@hanslope.milton-keynes.sch.uk (Oak)

tanya.hudson@hanslope.milton-keynes.sch.uk (Cedar)

k.hassan@hanslope.milton-keynes.sch.uk (Hazel)

hariet.lovegood@hanslope.milton-keynes.sch.uk (Beech)

donna.knight@hanslope.milton-keynes.sch.uk (Redwood)

jenny.broughton@hanslope.milton-keynes.sch.uk (Sycamore)

emma.norris@hanslope.milton-keynes.sch.uk (Rowan)

amanda.capp@hanslope.milton-keynes.sch.uk (Deputy Head)

ryan.brown@hanslope.milton-keynes.sch.uk (Head teacher)

**Christmas**

One of the highlights of the year is Christmas time at our school. Like you, we all look forward to our KS1 and KS2 productions etc. However, we find ourselves facing a very different Christmas this year. At the moment we have made no plans but have begun to talk about ways your children can produce or perform something in their bubbles for you online. I’ll keep you posted on this.

**Diary Dates**

*Details for key events will follow nearer to the time.*

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9th Oct Parent Governor Ballot ends

 Flu injections

 12th Oct Results announced from the above ballot

 15th Oct Individual/sibling photos

 22nd Oct Be Seen in Green

 22nd Oct Last day of Autumn Term 1

**Half Term (Please note we return on Monday 2nd November)**

2nd Nov First day of Autumn 2

18th Dec End of Autumn 2

 **Christmas Holiday – Please note the children return to school on**

 **Monday 4th January 2021.**

* ***Please note all the dates and times shown here are accurate at the time of the publication of this newsletter. Any unforeseen event may happen that could cause alterations to the information listed below; if this does occur we will endeavour to let you know as quickly as possible.***

**Ryan Fensham-Brown** ryan.brown@hanslope.milton-keynes.sch.uk