

*To prepare our children to reach their full potential in a modern, evolving and diverse world.*

**Spring 1 2023 – Week 6**

## HANSLOPE PRIMARY SCHOOL HEADTEACHER'S WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

### A Big 'Thank You'

All of us at Hanslope wanted to say a huge **'thank you'** for all of your continued support this half term, and always.

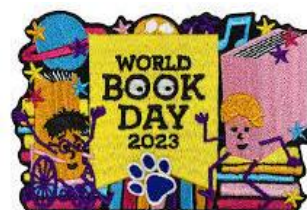
It's been a fantastic start to the Spring Term so far. We have had a number of fascinating visitors come into school this half term, some memorable assemblies, inspirational kick-start days and many other fabulous activities.

Here's to a fabulous half term for all! We at Hanslope are looking forward to some warmer weather on the horizon (hopefully!) and lighter, brighter mornings heading forwards!

THANK  
YOU!

### World Book Day – Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March

We will be celebrating World Book Day during the week of **27th Feb – 3rd March** with a host of school activities around the theme of 'Let's Share a Story'. Information on these activities will be sent out nearer the date but we thought we would let you know that a **'Booky Breakfast'** will take place on **Thursday 2nd March** from **8:30 am until 9:00am**. This is a chance to have a simple brioche breakfast and share a story with your child in our hall. There is an optional character dress-up connected to a book that you have at home on that day too. Lastly, we will be hosting a book swap on the Friday. Your child (during the week) can bring a book they no longer read into school and can choose another one to take home on the Friday. Any questions, please feel free to contact either of us or your child's class teacher.



Miss Hudson and Mrs Pearson

### TTRockstars



Congratulations to **Lime**, who were the winners of TTRockstars Garage Challenge last week!

### House-Points



Congratulations to **Fox** House, who achieved the most house-points last week!

## Weekly Attendance Figures

Our whole school attendance is sitting at a reasonable level so far, but it is below our target of 95% or more for the end of this academic year. Below is a breakdown of each class's attendance this week. Although no class had 100% attendance this week, well done to **Elm** class who were pretty close!

	Holly	94.2%
	Maple	91.6%
	Larch	92.4%
	Laurel	95.6%
	Alder	94.7%
	<b>Elm</b>	96.3%
	Oak	94.1%
	Rowan	94.5%
	Cedar	91.3%
	Redwood	95.8%
	Blackthorn	92.5%
	Hawthorn	94.2%
	Lime	91.6%
	Poplar	91.5%
School Total		93.5%

## Did you know...

If your child finishes the year with **95% attendance** they will still have missed 10 school days, which equates to around **55 hours of learning time?**

In fact, if your child misses just one day in the week it equates to them missing **20%**, with their weekly attendance sitting at just **80%**.

**Remember: every day counts!**



# Your Weekly Guide from the Digital Leaders

The nationwide campaign ([#WakeUpWednesday](#)) from the National Online Safety Community provides expert advice on the latest platforms and online risks that parents and carers need to know about through engaging and content-rich design.

Here at Hanslope, our Digital Leaders will select a guide to be published in our newsletter each week which gives guidance on how to keep children safe online.

Below is the guide for this week – sharing tips on how to hold open discussions about life online.



## Tips for Encouraging Open Discussions about DIGITAL LIVES

The online world is an entirely familiar and commonplace part of life for today's children and young people, far more so than for previous generations. There are many positives to children being able to access online materials, so it's important not to demonise the internet, games and apps, and limit the benefit of their positive aspects. At the same time, we do have a responsibility to educate children about the hazards they may encounter online (just as we would about real-world dangers) so it's essential that we don't shy away from talking to them about the complex – and often sensitive – subject of what they do and what they see when they're online.

Here are some suggestions for kicking off conversations with your child about their digital life...

### MAKE YOUR INTEREST CLEAR

Showing enthusiasm when you broach the subject signals to your child that you're keen to learn about the positives of their online world. Most children enjoy educating adults and will happily chat about what they use the internet for, or what games and apps they're into and how these work. Asking to see their favourite games and apps in action could help you spot any aspects that may need your attention – such as chat functions which might require a settings adjustment to limit contact with strangers. Keep listening even if your child pauses for a long time: they could be considering how to phrase something specific, or they may be gauging your reaction.

### DISCUSS THAT NOT EVERYTHING WE SEE ONLINE IS REAL

Here, you could give examples from your own digital life of the online world versus reality – for example, those Instagram posts which show the perfect house: spotlessly clean, never messy and immaculately decorated. Explain to your child that there are many other aspects of the online world which are also deliberately presented in an unrealistic way for effect – such as someone's relationship, their body, having perfect skin and so on.

### BE OPEN AND HONEST, APPROPRIATE TO THEIR AGE

At various stages, children and young people become curious about puberty and how their body changes; about relationships; about how babies are made; and about sexual health. If your child knows that they can discuss these sensitive subjects with you, they tend to be less likely to go looking online for answers – which can often provide them with misleading information and, in some cases, lead to them consuming harmful content. Don't worry if you don't immediately know the answers to their questions – just find out for yourself and go back to them once you have the facts.

### TRY TO REMAIN CALM

As much as possible, try to stay calm even if your child tells you about an online experience that makes you feel angry or fearful. Our immediate emotions frequently influence the way we talk, so it's possible that your initial reaction as a parent or carer could deter a child from speaking openly about what they've seen. Give yourself time to consider the right approach, and perhaps speak with other family members or school staff while you are considering your next steps.

### CREATE A 'FAMILY AGREEMENT'

Involving your whole household in coming up with a family agreement about device use can be immensely beneficial. You could discuss when (and for how long) it's OK to use phones, tablets, consoles and so on at home; what parental controls are for and why they're important; and why it's good to talk to each other about things we've seen or experienced online (both good and bad). Explaining your reasoning will help children to understand that, as trusted adults, we want to make sure they are well informed and kept safe. Allowing children to have their say when coming up with your family agreement also makes them far more likely to stick to it in the long term.

### REMINDE YOUR CHILD THEY CAN ALWAYS TALK TO YOU

In my role I work with many children and young people who admit being reluctant to tell a trusted adult about harmful content they've viewed online, in case it leads to having their devices confiscated. Emphasise to your child that you're always there to listen and help; reassure them that if they do view harmful content, then they are not to blame – but talking about it openly will help. Children shouldn't be expected to be resilient against abuse or feel that it's their job to prevent it.

### KEEP TALKING!

The most valuable advice we can give is to keep talking with your child about their digital lives. You could try using everyday situations to ask questions about their online experiences.

## 'Thank You' from Mrs Lawrence

A really big **thank you** to those of you who came to support the choir at their concert in St James' Church, alongside Hanslope Brass.

The money we raised was split between St James' Church, Hanslope Brass and Hanslope School Choir.

We received **£368** from the concert and we have donated the money (as per the choir's wish) to an incredibly worthy cause – Willen Hospice.

## A Visit for Maple and Holly

Maple and Holly were learning all about bikes last week. They received a donated bike from 'Cycle Saviours,' which they will be able to take apart.

A mechanic from Cycle Saviours came to talk to the children and show them how to mend a puncture.

They had great fun helping Alan pump up the flat tyre! Thank you to Mr Swift for organising this; the children really enjoyed themselves.





# SATS Information Evening

Standard Assessment Tests (SATs) Information Session for Year 6 Parents –

**Wednesday 22nd February 2023 at 5:00 pm**

The upcoming session will provide a range of information including: when and how long each paper is; what each paper involves; tips on how you can support and prepare your child in the lead-up to and during the assessments. Examples of assessment papers will also be available.

Children are welcome to attend the information session as well.

If you cannot attend for any reason, we will put the information on our website for you to view at a later date. Thank you!

Mrs Lovegood and Miss Hudson

## MK Lightning Assembly

Last Tuesday, we had some players from **Milton Keynes Lightning** come and visit; they put on an assembly for Years 1-6.

They spoke about: the rules of Ice Hockey; the key skills you need to practise; living a healthy active lifestyle and what equipment they have to wear to keep themselves safe.

Their next game is **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February** and we have sold 91 tickets! Thank you to all who bought some! They will be sent home this week.



## School Start/Finishing Times

***A reminder of timings for all parents and carers:***

**8.35am:** School gates open (both on Salcey and by the All-Weather)

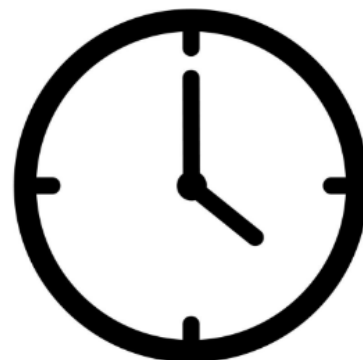
**8.45am:** Children lined up and brought into school – gates shut shortly after

**8.55am:** The school day begins

**3.05pm:** School gates open for parents (both on Salcey and by the All-Weather)

**3.10pm:** School day ends for Foundation Stage

**3.15pm:** School day ends for Year 1-6



# Money raised for Willen Hospice

We are incredibly proud to announce that Hanslope School raised **£70 for Willen Hospice** through their pre-Christmas sale of hot chocolate and mince pies.



Willen Hospice help patients and families through some of the most difficult times in their lives; they provide nursing, complementary therapies, bereavement support and many other crucial services for those who need it the most.

The money makes a world of difference to many. Thank you all for your support!

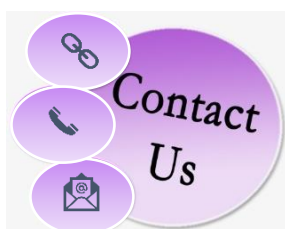


## Dates for your calendar

Remember, it is possible to sync the school calendar on our website onto your phone by following this link: <https://www.hanslopeschool.co.uk/calendar-help>

Here is a reminder of the upcoming diary dates for you to plan ahead. Please note that all the dates and times shown here are accurate at the time of publication - alterations to the information listed below may happen due to unforeseen circumstances; if this does occur, we will endeavour to let you know as quickly as possible.

<b>Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2023</b>	<b>3:30 – 6:00pm – Parents Evening – booking has been live since Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> January.</b>
<b>Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2023</b>	<b>4:00 – 7:00pm – Parents Evening – booking has been live since Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> January.</b>
<b>Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2023</b>	<b>TERM ENDS</b>
<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023</b>	<b>TERM STARTS</b>
<b>Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2023</b>	<b>Year 6 SATS Information Evening</b>
<b>Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023</b>	<b>World Book Day (Non – uniform, although dressing up is optional). More details to follow.</b>
<b>Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2023</b>	<b>Mental Health Seminar for Parents – 9am-10.30am</b>
<b>Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2023</b>	<b>Comic Relief – more details to follow.</b>
<b>Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023</b>	<b>TERM ENDS</b>



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