



HLA News

Friday 24th November 2023



Dear Families,

Here we are at the end of another week. As we move closer to December it might start to look a bit more like Christmas at school soon...

Talking of all things festive! The Christmas Menu that is available for the students has been circulated and will take place on Wednesday 20th December 2023. There will be no other menu options available on this day. The cost of this meal, if you are eligible to pay, is £3.50 and can be paid via your Parent Pay account. Laura has home letters about the meal this week, please could you fill out your reply slip and return to the school office by Monday 4th December 2023?

Thank you to everyone who supported Children in Need at school last week. There were lots of students (and staff!) wearing pyjamas and all things spotty. We had lots of activities and cake sales and managed to raise a grand total of £176.67. Thank you to Paula and the school council for arranging this. It really was a great event.

There has been lots of visitors to the school this week. I believe I shared with you a few months ago that we were having a 50 place extension planned to open in September 2025. Yesterday lots of the contractors who are submitting bids for the project came to visit the school to discuss our requirements with us. They were very attentive and listened to our requests. Emma (School Business Manager) and I will be involved in the selection of the contractor. This will be confirmed by January 2024 and then we will have an idea of the timeline of the project.

As part of the separation from Vista there are a number of works which the DfE have agreed to fund. Currently we have a shared kitchen with the secondary school as well as some other shared services. Due to these needing to be separate they have agreed to build us a kitchen of our own. This will be located very close to the other one but will also allow for us to have a big extension to our dining hall. This will vastly improve our lunch services for our pupils. This is due for completion by September 2024. There may be some disruption but we aim for this to be minimal.

This week our School Improvement Partner Simon Bainbridge came into school to look at our reading provision. We visited a few classes to see our new buddy reading in action. It was great to see student's confidence and communication skills developing. The older students supported the younger students so well and it was great to hear how well their reading had come along too.

I hope you have a good weekend.

With all best wishes,

Yvonne Skillern

Head of School



Important Information



- Please ensure you return your computer usage forms back to school as soon as possible so that we do not have any disruption to learning
- Don't forget to contribute £7.50 per term if you are able towards our extra-curricular activities. This can be done via Parent Pay as we are a cashless school.
- We have the catch up Flu Vaccination Clinic being held at school on Monday 4th December.
- We are on week 1 for the lunch menu this coming week.
- Please remember to complete and return your parent/carer comments sheets prior to your child's Annual Review meeting.

School Attendance

This week's whole school attendance was **91.8%**. This is the same as last week – let's try hard to increase next week. We are working hard to improve school attendance as just having one day off can have a big impact upon students learning and progress.

Online Safety Tip of the Week:

Tips to stay safe while online.

**A stranger online is
still a stranger**



Emotion of the Week:

This week's emotion is **ENVY**. Try to talk about how your child might be feeling, what their body feels like when they experience this emotion and what they can do to understand and react to them.

Mental Health Tip of the Week:

Staying connected and having trusted people to interact with is good for your mental health and wellbeing.

