

Hassell Newsletter

February 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have a very busy end to this half term with Culture Week taking place across school on the theme of Europe. Also included in this newsletter are details about upcoming events and activities during the second half of the Spring Term which I hope you will find useful. Please can I take this opportunity to remind everyone that the children return to school on **TUESDAY 28th FEBRUARY** as the school is closed to pupils on Monday 27th for staff INSET.

Culture Week



This year our theme for

Culture Week is Europe (whilst we are still part of it!). The children will be learning about different countries within Europe; their cultures and traditions, languages spoken and traditional foods eaten. Many of our children have family members who live in different European countries; should you have anything particular that you would like to share with your child's class, please speak to their class teacher about it. As part of Culture Week our Student Council planned a themed menu which will be served on Tuesday. This is meatballs, vegetable lasagne, fish paella, jacket potatoes with fillings and ice cream or iced muffins for dessert.



World Book Day: Thursday 2nd March

On Thursday 2nd March we will be celebrating World Book Day. The children will have a range of activities to celebrate books and help encourage a love of reading. **As part of the fun we will be having an own clothes day.** The theme is 'what ever makes you happy', the children may come dressed in whatever they like (although please remember safety aspects such as no high heels or jewellery). This may be wearing an outfit of their favourite book character, comfy clothes such as onesies or pyjamas or simply their own clothes - whatever they feel happy in. **In order to raise funds for new books in school, we ask for a donation of £1 for those children that wish to take part.** We will also be having the book fair in school during this week. **The Book Fair will be open on Tuesday 28th after school, Wednesday morning 8.30–9am and Wednesday after school until 4.30.** All children will receive a book token which they may put towards the cost of a new book from the book fair. Our school also receives a reward from the book fair to spend on new books for school. Last year book sales meant we had £180 to spend on new books; the more we spend at the fair, the more our school receives in rewards. Thank you for your continued support and generosity.



There will also be **Valentine themed lunch on Thursday 16th February** which includes chicken teddies, pizza, salmon, love heart biscuits and blushing mousse.

Valentine's Disco

We are holding a Valentine's Disco on Thursday 16th February. Children can come and dance to lights and sounds of 'Andy's Disco'. Children can make song requests via the 'Valentine disco request box' in school. Tickets include a drink and snack. Please see letters for further details.

Sickness Bugs

Please can I politely remind parents that children are not allowed in school for 48 hours after the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea. This is to help prevent the spread of infection. We have recently had some children who have returned to school before this time who have ended up being ill again in school. As you can imagine, this is not nice for anyone involved. Please help by respecting the 48hour rule.



Mobile Phones

In accordance with Ofsted Regulations, staff and visitors are not allowed to use mobile phones in school. We have noticed that there are a high number of people using phones whilst dropping off or picking up children from the playground. **We respectfully ask that mobile phones are not used whilst on school property.** Although we have not received any complaints regarding improper use of phones, this is an extra measure we can take to ensure our children are kept as safe as possible. Please do not be offended if staff follow up on this guidance by asking parents to put their phones away whilst on the playground. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.



Internet Safety

Thank you to those parents who attended our recent Internet Safety Awareness meeting with Vicky Bardon. A copy of her supporting materials have been emailed to parents, which contain loads of hints and tips for keeping our children safe on line.

As part of Safer Internet Day last week, all children took part in additional activities about staying safe online. This includes the Signal 1 'No Troll Zone' competition. We are sending our entries off and look forward to finding out if we have any winning designs.



Hassell's Got Talent

Auditions are under way for KS2 'Hassell's Got Talent 2017'. Finalists from each of the KS2 classes will be performing on Tuesday 14th and Wednesday 15th for the rest of school, judged by our Student Council and House Captains. We wish all performers the best of luck!



Parent Pay

We will be swapping to Parent Pay, the cashless system after half term. Children will come home with a letter today that gives your log in details and personal codes. Please follow instructions to register your account. Please note we will not be taking any cash payments after half term. Please see Mrs Broome if you have any queries or problems logging in.



Other News....

Chess

Congratulations to Conor and Dylan in Year 3/4 who have been selected to take part in the Staffordshire Chess Competition. We wish them every success with their games.

Keele University

Welcome to Miss Deakin, Miss Lees and Miss Newsome, who join us from Keele University; we look forward to working with them over the coming weeks.

PE Hoodies

These are now available from Smart Uniform and are proving to be very popular with the children for their PE days. Further details are available in the school reception or from Smart Uniform's shop. They also have a stock guarantee: should they not have the stock size available that you require, a 20% discount will be available. Please see staff at Smart for further details.

Thank you to Muna and the Team at Smart Uniform who have sponsored a new football strip for Hassell and 20 'Team Hassell' PE hoodies for sporting events. We really appreciate your support and the children look very smart when attending sporting fixtures.

Winter Weather

As we continue through the season of cold weather, we will endeavour to keep school running as normal. Please ensure that your children have warm coats and appropriate footwear with them each day. If we do get any snow and you wish to check if school is still open, please go to the school website or the Staffordshire County Council information page: <http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/education/schoolsandcolleges/emergencyclosures/>



We will also send a confirmation text to notify parents if we are open or closed. Please do not phone the school office unless it is an emergency as it ties up the phone lines for people who may need additional help.

Calendar Dates - the school calendar can also be found on the school website under the green tab.

February

12	13	14	15	16	17
Culture Week - European theme					
Europe Dance workshop		Hassell's Got Talent Finals - Year 3/4	Hassell's Got Talent Finals - Year 5/6	Valentines Disco Europe Dance workshop	Europe Dance workshop
19	20	21	22	23	24
Half term - school closed to pupils					
26	27	28	1	2	3
Inset day, School closed to pupils		Book Fair in school hall Year 3/4 trip to Chester		World Book Day	
			Stanley Mathews Foundation Assembly		
5	6	7	8	9	10
Year 2 Road Safety event in school Y1 Seatbelt safety talk					

March

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
26	27	28	1	2	3
Inset day, School closed to pupils		Book Fair in school hall Year 3/4 trip to Chester		World Book Day	
			Stanley Mathews Foundation Assembly		
5	6	7	8	9	10
Year 2 Road Safety event in school Y1 Seatbelt safety talk					
12	13	14	15	16	17
Year 3/4 Stepping out practise walks			Margaret Gleave Assembly		
19	20	21	22	23	24
Year 1 Road Safety Year 2 Seatbelt Safety talk		Full Governors meeting			
26	27	28	29	30	31
Year 5 and 6 trip to Laches Wood Outdoor Education Centre					