

# Hassell Newsletter



## September 2014

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the new term at Hassell, I hope you have all had an enjoyable holiday. It has been lovely to see so many new faces starting yesterday both in Nursery, Reception and throughout other year groups in school. I would like to welcome all of our new children and their families to Hassell and I look forward to meeting you all soon.

### New Topics

Each class has begun the term with a 3 day topic on the story 'The Perfect Pet'. As part of this the children will receive a visit from the animal lady on Friday and displays will be going up in the main corridor shortly.



You should also receive a class letter which gives information about new topics, PE days, reading books, homework and other useful information. If you have any questions, please ask your child's class teacher.

Class teachers are also happy to see parents during the week, but please make an appointment via the office or catch them at the end of the day when they see the children out. It is sometimes a little difficult for teachers to see parents first thing in the morning as they are busy registering their class and starting lessons.

### Reading Books

Last year the PTFA raised lots of money to replace the reading books within school for all year groups and we had some superb new books. Unfortunately, we are now missing 40 -50 of these new books. This is through children losing their books, accidental damage, water damage when bottles have been put next to the books in school bags etc...Whilst we appreciate that some loss may be unavoidable, we cannot afford to keep replacing lost or damaged books. **This year, children who lose or damage their school books will be asked to pay £5.00 towards the cost of a replacement.** Please encourage your children to take care with their school books and read at home as often as possible.



## School Kitchen Update

I am delighted to say that we are now the proud owners of a cooking kitchen! Extensive work has been carried out over the summer, new equipment fitted and trial runs completed, just in time for the new term. We are pleased to welcome Mrs Clowes to the kitchen team as our new cook and are sure that the children will enjoy their new meals.

ALL children in reception, year one and year two are entitled to have a free school meal through the governments new scheme. Meal costs for all other year groups remains at £2.00 per day.



### Does your family claim any of the following benefits?

#### Income Support

- Income based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income based Employment and Support Allowance
- Child tax credit and no working tax credit with a household income of less than £16,190
- The 'Guarantee' element of State Pension Credit
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and

#### Asylum Act 1999

If the answer is yes to any of the above list, you are entitled to claim free school meals. Even if your child is having meals through the new scheme, or they don't want a hot meal, please claim as school receives lots of additional funding in the budget for each child making a claim. To claim please visit the website [www.staffordshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmealsapplication](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmealsapplication) or ask at the school office. Any existing claims from last academic year will be automatically continued.



### School Day Times

Please can I remind you that children need to be in school for their class register at **8.50**. Late arrivals mean disruption for all the children and often mean that valuable lesson time.

The doors open to come into school at 8.40. Any children who need to be at school before this time should be accompanied by an adult or registered with Happy Times Care Club.

# Diary Dates



## September:

5th- Animal Lady Visit (whole school)

22nd - Y6 Science + Language Masterclass at NCHS

24th - Y3 Scooterbility training

26th—Whole school Sponsored Bounce (details to follow)

26th - Dougie Mac Coffee morning (details to follow)

30th - Harvest assembly in school with Father Derek (children only)

## October

6th - Parents Evening and Book Fair

17th - PTFA Halloween disco

27th - Half Term week



## Chess Club

Mrs Whitfield, one of our school Governors, runs a very successful chess club from 6—7pm on Thursday evenings at school. If any more Hassell children (or their friends) would like to attend, Mrs Whitfield would be delighted to see you. The first week is free, then the cost is £2.00 per week. The club children have the opportunity to play in competitions and tournaments, to which they have been very successful. If your child would like to attend, please turn up on a Thursday, or contact the school office for further details.

I look forward to meeting with many of you over the coming weeks, but if you would like to see me for any reason, please don't hesitate to catch me on the playground in the morning, or make an appointment via the school office.

Kind Regards

*Kirsty Broome*

Head teacher