

# Hassell Newsletter



## December 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

There's only a few weeks left of the Autumn term and it's beginning to feel a lot like Christmas in school. We are busy preparing for our Christmas plays in Reception, Year 2 and Year 3/3OH. We also have our Christmas Raffle for an ipad. Tickets can be bought for £1 each either via class teachers or the school office. This will be drawn at the end of term. Thank you to Staffs Tech for sponsoring this item.

### Christmas Fair

This year our Christmas Fair is on Friday 7th December from 3.15–5.15. There will be lots of stalls, games and activities as well as food and drink. I'm sure that many of our children will be delighted to hear that we will also be having a special visit from Santa too.



Stalls are available for hire in the hall. If anyone is interested please contact the school office for further details. If anyone is available to help run an activity on the day of the fair, or can help with preparations in the afternoon, we would be delighted to hear from you.

We would really appreciate donations of the following:

Bottles of wine for the wine into water stall

Prizes for the tombola (unwanted gifts, toiletry sets, toys etc)

Cakes for the cake stall (on Thursday or Friday the 6th and 7th)



Our year 6 children will also be running their own games and activities. The money raised for this will be used to provide refreshments at the Year 6 senior citizens and grandparent's Christmas afternoon tea on December 14th. Invites for this event have been sent home with our Year 6 children.



## School Attendance

Please can I remind you that our target for individuals and whole school attendance is at least 96%. Currently, as a school, we have dipped below 90%. Whilst I totally understand that it cannot be helped if your children are poorly, it is really important that all children attend school whenever possible. If your child is ill, please remember to phone the office and let us know. Office staff have to spend a great deal of time checking to make sure we know where children are, that they are safe and why they are not in school. This is helped enormously if parents phone before 9.15 to let us know.

Here are some facts to help it make more sense:

1 day off in the year = 99.5% (this is 6 hours)

2 days off = 99% (this is 12 hours)

5 days (one week) off = 97.4% (this is 30 hours)

10 days (2 weeks) off = 95% (this is 60 hours)

15 days (3 weeks) off = 92.4% (90 hours)

20 days (4 weeks) off = 90% (120 hours)

As you can imagine the longer a child has absent from school, the more they miss in learning time and the greater impact this has on their education and progress. We really want children to achieve the best they can and positive attendance rates can help enormously with this.

All children who have 100% attendance this term will be entered into a draw to win a £10 voucher during the last week. The same competition will be running each term.

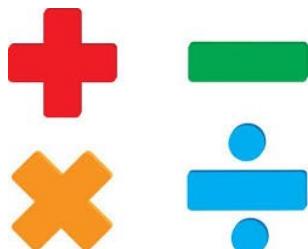


## Maths workshops

Thank you to everyone who attended the maths workshops for KS1 and KS2 parents, we hope you found them useful. The information presented on the night is available for anyone who was unable to attend. Please ask at the office for a copy to be sent to you.

## SATS information evenings

Thank you to all parents who attended the KS1 information event and to those who are planning to attend the KS2 SATs update. If you are unable to attend but would like the information forwarded on to you please don not hesitate to ask at the office.



Please note that there has been a change of date for the disco.

Tuesday 23rd October (originally Thursday 25th)

EYFS - in school time during the afternoon

# Diary Dates

Please see the school website calendar for further dates,: [hassellschool.org](http://hassellschool.org) green tab and click on the calendar link.

## December Dates

Year 5 to Newcastle Academy (transition activity) - 3rd or 4th December

Year 2 play 4th December at 1.30pm, 5th December at 9.30am

Guitar children - assembly for school Tuesday 4th

Year 5/6 Sports hall Athletics (team only) 5th

Flu immunisations - Reception to Year 5 Fri 7th

Christmas Fair—Friday 7th December 3.15—5.15pm

Nursery craft morning for parents Monday 10th December at 9am

Year 5/6 singing at Belong Monday 10th

Reception Christmas play Tuesday 11th at 9.30am

Full Governors Tuesday 11th at 6.30pm

KS2 to Vue Cinema - Christmas treat to watch Nativity Rocks - Thursday 13th

Reception Christmas play—Thursday 13th at 1.30pm

KS2 SATS information evening Thursday 13th at 6pm

Year 6 senior citizens Christmas party Friday 14th at 1.30 to 2.45pm

Reception trip to Amerton Farm—Monday 17th

Class 1P to Brampton Museum - Monday 17th

Rock Steady concert for parents Tuesday 18th at 2.20pm

Drama club production for parents on Tuesday 18th at 3.45pm

Christmas Dinner Day - Tuesday 18th December

EYFS and KS1 Panto in school—Wednesday 19th

EYFS and KS1 Christmas party afternoon—Thursday 20th

Service at St Paul's Church led by 3/4OH all welcome 9.30am

Last Day of Term - Friday 21st December

## 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.



### Good Bye, Good Luck and Welcome

We will soon be saying good bye and good luck to Miss Dale as she is due to finish her maternity leave on Friday. I'm sure that you will wish Miss Dale and her family all the best for the up coming birth of her baby. We will let you know any news as soon as we have it!

I would also like to welcome Miss Steele to Hassell to cover Miss Dale's maternity leave. Miss Steele is a very experienced teacher and has been working in our school for the last week in order to have a proper transition and get to know the children before Miss Dale leaves. We look forward to the coming months and welcoming Miss Steele to the KS1 team.

## Cold Weather

As we approach the cold weather, please can we remind everyone to make sure that they have an appropriately warm coat to wear at playtimes and for children to wear their tracksuits for PE. Wherever possible, children have outdoor playtime and outdoor lessons with LMA so it is important that they are appropriately dressed and have a named water bottle with them to keep hydrated.

Please be aware that the school playground can sometimes get icy. When this happens, please stick to the path around the edge of the school building as this will be gritted and is much safer. Please remind your children not to skid on the icy patches so we can try to avoid any accidents. Tempting as it is for them to slide about, we really don't want anyone having broken bones for Christmas. Thank you for your help in this matter.



That just leaves me to say Happy Christmas and we look forward to seeing many of you at the Christmas Fair and on the last day of school in church at St Paul's.

If you would like to see me for any reason, please don't hesitate to catch me on the KS2 playground in the morning, or make an appointment via the school office. Don't forget to follow us on facebook for extra information and updates too. Search for Hassell Primary to see what else is going on. Kind Regards

Kirsty Broome

Head teacher



