

Hassell Newsletter



September 2016

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 this week 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 4 day topic on the theme of 'space'. The children have been learning about everything from fictional space stories and aliens, to space facts and information on planets and how to train as astronauts. Displays will be going up in the main corridor shortly.

In addition to this the children have all received a visit from the animal lady on Thursday and met a variety of unusual creatures. If your child came home and said they held a snake, they were telling the truth!

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.



School Dinner Reminder

ALL children in reception, year one and year two are entitled to have a free school meal through the governments scheme. Meal costs for all other year groups remains at £2.10 per day. Please pay dinner money into the box outside the main office. Please ensure your child's name and class are clearly put on the envelope.

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 infant 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 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 is missed.

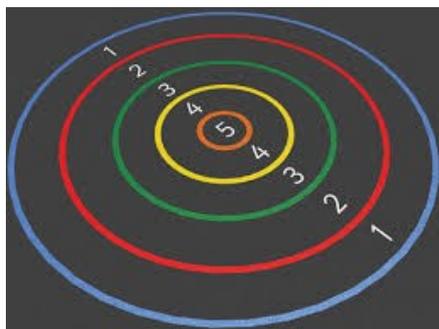


The doors open to come into school at 8.40. Any children who need to be at school before this time should be accompanied by an adult or registered with Happy Times Care Club.

Please do not leave your children on the playground without adult supervision

Building work and school improvement update:

During the holidays we have completed many school improvements including the installation of brand new toilets for KS2 and KS1 girls. We are really pleased with the outcomes and hope the girls are too!



Unfortunately, due to the great British weather, the installation dates for the playground markings were delayed due to rain. These will be completed shortly and will hopefully be a great addition to the playgrounds. Alongside this will be the installation of new sun canopies which are now due for installation by the end of September.

Term Dates

All term dates have been added to the school calendar on the school website. Please go to the green, school life, section and the calendar tab is on the left hand side. Please check regularly as these will be updated as new events are planned.

Contact details

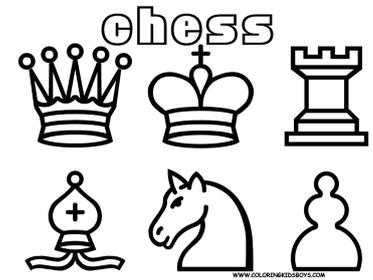
Please ensure that we have the correct contact details on record in the school office. This includes a current email address for correspondence. Where ever possible we would prefer to email information and letters to help reduce printing costs. Please notify the office if your address, phone number or email address has changed.



Congratulations to Mrs Welch (formerly Miss Jones) our Nursery teacher, who got married during the holidays. I'm sure you join me in wishing Mrs Welch and her husband every happiness in their married life together.

School Uniform

Thank you for helping your children to come back to school smart and ready to learn in the correct uniform. Please can I ask that all uniform and equipment (particularly jumpers and cardigans) are named. As you can appreciate it is very difficult to determine who jumpers belong to when we have over 300 children wearing the same, if they are unnamed. Class letters will contain details of PE lessons and when the children need to wear their kits.



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 speak to 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 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