



## Welcome Back!

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 school, both in Nursery, Reception and throughout other year groups. I would like to welcome all of our new children and their families to Hassell and I look forward to meeting you all soon.



This week all classes have started the new school year by reading the same story 'How to look after your dinosaur' and have completed age-appropriate work around this. There have been lots of exciting lessons including archaeology discoveries, pasta skeletons, dinosaur maths, prequel stories, 3D dinosaur modelling... We hope that the children have really enjoyed their lessons and will continue to do so as we progress through the year. Class teachers will send out half termly newsletters to let you know about the subjects and topic areas being taught.

### Our Values

This week we have also been talking to the children about the things that are important to us in school that impact on our learning. We have put our school values into the word 'LEARN' which help us to remember the following:

#### LEARN:

**Love of learning** – we become creative, independent learners for life.

**Equality** - we are all respected and valued as individuals.

**Achieve** – we have high aspirations for ourselves and others.

**Resilient** – We keep trying and never give up.

**Nurturing** – we care for each other and the world around us.

Well done to our Star of the week winners who have demonstrated one of the values above during our first week back.

### School Uniform:

It has been fantastic to see the children looking smart in their school uniforms at the start of term. Thank you for supporting us with this. Please can I remind all children of a few things;

- \* Trainers should only be worn on PE days when children can wear their PE uniform. PE lesson days will be confirmed by your child's class teacher through their class newsletter.
- \* The PE uniform jumper is either the blue school jumper or the blue Hassell PE hoodie.
- \* Earrings should be stud only and not hoops. No other jewelry except watches.
- \* Hair bands and bobbles should be small and colours within the school uniform. No big hairbands, multi coloured bows etc. Hair should not be coloured or shaved into patterns.

### **Pre -Loved uniform shop**

Thank you for your support in providing your children with the correct uniform. We now have a new space for our pre loved uniform items which will soon be available to parents at any time from the main school reception area. Uniform is priced at £1 per item. If you have spare uniform we are also happy to accept good quality donations. As soon as this new system is available, we will let families know.



### **Water Bottles:**

Please can all children bring a named water bottle to school each day which contains water (not juice). This is to help the children remain hydrated and can be refilled using the school water dispensers.

### **School Day Times and Attendance:**

Our school day starts promptly at 8.50 and all children need to be in their class by this time. Our gates open at 8.40 and the children can come straight into school. Registration and lessons all start straight away and late entry means that children and staff are disrupted. Where children are ill or absent from school, please contact the school office each morning on 01782 694567 to let us know.

Please support us by ensuring that your child is in school each day on time. Our education and welfare service monitor attendance and timekeeping and continued lateness can also result in a fine from the education and welfare service. Fines may also be issued for unauthorized holidays taken during term time. Further details are available on the Staffordshire website, including the following:

## **Requesting a leave of absence in term time**

Amendments to the Education Regulations 2006 make it clear that head teachers should only grant a leave of absence during term time if there are exceptional circumstances to justify this.

Amendments to the 2006 regulations also removed references to family holiday and extended leave as well as the statutory threshold of ten school days. Head teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.

## **Code of Conduct for issuing Penalty Notices**

Regular and punctual attendance at school is both a legal requirement and essential for pupils to maximise their educational opportunities. In recognition of this, the law makes it an offence for a parent or carer to fail to secure the regular attendance of their child at a school at which the child is a registered pupil, without good reason or the agreement of the school.

Penalty notices are one of the sanctions available for this offence and offer a means of swift intervention, which can be used to combat attendance problems before they become entrenched.

**If any families wish to request a leave of absence during term time, which they consider to be exceptional circumstances, please speak to the school office and complete the request form.**



### **Toast and break time snacks.**

Children in KS2 may order toast for break time at a cost of 20p per slice. Maximum of 2 slices per child. Please send toast money in to your child's class teacher for this to be ordered, ideally on a Monday for the rest of the week. Alternatively, KS2 children may bring in their own healthy snack such as fruit or cereal bars. **Sweets, crisps and chocolate etc are not allowed at morning break.** Children in Nursery, Reception and KS1 are provided with a daily fruit snack at break time each morning.

**Diary Dates:**

W/C 11<sup>th</sup> September – Paid clubs commence – teacher clubs will start on week 3.

13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> September – Year 6 to Laches Wood residential centre

15<sup>th</sup> September – International day of democracy

26<sup>th</sup> September – European Languages Day

W/C 25<sup>th</sup> September – Harvest Festival Donations into school for the Foodbank and Alice Charity

5<sup>th</sup> October – National poetry day

**MONDAY 9<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER – INSET DAY SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS**

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October – World Mental Health Day – Own clothes day, details to follow

W/C 16<sup>th</sup> October – Recycling Week

20<sup>th</sup> October – Show Racism the red card – own clothes day, details to follow

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October – Halloween disco – details to follow.

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October – Flu immunisations

**Half Term – Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November****MONDAY 6<sup>th</sup> November - INSET DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS**

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November – All pupils return to school.**

If you have any questions or things you would like to discuss with staff, please feel free to talk to myself or the staff on duty in the mornings or give the office a ring leave your child's class teacher a message and they will get back to you as soon as possible. We are also available via the office email on [office@hassell.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:office@hassell.staffs.sch.uk)

Kind Regards

*Kirsty Broome*

Head Teacher