

The most intense half term...ever!

Thank goodness; isolation is over for the vast majority and it was so good to have the children and staff back at school after a bumpy two weeks. I think there is relief all round that we are finally at half term.

Last week, I wrote about the adults, both staff, governors and the temporary teaching team drafted in whilst many were isolating. However, I can't end this half term without talking about the children.

You should be so proud.

Every child has had a different experience over lockdown and many hadn't seen friends, played with anyone outside their bubble or been in school for 5 and a half months. Even those who were in during lockdown and late summer had a very different experience to normal. Add to this the most recent isolation, half school and home learning and they have experienced a lot of change in the last few months. To their credit, they have resolutely risen to every challenge we've set.

They work hard when they're in lessons, they are kind to each other on the playground with many bubbles playing altogether and they are just lovely with all adults. Those in school received many compliments from the temporary team. Added to this, they've embraced learning challenges and never been overfaced. Children, you are AMAZING!

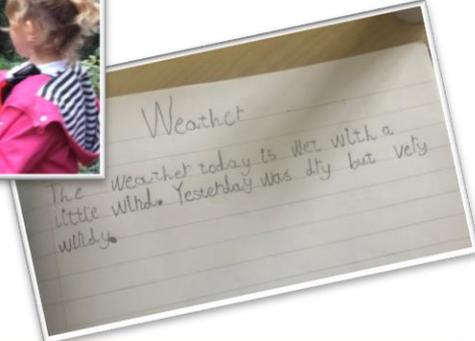
Emma Jefferies, Headteacher



A snapshot of work from each class in school; Greek pots in Year 5, clay remarkable animals in Years 2 & 3.....



.....clay faces in Forest School with Year R, Year 6 booklets on 'Here we are' - notes for our planet and a super neat weather report from Year 1.



Plans for January

When I wrote to you earlier in summer, I announced that we would have 7 single age classes for the autumn term only. We have undertaken testing and assessment this term and we're confident that the extended period Years 4-6 had off has allowed them to consolidate learning and pick back up where they left off easily. They have impressed us with how firm their foundations in learning are. From January, they will move into the 2 classes as planned: Year 4/5 with Mrs Natt and Year 5/6 with Miss Caws. We will know how Year 5 will be split nearer to Christmas and will let you know by the 2nd week in December.

In order to give the younger years; Year 1, 2 & 3 the very best start and ensure that any gaps and misconceptions are corrected before getting too far into their school journey, we have extended Mrs West's time with us and in January, they will all retain their individual year group classes; Year 1 with Mrs West, Year 2 with Mrs Le Fevre & Year 3 with Miss Tregunna. This will be the structure through until the end of the May half term. In the last half term of the year, we will recombine classes in preparation for next academic year. Year R will continue as they have been for the last 3 years as a year group on their own throughout the remainder of the year, taught by Mrs Cooper (nee Kirkham)!

Coming Up!

Every newsletter, we publish the key events coming up for children in our school for the forthcoming fortnight – this is the bit to pin to your fridge!

OCTOBER HALF TERM Mon 26 th – Fri 30 th October		
Mon 2 nd	All day	INSET day – no children
Tues 3 rd	08:50	Autumn term 2 starts
Fri 6 th	09:00	Flu jabs
Wed 11 th	11:00	School council represent school at War memorial

Marathon runners

The first day back after half term and we're running a marathon!

Please take this opportunity to raise sponsorship money for this amazing feat! We'll be going for it right from 9am on Tuesday 3rd November.

REMEMBER: a justgiving page keeps fundraising simple and cash free which is COVID friendly!

ALL CHILDREN NEED PE KIT ON THE 1ST DAY!

Year 6!

Parents, please don't forget to register for a secondary school place by Oct 31st.

Shoebboxes

If you have ANY size shoebox at home, please could Years 4,5,6 have them after half term?

Flu immunisation

FREE flu immunization is available in school for all children on Fri 6th but we MUST have a signed flu letter back in school.

A copy is available on the newsletter page of the website in case yours has become mislaid/eaten by the dog/lost in a book bag!

Photos

We hope that you like the children's photos with our new photographer. We thought they were really rather lovely and that she'd captured each child as we know them.

DID YOU KNOW? When you place an order for any of the photos, the school receives 20%!!!

In a year when FOSS can't run as many events and getting together and raising money is rather limited, this will really help us.

Open evening

We're getting booked up for Open Evening. If you're a pre-school parent and would like a look around the school or know of a family local to you who have a child ready to start school in September 2021, please do encourage them to book a slot.

We're sending home a postcard with each family – please could you hand it to someone you know who might be interested.

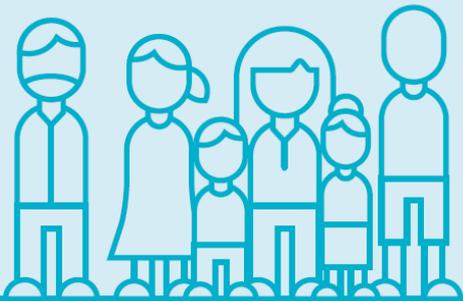


Have a safe half-term

Remember:



Rule of Six



Hands, Face, Space



Current alert level in Hampshire:

Medium

MESSAGE FROM HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL:

Hampshire County Council has asked us to share the following important public health message with you:

Coronavirus infections are continuing to rise, and Hampshire is on 'Medium' COVID alert level. We need **your help** to stop the spread of the virus, so please continue following national public health guidance this half term. Remember 'hands, face, space' and the Rule of 6: which means no large gatherings indoors or outdoors.

Let's all work together to Keep Hampshire Safe.