



The Hormead Link

Informing the community of
Hormead CE Primary School

Welcome to our 17th edition of our newsletter and there's certainly a lot to report as this term is turning out to be very busy! I thought I'd start with the Diary Dates first so that parents are aware of some important events planned for this term.

Diary Dates

Friday 5th Nov: Barnardos Assembly 9.10am – everyone welcome.

Friday 5th Nov: Individual and family photo's from 10am

Saturday 6th Nov: Bonfire Night starts at 6pm

Monday 15th / 22nd Nov: Cooking Workshop for Class 3

Friday 19th Nov: EDF Energy talk to Class 3 and Class 2.

Monday 29th Nov: school closed: occasional day.

Tuesday 7th Dec: class 2 and 3 visit to Queens Park – see below.

Tuesday 14th Dec: Christmas Carol and Nativity service at Church. 2pm

Wednesday 15th Dec: School Christmas Lunch

Thursday 16th Dec: Trip to see Pantomime

Friday 17th Dec: Last day of term and End of term assembly at 1.30pm

Friends Christmas Shopping Evening

I'm delighted to say that we had a very good response to the shopping evening. Lot's of stalls, a children's activity corner and a visit from Santa meant we had a steady stream of visitors and the Friends raised approximately £400, all of which will go back into supporting the school.

Thank you everyone who came along and supported the event.

A big *Thanks* also goes to the Friends who organised this event. Particularly Lisa Farrell who found co-ordinated a lot of the stall holders, Nicky Clark and Jo Parker and of course Mr and Mrs Parkins who put up the lights, set up tables etc and Mr Shewan who is always on hand to help out – and everyone else who helped as well. Thank You All

Remembrance Service: Sunday 14th November

This years remembrance service is on Sunday 14th November at 10.50am at St Giles Church in Wyddial. I hope to see many of you there.

I am looking for two children to volunteer and carry the wreath in the church so if you are going please let me know.

Poppies are also available at school. We are suggesting a minimum donation of 50p.

Science Workshops

The children had a great time yesterday at the Science workshops. Class 3 did investigations based on chemistry etc and in the afternoon the whole school did investigations on light and dark.

I understand that a few people were concerned about the cost of this workshop, and we apologise for any difficulty caused.

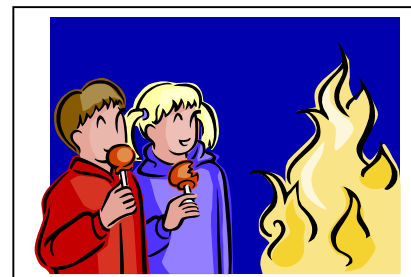


Bonfire Night

Please remember that our bonfire night is on Saturday 6th November. Gates open at 6, the bonfire will be lit about 6.30 and the firework display will start around 7pm.

Tickets are available on the gate if you have not bought them already

£12 family ticket, £5 adult and £3 children.
A family ticket is for any combination of adults and children, but must include at least one child.



New Parent Governor

I'm delighted to say that Mrs Kerry Joyce has stepped forward to take on our vacant Parent Governor position. As there was no other candidate Kerry is elected unopposed. Kerry is a familiar face around school and regularly comes in to listen to pupils read and help supervise the pupils at swimming. I look forward to working with Kerry as we continue to push ahead with school improvements.

School Uniform Orders

Mrs Tompkins would like to remind parents that school uniform orders need to be completed and handed in by Friday November 19th.

Parents may also be interested in knowing that we have a small selection of second hand jumpers that are available for a small donation.

Football Match

One of the events not mentioned in the Diary is our first competitive football match. On Monday 16th Nov a small selection of pupils in class 2 that attend Football Club will play a 5 a-side game against St Edmunds College Preparatory School. Rob will be selecting 7 pupils. A letter to those pupils asked to represent the school will be sent out next week. This takes place after school and I would ask parents to transport their children if possible, or share in transporting children.

Everyone is welcome to come along and cheer the team on.



Class 2 and 3 Trip to Queens Park

I'm delighted to say that we have arranged a fantastic visit for pupils in Class 2 and Class 3 to Queens Park in Bedford on Tuesday Dec 7th. The trip covers several important aspects of our Religious Education Curriculum. The children will have the opportunity to explore a Church, Gurdwara (Sikh place of worship) and a Mosque.

If possible Girls should wear trousers that day to respect religious traditions. All pupils will need a packed lunch, preferably cheese or jam, again to respect religious traditions.

There will be no cost for this trip and the trip leaves and returns within school time.

Welcome Miss Wade and Mrs Oehring

Parents may have noticed two unfamiliar faces in class 3. I'm delighted to say that Miss Wade and Mrs Oehring have joined us for several weeks as part of their Post Graduate Training in Education. I'm sure that parents will make them feel very welcome and they are, so far (!) enjoying their time in class 3

Mrs Russell Jury Service

I can confirm that Mrs Russell has been selected for Jury Service. Hopefully the case will be resolved soon. I am very pleased to report that I am having a wonderful time in class three and it's actually a pleasure to get back in front of a class again. I hope the children are enjoying it as much as I am!

Of course, having two extra helpers, Miss Wade and Mrs Oehring is very useful and the children are certainly benefitting from the extra support.

On the down side I am not in the office as much and my paperwork is beginning to pile up! At the end of two weeks I may have trouble finding my desk!

Cooking Workshops

I'm delighted to say that there will be a cooking workshop on Monday 15th and Monday 22nd of November. These will be run by pupils from Freman College as part of their social development / leadership skills programme.

Electrical Safety Talk

On Friday 19th November there will be a visit from EDF (the energy company) who will be giving a talk and presentation to the children on safety, electricity etc. This ties in very well with this half terms theme of "power".

Homework Review

One issue that we have discussed in school is reviewing our homework policy and the homework we set. Obviously some homework is pretty standard, such as spellings and regular reading at home. However I know that setting other homework can be a controversial issue. I would like to get parents ideas and opinions on this to see if we can improve the delivery of homework and ensure that any homework set is genuinely enhancing the pupils learning. A questionnaire will be handed out shortly (next week) that I would like parents to complete and hand in.

Nature Area Redevelopment

I'm pleased to report that I have written to a total of 8 different charities. Hopefully we will receive some support from them. Please remember to have a look at the plans which are available in the entrance foyer for parents and friends to look at.

Clubs

All clubs will end by Friday 10th of Dec, this means that there will be no clubs in the last week of term...except Adventure club which will still go ahead on Monday 13th Dec. A new clubs letter for clubs after Christmas will be out in the last two weeks for parents and children to make choices about.