



WISE UP

15 September 2017

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Heads Up

Please find a 'What's Happening' list for this term and also a list of extra-curricular activities is on the reverse of this newsletter

Key Dates

- **Special Mention Assembly**
Friday 22 September
at 2.30 pm

Thought of the Week

'Don't be afraid of change as it is leading you to a new beginning'

Joyce Meyer



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Message from Headteacher

I hope you've all had an excellent summer break and I'd like to take the opportunity to welcome you all back to an exciting new school year. I've had a lovely first two weeks at Hambleton and I appreciate the number of parents and carers who have introduced themselves, and those who attended the 'Tea with Mr Williams' session last Tuesday (see below). I would also like to extend a warm welcome to all the new families joining School this year with children in Reception and new starters across school. We look forward to working with you over your child's time at Hambleton.

'Tea with Mr Williams' Sessions on Tuesday 12th September

Thank you very much to all the parents, grandparents, carers and governors who attended these meetings – we counted around 70 of you over the two sessions. Below are the three questions I asked you and a summary of the most common answers to each question. They are ranked with the most popular responses first.

What's working well at the school at the moment/ what are the best things about Hambleton School?

- Staff "Teachers are friendly, caring and approachable," was a typical comment
- The relaxed, friendly atmosphere of the school and the strong sense of community
- The buddy system of older children working with younger ones
- The children's introduction into Reception (including home visits and a phased start)
- The range of sporting and musical opportunities in the school
- Text messages to communicate

What could we do even better?

- Newsletters to be emailed
- A single assembly for parents to attend each week (but also opportunities for children to present their work to parents)
- For the headteacher to be more 'visible'
- That sporting events should be inclusive with opportunities for all children
- Clearer feedback on children's progress and opportunities for parents to come into the classroom
- Early communication on key events

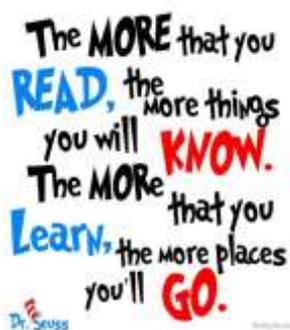
What is your main aspiration for your child in the coming year?

- To be happy and enjoy coming to school
- To grow in confidence
- To be challenged in their learning
- To have a non-pressurized approach to SATs

There are a number of issues which we can act on quickly and I will keep you informed about our progress over the year. In the meantime, please feel free to approach me in the playground with any other concerns. I hope you and your children enjoy our first term.

Reading Volunteers

We are always looking for volunteers to help at Hambleton School and this year we are seeking helpers to read on a one-to-



one basis with some of our children. We are asking you to commit to around **1 hour per week for a minimum of 6 weeks** in the first instance, with the hope that you may also wish to continue to volunteer some of your time over the remainder of the year. The focus will be on enjoyment and fluency in reading and before you start with us you will be invited to a brief meeting with Miss Clay to explain the role and answer any

questions you may have. We will then assign you to a particular class (this may not be your own child's class).

We will ask you to undertake a DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) check which may take some weeks to process.

If you are unable to meet this commitment but are still keen to volunteer in school in other areas please get in touch with your child's class teacher, Mr Williams or the school office. Your support is always welcome.

If becoming a Reading Volunteer is something that appeals to you, we would be delighted to hear from you. You can collect DBS information from Mrs Shaw in the office and we'll then be in touch with you as soon as your clearance is received .

School Lunches

The cost of a school lunch is still **£2.10** for children in **Year 3 to 6**. Our preferred method of payment for lunches is via **ParentPay**. Please call at the school office if you need a password reminder. Children in Reception to Year 2 continue to receive Universal Infant Free School Meals.

Packed Lunches

Some parents have asked what food is allowed in a packed lunch. As we are a Healthy School, then all healthy food is acceptable. NO SWEETS or CHOCOLATE should be included.

Healthy Snacks

All pupils from Reception to Year 6 are allowed to bring in a healthy snack but this must only be FRESH FRUIT/VEGETABLE or DRIED FRUIT. As part of the School Fruit & Vegetable Scheme, all pupils in Reception to Year 2 are provided with a piece of fruit/vegetable at breaktime.

(continued)

Special Mention Assembly

This will take place Friday weekly at 2.30 pm and will include the presentation of Wise Owls, certificates & team points etc. All parents/carers are welcome to join us for this weekly celebration. Please note that there will no longer be a Certificate Assembly on Thursdays.

MacMillan Cake Sale

As part of their Young Leaders' project, Evie Bowker, Carys Edmunds, Bethan Jellett, Lily Morris, Abigail Pilling and Lucy Robertson are organising a MacMillan cake sale. This will take place on Friday 29 September at 3 pm. Please support this worthy cause.

Flower Planters

Thank you to Vincent Binks, Adam Styryn and Leo Wright who as part of their Young Leaders' project have weeded and planted up our concrete planters.

Water Bottles

Every child (except children in Little Owls who, for the time being at least, access water differently) has been issued with a **brand new water bottle**, courtesy of the FOHS. Please wash the bottle following the care instructions detailed below. Bottles will be sent home at the end of each day for washing and need to be returned to school the following morning.

Washing care instructions appear on the bottles and, as per the manufacturer, are as follows:

- Do not immerse in boiling water
- Bottle & cap should be washed in warm soapy water & rinsed in clean water
- Maximum dishwasher temperature of 65°C (on top shelf only)
- A mild bleach solution, such as 'Milton', may be used

If caps are washed at a higher temperature than recommended, they will shrink & will not fit the bottles.

The bottles are to be filled with water only, as we are a 'Healthy School'. Thank you.

Friends of Hambleton School (FOHS)

Our Friends of Hambleton School group make a great contribution every year to learning resources for the school and we're extremely grateful for the hard work that Jamie Morrison and the team put in for us. This year they have already contributed a significant sum for our subscription to Fiction Express (used for teaching reading skills) and for Junior Librarian (allowing children to borrow school library books and the teachers to help children respond to texts). **This year, the Friends are looking for new members.** If you are interested in joining them to give up any amount of your time, we would be keen to hear from you. Please contact Mrs Shaw in the office initially.

**** The newsletter will be sent in paper copy every two weeks for the time being ****

(Please turn over for What's Happening)