



## HUNTLEY NEWS November 2023

### Our School Vision

Nurtured individuals, learning together with God's love, living life to the full.

### Curriculum:

#### Our Reception children



Welcome to all the children who have joined us in Reception- they have all settled in so well to school life. During their first worship they all put their pebbles into the school jar. This shows that like the pebbles we are all different but we all make up part of Huntley School.

Thank you too to the year six buddies who have been very



welcoming and supportive during the first couple of weeks.

#### School council and House captains.

Congratulations to the children who were voted onto this year's school council. We held our election in the second week of term and children from Y2-6 were chosen by the other children to be their school councillors. They will help to make sure everyone's views are heard in school, organise events and work with staff to react to pupil ideas.



We would also like to introduce our house captains – voted by their house peers. Rowling – Tamlyn, Donaldson- Rupert, Morpurgo-Ida and Dahl-Violet.



#### Year Six – Visit to the Isle of Wight

Last week the children in year six spent the week on the Isle of Wight with other year six children from Tibberton, Churcham and Ashleworth schools. It certainly sounds like they had an amazing time!!

I asked the children what their favourite part of the week was and this is what they told me!

Freddie – The Skynets which were up in the air. There were yoga balls in them and when we jumped on them, we went flying!

Louie- I enjoyed making the sand art. I made a globe filled with lots of different colour sands.

Violet – The disco because one of the boys had pigtails! We all danced and sang very loudly.

Ida – The disco was fun and I lost my voice. I also found dinosaur poo on the beach after we had visited Dinosaur Isle.





Will – The Skynets were my favourite, I think. I didn't feel safe at first but then loved them. The disco was really good fun too.  
 Imogen- Osbourne House was so interesting. There were lots of gold decorations and they were actually



made of real gold. At the disco there was loud music and everyone danced together.  
 Samuel- I enjoyed the donkey sanctuary. We adopted a donkey called Pinto. The Skynets were fun jumping from net to net and going down the slide.

Elsa – I loved the disco and the movie night. We snuggled down with our duvets and watched Toy Story 4.

Daisy – I can't decide on just one thing! I loved it all!

A huge thank you to Mrs Andrews for going with the year sixes- such a special experience!



## The world is run by those who turn up

Attending school every day = 100% attendance

Attending 4½ days a week = 90% attendance  
 = 4 weeks missed per year.

Attending 4 days a week = 80% attendance  
 = more than half a term missed per year or 2 full years missed over the course of their school career.

Attending 3½ days each week = 70% attendance  
 = more than a quarter of the school year missed.

An average attendance of 80% or less across a child's school career adds up to missing a whole 2 years from school

Being late for school reduces learning time.

- If your child is 5 minutes late every day they will miss three days of learning each year.
- If your child is 15 minutes late every day they will miss 2 weeks of learning each year.

**Make every minute count**

### Behaviour/ Attendance

**Term dates** for this academic year and next are on the website and a copy is available from the school office if needed

Just a reminder that in line with DFE guidance, holidays cannot be authorised in term time unless there are extenuating circumstances. A fine will be issued if 10 sessions (5 days) are taken within a 10 week period.

Full details can be found in our attendance policy on the website (copies can be obtained from the school office) If you have any queries please speak to Mrs Curtis.

Regular attendance is strongly linked to success. As a school we always have strong attendance outcomes and we thank you for your support with this.

I think the information here just reinforces the importance of regular attendance and punctuality.

**Class of the week.** I am sure you have heard your child talking about Class of the week. I have asked some of the children to explain to new parents and carers what Class of the week is.

At playtimes we can earn blue rewards for showing a value such as kindness or being helpful and then yellow ones for lining up sensibly ready to go in. All the points are added up and we find out who is class of the week. We can choose golden time activities first so can get our favourite! Stream were class of the week last week!

### **Personal Development:**

#### **Celebrating success!**

As a school we work in hard to make sure all the children's successes are celebrated, aiming to develop an intrinsic want to do their best.

**House gems:** The children are awarded house gems for great work or showing our school values. They add them to their house's pot and we have a winner every week. The winning house this week was **Rowling** with 160 house gems!

**Golden time:** As a school we choose to have a Golden Time on a Friday afternoon. During this time the children get to choose from a wide range of activities which range from crafts, dance, films or extra playtime outside. This is linked to our school behaviour policy and Golden time can be lost if a positive change has not been made after a reminder. This does not happen very often but is occasionally used. Golden time is a lovely end to the week and the children mix across the school.

**Star of the day:** In Class Stream they have a star of the day given at the end of each day to a child who has worked particularly hard, achieved a goal, shown resilience or another of our school values.

**Lunchtimes stickers** are given out rewarding good manners in the lunch hall. These life skills are something we work hard to promote.

**Other celebrations-** These all run alongside our awards given out in merit assemblies which include writer of the week and merit certificates linked to school values. We also celebrate 99 club and Numbot successes, reading challenge completion and in Class River hand writer of the week. Whole class awards are sometimes given out to celebrate the success of a whole class or year group.

**Achievements outside of school:** During Merit assemblies we also celebrate children's successes outside of school and love to hear about these. Please continue to send in certificates etc or just information about successes outside of school, for us to celebrate and add to our achievements board.

**Certificates:** These children have been awarded certificates during this week's merit assembly.

**Head teacher award-** Y6 for being caring buddies

**Class Stream-** Finley. All the Reception children for settling in so well and listening carefully.

**Class River-** Finley, Rafael and Eirwen.

**Class Estuary-** Ralph, Eli, Theo, Hope

**Class Ocean –** Rupert. All of the year sixes who went on the Isle of Wight residential and were great ambassadors for the school.

**Writers of the week-** Willoughby, Alexander and Emilia

**Class River Hand writer of the week-** Amelia





### Numbots challenges

**Rust** – Ollie G, Finley C, Luan and Oliver T

**Steel**- Felix

**Iron** – Ollie G

**Chrome** – Felix

### 99 Club passes

Georgia and Hope



### Other awards:

#### Library summer reading challenge:

Well done to all those children who completed the library summer reading challenge! Amanda who works at the library and is one of our governors, came to school to congratulate them and give them a bookmark. Well done Georgia, Lily, Jacob, Guy, Alexander, Albert, Matilda N, Amelia, Emilia, Charlotte and Zack.



### Girls Football

The girls football team took part in a six aside tournament at Dene Magna school this week. They played really well as a team and had a positive approach to all their matches. Considering it was the first time they had played together they did really well.

The following day they went to Elmbridge school to play four more matches. They lost two close games and drew two against much larger schools. We were very proud of the girls from years 5 and 6 coming together and working as a team!

**Squash and biscuits:** On Thursdays, the year 6 children will be re-opening their squash and biscuit bar. The children will have a choice between orange and apple and blackcurrant with a cup costing 10p and a biscuit costing 20p. All money raised goes towards the care of our class guinea pigs, Jellybean and Snickers to buy hay, food, cleaning supplies and treats.



### Other news:

#### Some thank yous

Over the summer we are very grateful that we had some volunteers carrying out jobs around the school

**Mr Milsome**- thank you for clearing all the mud and weeds from around the side of school. It looks so much better!

**Mr and Mrs Price** – Finley and Jasmine's grandparents who have once again been carrying out jobs in the playground. Thank you for replacing the wood in the covered area and for fitting the bike rack.

**Mr Bevan** – for clearing the playground and continuing to keep it free from all the falling leaves.

Thank you for your continued support.

And finally thank you to **Charlie Walding** who did an amazing job of clearing the area by Class River- it looks great

We are very grateful for all the support parents/ carers and their families give to the school with jobs like this.

### **Playground and field usage outside of school hours**

Thank you to those who have been keeping a look out, following the damage to the goal in the school field. We have now put signs up on the playground and field gates reminding visitors that it is private property and have spoken to a couple of people. It's disappointing about the damage and obviously there are also be insurance implications using the area outside of school hours. We will also be locking the playground over weekends.



### **Kitchen Area**

As many of you would have seen – we have had the foyer area converted into a kitchen space for the children to use. This is something we have been looking into for some time and we are very grateful to the PTFA for funding this.

On this note, if anyone is willing/ knows of anyone who might be interested in carrying out some cooking with the children, any help would be gratefully received!

### **Christmas play**

Thank you to those who responded offering preferences for the school play. Although a huge undertaking, it has always been deemed a special event carrying out a whole school play. However, we appreciate it can be a lot for the younger ones and

having an infant play allows more involvement for the younger children. From parent feedback the most popular option was two separate plays. We are looking at the logistics of this in term of timings and will let you know the dates of these as soon as possible.

### **Dates for the diary**

Please check the website diary to see what is coming up.

Harvest Festival – 17<sup>th</sup> October 2:30 in the church

Wear it Pink day – (school council will be sending out more information) 23<sup>rd</sup> October

PTFA School disco -23<sup>rd</sup> October



