

HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE 6 September 2024



Dear Parents,

Welcome Back - It was so lovely to see the children during Monday's Collective Worships. They looked so smart and there were so many smiles and a feeling of excitement in the hall about the year ahead. A few of them admitted to struggling to get up that morning, as did some of the staff! Amongst these children were a number of new pupils to the school, we welcome them all and hope that they have made friends and had a fun first week at Hook.

It has been good to see many of you in the playgrounds this week and to have the opportunity to catch up with you in person while dropping your children off at school.

We are looking forward to meeting our new Year R children on Monday next week. We hope they all enjoy their time in school and that they settle well and soon feel a part of the Hook-with-Warsash C of E Academy community.

Staffing - We are pleased to welcome seven new members of staff to our team.

- **Gavin Bater** has joined us as Assistant Headteacher. He is responsible for the junior part of the school and will be teaching in 6R on Fridays.
- **Sophie Davison** has joined us as a Year 2 class teacher.
- **Lindsay Purnell** has joined us as a classroom assistant in year 5.
- **Kate Jinks** has joined us as a classroom assistant in 2H.
- **Elaine Barnatt** has moved across from Time Out Childcare to our new Wraparound Care provision.
- **Gail Scarth** has also moved across from Time Out Childcare to our new Wraparound Care provision.
- **Amy Ripley-Giles** has joined our new Wraparound Care provision.

Data Collection Forms – Each year we are required to check that we have up to date contact and medical details for every pupil. Please look out for a **light blue Collection Form** and **Medical Form** that your child will be bringing home in their book bag over the next few weeks. We will start with Year 6 and will be working our way down through the school. When you receive these forms please can you **check ALL the details thoroughly (especially email addresses and contact numbers)**, make amendments where necessary, sign and date it and return it to the school office. If there is only one contact on your sheet please can you provide a second, **we are legally required to have a minimum of two contacts for each child**. Please be aware that this must be done for every child and we will keep chasing until all forms have been returned.

YR Coffee Morning – We would like to extend a warm welcome to all of our new parents and invite you to join us on Friday 20 September at 9:00am in the School Hall for a coffee/tea. This will give you an opportunity to meet other new parents and to speak to members of the senior leadership team. We hope many of you can attend.

Harvest Festivals – Harvest Festivals will take place in **St Mary's Church on Monday 7 October**. The Infant Service will take place at 9.30am and this will be followed by the Junior Service at 10.45am. We welcome anyone associated with the school who would like to join us for these events.

We would be grateful for any donations of food that we can distribute to local organisations and food banks. If you are happy to send food in for this please deliver your non-perishable contributions on the morning of **Monday 7 October** to class with your child.

Parents Evenings – Face to face parents' evenings will take place on **Monday 7 October** (3.30 – 8.00) and **Wednesday 9 October** (3.30 – 5.30pm) for all classes **except 1H**. Due to teacher availability **class 1H's parents' evenings** will be held earlier on **Tuesday 24 September (3.30 – 8.00)** and **Wednesday 25 September (3.30 – 4.30)**. You will all be sent information about booking an appointment in due course.

Must Reads

Having done an audit of books over the summer holidays it appears that a number of **Must Read books** were not returned at the end of the last academic year. Please could I ask that you scour your children's bedrooms and book shelves in the hope that the missing books may be found.

School Uniform – The children have returned to school in many new items of clothing. Please can I ask that In an effort to reduce lost property, can you please label all items of uniform etc. with your child's name.

Early Morning Sessions – Some children in the school attend early morning sessions. These are by invitation only and will begin on **Tuesday 24th September**. Teachers are currently carrying out assessments with the children and will contact parents of children that they wish to attend during the week beginning 16th September.

Curriculum Links – Our curriculum links inform you of what will be studied in each year group during each half term. The ones for the first half of the Autumn term are currently being uploaded onto our website under **Curriculum/Curriculum Links** (<https://www.hookwithwarsash.co.uk/curriculum-links/>).

Shining Lights-We like to celebrate our school values of **Love, Independence, Growth, Happiness and Trust** within school every day and we would like you to share anything at home that your child does that you feel shows a good example of our school values. This could include, for example, children who are offering to help at home or being trusted to get on with tasks independently. If you would like to share this with us you can nominate your child for a 'Shining Light Award' which we can celebrate in school and your child will receive a 'Shining Light' sticker. Please see the PDF attached if you would like to do this.

Parking and Voluntary One-Way System – Please can I remind you to be mindful of our neighbours when dropping off or collecting from school. The local roads become very congested and I would ask that you avoid blocking people's driveways and narrowing the road by parking opposite other cars. Some parents like to park a little way away from the school enabling them to engage with their child whilst walking the rest of the way.

We would also like to suggest a voluntary one-way system to avoid congestion on the local roads. The idea behind this is that you approach the school via Osborne Road, joining Church Road at the bottom end and then depart from the school up Church Road towards Warsash Road. This route enables you to turn left into the school site and makes traffic flow more fluid. We would appreciate your support with this initiative.

Secondary School Applications – Y6 parents will have received email instructions regarding their child's Year 7 application for a secondary school place. **Applications are being accepted from Monday 09 September** and the deadline for online applications is midnight on **Thursday 31 October 2024**. Notification date for on-time applicants is Monday 3rd March.

Day Closures - There will be INSET days on **Monday 23 September 2024, Friday 31 January 2024 and Friday 4 April**. A further two dates are still to be agreed and we will inform you of these as soon as possible.

Water Bottles – Please can you ensure that your child always brings a water bottle to school as it is important for them to stay hydrated during the day.

We hope your children have enjoyed their first week back and wish you all a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely

Sara Willoughby

Sara Willoughby
Headteacher

Attachments:

Reception Timetable / Flu Vaccine Flyers / Lunchtime French Club Flyer / Lunchtime Spanish Club Flyer

Mon	09 Sept	Reception children start (Timetable attached) Y7 Secondary School Applications Portal Opens	
Tue	10 Sept	HMS Music – Guitar	Spanish – Lunchtime club
Wed	11 Sept	HMS Music – Brass/Keyboard/Woodwind	Y4 Football – Lunchtime Judo
Thurs	12 Sept	French – Lunchtime Club Rock2theBeat	Cross Country Club 8:15am Y5/6 Football (Girls) – Lunchtime Y5/6 Football (Boys) 3:30-4:30
Fri	13 Sept	Y6 Swimming HMS Music – Drums	

Tue	17 Sept	Y1/2 IDPE Dodgeball 3:30/4:30pm starts
Fri	20 Sept	YR Coffee Morning 9:00am School Hall Y6 Swimming Y3-6 IDPE Dodgeball 3:30/4:30pm starts
Mon	23 Sept	INSET DAY / IDPE Sports Club
Tue	24 Sept	Early Morning groups begin Class 1H Parents Evening 3:30pm-8:00pm
Wed	25 Sept	Class 1H Parents Evening 3:30pm-4:30pm
Fri	27 Sept	Cross Country – Portsdown Hill 4:15pm
30 Sept – 4 Oct		Y5 Dorset Residential
Fri	04 Oct	Cross Country – Portsdown Hill 4:15pm
Mon	07 Oct	Harvest Festival @ St Mary's Church Inf. 9:30am; Jnr. 10:45am Parents Evening 3:30pm-8:00pm

Wed	09 Oct	Parents Evening 3:30pm-5:30pm
Fri	11 Oct	Cross Country – Portsdown Hill 4:15pm
Wed	16 Oct	PTFA AGM 7:30pm
Fri	18 Oct	Cross Country – Portsdown Hill (Reserve Date)
Wed	23 Oct	NHS Whole School Flu Vaccine Immunisation
28 – 01 Nov		Half Term / IDPE Sports Club