

HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE

20th January 2023



Dear Parents,

It seems incredible that we are already so far through January. The staff and I hope that 2023 has begun well for you all. The children have had a very positive start to the new term and are now working hard on their new projects.

Strike Action – Following news announcements this week, you will be aware that one of the teaching unions has voted to undertake industrial action in the coming weeks. The vast majority of our staff have indicated that they do not plan to go out on strike. This means that the school will be able to continue to run as normal on the dates that the National Education Union (NEU) have announced. If there is any change to this position we will inform you as soon as possible. Hampshire Music Service have also confirmed that music lessons should continue as normal on these days.

Staffing - We would like to welcome Ms Gemma Lowrie who has joined the staff team as our Pupil Welfare and Attendance Assistant. She is based in the office and is the first point of contact for the majority of first aid incidents in the school. She will also be monitoring attendance throughout the school and will be working with me to ensure we are meeting all of the requirements set out by the Department of Education regarding attendance.

Absences & Attendance – Please can we remind you that we require any medical type absence (**Hospital, Dentist, Doctors** etc.) to be notified by email or in person to the school office with an accompanying appointment letter or screen print of a text confirmation.

For other absence types (**holiday, funeral, sporting activity, school visit**, etc.) please complete an **absence request form** which is available from the school office or can be downloaded from the school website. In some instances we may ask you for supporting documentation. In line with the rest of the schools in the local area we are issuing Penalty notices for unauthorised absences that exceed 9 sessions (4.5 Days) taken within a rolling period of 50 school days.

Absences due to illness should be reported **daily to the school office** by phone before 9am each morning. If leaving a message on the answer machine, please include your child's name and class and the symptoms they are exhibiting.

Winter Wheeze Webinar - Winter illnesses are still circulating and affecting mostly the young and elderly members of our communities. We have been asked by Hampshire County Council to promote a webinar - **It's not easy being wheezy** - that is being run on **27th January 2023** by Respiratory Paediatric Nurses. This is aimed at parents and carers of children who suffer from wheeze when they have coughs and colds or have an inhaler to use. Please see the attached flyer for further information and booking instructions.

In addition, the UK Health Security Agency have released an updated blog to raise awareness and promote the best ways to protect children and others. [Back to School - 5 things to do to help manage winter illness](#)

Shining Lights – Thank you for all the shining light slips that have been sent in this week. It has been lovely to celebrate the children's contributions and successes with them. Please keep sending these in! If you need more slips you can either ask the class teacher or school office for some blank ones or download and print from the attached PDF.

Maths Evening - We will be holding a curriculum evening on **Tuesday 31st Jan** to share our approach for teaching maths at Hook with Warsash. At this we will provide information on how you can support your child at home and we will show you that maths is nothing to be scared of! The evening will consist of an introduction session, held in the hall, where tea/coffee and biscuits will be provided. Then there will be a series of year group led workshops. Each work shop will last 15 minutes and be repeated 3 times. This will enable parents with children in different year groups the opportunity to see all the necessary workshops. This evening will be aimed at adults and we ask that children are not brought with you. The evening **will start at 7.15pm in the hall** and should finish around 8:45pm. Please click on the link to let us know you will be attending <https://forms.office.com/e/fQVteYbAkn>

Pupil E-safety Sessions – week beginning 20th February – During this week we will be focusing on e-safety with children throughout the school. Lessons in each year group will be age appropriate. Children in year 5 and 6 will undertake workshops in the hall with a subject specialist. Letters will be sent out shortly to these upper year groups as we will be asking for a small voluntary contribution to help us cover the cost of these sessions.

Parents' E-safety Awareness Sessions – Tuesday 21 February - We are holding e-safety awareness sessions for parents on Tuesday 21 February at 5.30pm. In a world of constantly changing technology we would highly recommend that parents attend this. If you are planning to attend please can you let us know by completing the form accessed via the following link <https://forms.office.com/e/bSbbbznG5E>.

Year 4 Swimming - Swimming for Year 4 will commence on the **first Friday back after February half term, 24th February 2023**. Please watch out for the permission letter which will be sent out shortly.

Open Evening – On **Tuesday 7 March** between 3.30pm and 5.00pm we would like to invite parents in with their children to look at their children's books. This is not a formal parents' evening but teachers will be in the classrooms throughout the session. We hope you will be able to come along so that the children can share all of their hard work with you.

Reports and Online Parent Evenings- Annual reports will be sent home on **Friday 10 March** for years 1-6. Online parents Evenings will take place on **Monday 13 and Tuesday 14 March** for all year groups. We will be using the SchoolCloud online booking system for video appointments and information regarding these will be sent home after half term.

Production – We are delighted to let you know that the Waypoint Church auditorium, in Hunts Pond Road, has once again been booked for this year's School Production. This will take place in the week commencing **Monday 10 July 2023** with performances on the Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Details of the title of the show will be released after half term.

PTFA Infant Film Night (Thursday 26 January) is fast approaching! Please ensure you have made payment and returned your permission slips by **TUESDAY the 24TH** to secure your little one's place. You are able to book and make payment using the following link: https://www.pta-events.co.uk/hwwschoolptfa/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=58015#.Y8p3g_ffXDt

PTFA Quiz Night (Friday 24 February) – Almost all of the tables have now been sold. If you still wish to attend this popular event please make your booking as quickly as possible to avoid disappointment. To book your table, and order food, please visit: <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/hwwschoolptfa/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=58004#.Y7yOKC2l3Uo>

Day Closures – The remaining day closures for this academic year are:-

Friday 03 February 2023

Friday 26 May 2023

Friday 21 July 2023

Walking to School - We are delighted that so many of you are managing to walk to school reducing the congestion along Church Road. It is really appreciated and I'm sure you are feeling better for a little fresh air. For those of you that choose to Park and Stride and use the Victory Hall to do so, we have been requested to ask you to use the rear car park only and not the spaces along the side of the hall. These spaces should be left free for the hall hirers and early morning attendees. It would also be appreciated if you could return to your car as soon as possible.

I would also like to remind you that there is a car park next to One Stop in the village which is perfect for Park and Stride, together with the church car park at the top of Church Road. Both of these are free of charge. The Silver Fern has also kindly agreed that we can use their car spaces which run alongside the right hand fence. Please avoid the front of the pub as they may be expecting deliveries.

Thank you again for supporting us with this initiative which is kinder to our community and our children. With Children's Mental Health Week (6th-12th February) fast approaching, this would be a great time to start walking for wellbeing.

IDPE Sport – Please see the attached flyer for information on all of the IDPE Sports clubs running this term. These clubs are designed to provide children and young people the opportunity to participate, enjoy, and develop in inclusive game play as well as creating a positive sporting habit for life.

To book, please follow the link: <https://idpe-sport.class4kids.co.uk/>

If you have any questions or enquiries, please email bookings@idpesport.co.uk

Yours sincerely

Sara Willoughby

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Headteacher

Attachments:-

PTFA Quiz Night Flyer

IDPE Sports Flyer

Shining Light slips

Lunchtime French Club Flyer

Next Week

Mon	23 Jan	HMS Music – Guitar (am)	Y4 Football - Lunchtime
Tue	24 Jan	HMS Music – Drums (pm) School Council visit to Mayors Parlour Y5/6 Collaborative Choir Concert Rehearsal	Spanish – Lunchtime IDPE Dodgeball starts
Wed	24 Jan	HMS Music – Brass & Woodwind (am) Y3 Parents Stubbington Residential Meeting 3:30pm	Y3/4 Netball 8:05am Y3-6 Running Club - Lunchtime Y1/2 Football Judo 3:30pm
Thurs	26 Jan	Rock2theBeat (pm) Infant Film Night	French – Lunchtime Y5/6 Football 3:30/4:30pm
Fri	27 Jan	HMS Music – Piano (am) Cross Country / Y5 Swimming (Last one)	Y5 Netball 8:05am Y6 Netball 3:30/4:40pm IDPE Multisports 3:30/4:30pm

Future Dates

Tues	31 Jan	Maths Evening 7:15/8:45pm
Fri	03 Feb	Inset Day – School Closed Cross Country
Mon	06 Feb	Y4 Stubbington Residential
Tues	07 Feb	Y4 Stubbington Residential
Wed	08 Feb	Y4 Stubbington Residential
Fri	10 Feb	Cross Country
13 - 17 Feb		Half Term
Tues	21 Feb	e-Safety week / Parents e-safety sessions 5:30/6:30pm
Wed	22 Feb	Dorset Residential Trip Parents Talk (4S) 3:30pm Scratch Club starts (1/6) 3:30/4:30pm (5RE)
Fri	24 Feb	Y4 Swimming Starts PTFA Quiz Night