

HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE
9 September 2022



Dear Parents,

Death of HRH Queen Elizabeth II – It is with great sadness that we heard of the passing of the Queen yesterday afternoon. We have talked to the children in Collective Worship today where we spoke about what an amazing lady she was and all she had done for our country. Conversations have carried on in classrooms and we have encouraged the children to talk to us if they are feeling sad.

Welcome Back - It has been a pleasure to welcome you all back to our new school year at Hook-with-Warsash C of E Academy. It has been really good to catch up with many of you in person while dropping your children off and picking them up.

The children all look very smart and we are committed to maintaining these high standards throughout the year. In an effort to reduce lost property, can you please label all items of uniform etc. with your child's name.

It was lovely to meet our new Year R children yesterday. We hope they all enjoyed their time in school and that they continue to settle well and soon feel a part of the Hook-with-Warsash C of E Academy community. It has also been lovely to welcome many new pupils to the school in other year groups as well as new members of staff – Mrs Huddleston (Y3 Teacher) and Mrs Powell (Y6 SNA). We have also been pleased to welcome Mrs Griffiths back from maternity leave in year 6.

We are 150 years old! - This should prove to be an exciting year. It is the school's 150th anniversary with the original Hook-with-Warsash Primary School opening on the site opposite the church on 9th September 1872. This afternoon we opened a time capsule that has been sealed since 1997 – the school's 125th anniversary. It proved to be a very exciting occasion when we discovered lots of information about the children and staff who were at the school at the time. Some of those staff are still here!!! Please keep a look out on our Facebook page to see some of the items we uncovered! We will be aiming to put a new time capsule together at the end of the year to be opened in 2047. If we have any parents with the skills to make us a lockable box to put these in, please get in touch with me.

During the year we are planning to hold a number of events to celebrate our anniversary. The Mayor and Mayoress were planning to join us next Monday for the grand opening of the new adventure playground on the infant side of the school. Unfortunately due to the Queen's death official duties have been suspended during the period of mourning. We will continue to open the playground, which will be named in honour of our 150 years, in a more low-key event.

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 Sky blue Data Collection Form and a light yellow 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. Please can you **check the details on this form 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.

Harvest Festivals – Harvest Festivals will take place in St Mary's Church on 3rd October. The Infant Service will take place at 9.30am and this will be followed by the Junior Service at 10.45am.

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 contributions on the morning of **Monday 3rd October** to class with your child.

Parents Evenings – Face to face parents' evenings will take place on Monday 3rd October (3.30 – 8.00) and Tuesday 4th October (3.30 – 5.30pm). You will be sent information about booking an appointment in due course. There will be two other parents' evenings during the academic year, in March and July. These will be held remotely by video link, but you will have the opportunity to come into school the week before these to look at your children's work.

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.

Early Morning Sessions – Some children in the school attend early morning sessions. These are by invitation only and will begin on **Tuesday 20th September** (after the INSET day). Teachers will be in contact with parents next week if they wish your child to attend. Please do not send pupils in early before this 20th September.

Reception September 2023 Tours – We are conducting individual tours of the school for any parents whose children start in September 2023. If you know anyone with a child due to start next September please ask them to contact the school office to find out further details.

Secondary School Applications – Y6 parents have received email instructions regarding their child's Year 7 application for a secondary school place. **Applications are being accepted from 13th September** and the deadline for online applications is midnight on Monday 31 October 2022. Notification date for on-time applicants is Wednesday 1 March.

Day Closures - There will be INSET days on **Monday 19 September, Friday 18 November** and **Friday 3 February**. Further dates are still to be agreed and we will inform you of these as soon as possible.

Summer Reading Challenge 2022 – We have been asked to remind pupils that the challenge doesn't finish until Saturday 17th September so if they haven't quite done it, they still have time to finish and collect their final stickers, certificate and medal.

Extra-curricular Clubs - We are pleased to let you know that extra-curricular sports will resume again this year. Due to residential visits and staff training, these clubs will not start just yet - more detailed letters with specific dates and times will be sent out in the near future.

ID PE & Sport Please find attached flyers for IDPE's **After school Sports Club** and **Dodgeball** sessions which are both running this term. They will also be running an **INSET DAY OF SPORT** at Hook-with-Warsash School on **Monday 19 September 2022**. This day course will be action-packed with sports and recreational play. Games include football, dodgeball, racket sports, strike and field games, capture the flag and loads more. Bookings for all courses can be made via their online shop at: <https://www.idpesport.co.uk/shop/>

PTFA – Welcome to the new academic year and in particular to all the new starters in reception and across the years. A couple of points and dates for your calendar to kick off the term are below, the main one being our annual general meeting (AGM) in October. We would like to invite you all along to hear about the exciting fund raisers we have planned. We would also like to see if anyone is interested in being on the committee to help support/organise the events and take on some of the key roles. This year the chair and treasurer are stepping down as their children have either left the school or are close to leaving. We are extremely fortunate to have such a proactive PTFA and the children benefit greatly from all of their hard work we do. In order for this to continue we need your support more than ever

This years planned events for your diary:

- AGM Meeting– Thursday 13 October @school 7.30 start
- Film night – Juniors - 20 October straight after school
- Film night – Infants 10 November – same as above
- Cake Bake (fireworks theme) - Friday 4 November
- Christmas Fair - 3 December 11.00 – 14.00

If you need a uniform top up, the PTFA have a cupboard full of clothing so please email us and we can arrange to check stock and collection. ptfa.hwwa@gmail.com

Governor News - The Governors would like to welcome everyone back to school, including the many faces old and new. Particular mention goes to those joining us for the first time, whether that be staff, parents or children, with a special mention for the groups starting in year R. We would also like to welcome Matt Ellis who has joined the governing body this year. Should you wish to talk with a Governor, please visit the school website for contact information or alternatively you can keep an eye on the Headteacher's update where we will communicate any relevant information. We hope you all have a wonderful and exciting year in school.

Free Online Parent Courses Please find attached a flyer for Free Online Parent Courses being run by Hampshire Libraries this term.

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

Yours sincerely

Sara Willoughby

Sara Willoughby

Attachments:

Shining Light Form
 IDPE Sports Club Flyers
 Free Online Parent Courses Flyer

Mon	12 Sept	HMS Music Lessons – Guitar Y7 Secondary School Applications Portal Opens
Tue	13 Sept	HMS Music Lessons – Drums Spanish – Lunchtime club Secondary School Applications Portal Opens
Wed	14 Sept	HMS Music Lessons – Woodwind & Brass
Thurs	15 Sept	Y6 France Residential Q&A Session 3:45pm French – Lunchtime Club Rock2theBeat Y5/6 Football 3:30/4:30
Fri	16 Sept	HMS Music Lessons – Piano Y6 Swimming Y5/6 Netball 3:30/4:30
Mon	19 Sept	INSET DAY IDPE Sports Club
Tue	20 Sept	Early Morning groups begin HMS Music Lessons – Drums
Wed	21 Sept	HMS Music Lessons – Woodwind & Brass
Thurs	22 Sept	Y5/6 Football 3:30/4:30
Fri	23 Sept	HMS Music Lessons – Piano Y6 Swimming Y5/6 Football 3:30/4:30 Cross Country