



Hemsby Primary School & Nursery

School Newsletter 15th September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

We have had another super week in school. It has been a busy start to the academic year with new topics for the term introduced to classes and lots of fun learning and activities taking place. Do come along to the Class Information sessions planned over the next two weeks for Years 1 - 6 to learn more about what will be happening this year.

As you can appreciate, drop off time can be rather busy for teachers and support staff as they are greeting the children and supporting them to prepare for the start of lessons. If you have any worries or concerns, questions or queries, no matter how small, please do not hesitate to contact the school office who can pass on a message or ask the class teacher to contact you, or alternatively please do speak with your child's class teacher at the end of the school day. Thank you for your understanding.

We are delighted to let you know that our drainage works are now complete and that from Monday 18th September, the gates at our entrances either side of the school will be open. We thank you for your patience during this time.

Staffing

Farewell to Mr and Mrs Taylor

Today we said a fond farewell to Mr Kevin Taylor, our school caretaker, and his wife, Jan Taylor, one of our school cleaners, and wished them well for the start of their retirement. Kevin has taken care of the school building and grounds since July 2021, and Jan joined the Hemsby team in January 2023 to help keep our school spick and span.

We thanked them for their hard work and support for Hemsby Primary School and Nursery in our assembly this afternoon and presented them with cards and a gift which we know they will make good use of as they are avid gardeners.

We wish both Kevin and Jan a truly happy retirement. We hope that they really enjoy this new chapter - and that they are able to fill it with lots of new adventures as well as finding time to relax.

We are in the process of recruiting both a new caretaker and cleaner and will keep you updated with news about this.



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New staff

We welcome Tracey Crowther to the team at Hemsby. Tracey will be working in KS2 as part of the support staff team. We know that you will all make Tracey feel very welcome.

Class Information Sessions for parents/carers

Over the next two weeks, we will be holding our Year 1 – Year 6 Class Information Sessions. These will take place in our school hall. These are important meetings for parents/carers to attend so that you feel informed about your child's learning. It is a great opportunity to ask the teacher any questions you might have and to find out about how you can support your child with learning at home. Please do come along if you can.

Class	Date/Time
Y1 Jays	Tuesday 19 th September: 2.45pm – 3.15pm
Y2 Kingfishers	Wednesday 20 th September: 2.45pm – 3.15pm
Y3/4 Woodpeckers	Wednesday 27 th September: 2.45pm – 3.15pm
Y 4/5 Swallows	Thursday 28 th September : 2.45pm – 3.15pm
Y6 Herons	Tuesday 26 th September: 2.45pm – 3.15pm

'Look at a Book'

We would also like to invite you into to school for our informal 'Look at a Book' sessions this half term. This will be an opportunity at the end of the school day to pop into your child's classroom to take a look at their books with them and to talk about their learning. We look forward to seeing you.

Dates/Times
Thursday 28 th September: 3.20pm – 3.35pm
Tuesday 17 th October: 3.20pm – 3.35pm

Our Methods of Communication

Our school always endeavours to do its very best, but sometimes we will not always get it right. Please contact the school if you realise an error or oversight has occurred or are worried about something. We will always aim to resolve issues as quickly and as supportively as possible. However, we cannot do this if we do not know about it. In the first instance, please contact your child's class teacher. If you feel the issue is more serious and may require a senior leader to resolve the issue, then please do speak with me or email me at deputy@hemsbyprimary.org.uk. Thank you for your support in this matter.



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Our Safeguarding Team

At Hemsby Primary School and Nursery we all have a responsibility to keep children safe. We take all necessary measures to ensure that this happens.

If you have any safeguarding issues, please contact the school to speak to a Designated Safeguarding Lead. These are:

- Mrs Harmer
- Mrs Walker
- Mr Purnell
- Mrs Olley

However, all staff are trained in safeguarding and will listen to any concerns you have.

Attendance- Every Day Counts

I wanted to take the opportunity to remind you of the timings of the school day.

8:40am	School gates open
8:50am	Doors open for the start of school day
12:00pm	Reception and KS1 lunchtime
12:15pm	KS2 lunchtime
1:05pm	Start of afternoon session
3:15pm	School gates open
3:20pm	End of school day

LET'S ALL ARRIVE for 8.50am

Last year, we saw more children coming in later and later in the morning. Being only 15 minutes late each day, equals 9 lost days within that year. Every day counts in a child's education!

Learning starts at 9am, which is the same time the registers close. If your child arrives 9am or after you will need to enter the front of the school and sign your child in at the school office. The time your child arrives and a reason for lateness will be recorded. We look forward to seeing more children on time this year!



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I am delighted to let you know that we will be launching a super new attendance incentive in school. Each week, the class with the best attendance will be awarded a lovely, shiny trophy to keep in the class for the week and a class 'Attendance of the Week' certificate. I will be speaking with the children about this next week. This will also be a feature on our weekly newsletters.

Illness

If your child is unable to attend school due to illness, please call the school office on 01493 730364. If your child has a medical appointment during school time, please kindly let the school office know in advance.

Request for Leave during the School Term

Request for leave for holidays/travel abroad cannot be authorised by the school. As you are aware, leave will only be granted in exceptional circumstances. The half term week this term is Monday 23rd—Friday 27th October. Please ensure that you book any holidays within these date ranges. Please note that, Under Section 444(1) of the Education Act 1996, a Penalty Notice/s for absence during the school term may be issued.

Footwear for the field

As the weather changes, please can we ask that your child has some named wellies at school in a named bag so they can use the school field both at playtime and lunch time. This is so they don't bring lots of mud into the school. Thank you.

Water Bottles

Children are encouraged to bring a water bottle to school each day. Please ensure that your child's name is written on the bottle to avoid confusion. Also, please ensure that their water bottle contains water – not flavoured water, cordial or fruit juice.

Contact Details

Please keep the school updated with any new contact details, including phone, email, and address as well as any changes in medical conditions. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Secondary School Applications (those children currently in Year 6)

If your child is due to start secondary school in September 2024, please be aware of the following dates:

11th September 2023 - Admission round opens



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Letters from Norfolk County Council, providing more information on how to apply have been handed out to all students this week. You should apply online at: [Parent Portal: Home \(norfolk.gov.uk\)](https://parent-portal.norfolk.gov.uk)

31st October 2023 – Closing Date for all admissions

All applications must be received by Norfolk County Council Admissions by this date.

Dates for the Diary

Just to let you know we are in the process of finalising a date this half term for individual school photos. We will confirm the date next week.

Tues 19 th September	Jays Class Information Session 2.45pm
Wed 20 th September	Kingfishers Class Information Session 2.45pm
Tues 26 th September	Herons Class Information Session 2.45pm
Wed 27 th September	Woodpeckers Class Information Session 2.45pm
Thurs 28 th September	Swallows Class Information Session 2.45pm 'Look at a Book' classroom sessions 3.20pm
Tues 17 th October	'Look at a Book' classroom sessions 3.20pm
Thurs 19 th October	Yr R & Yr 6 Height & Weight Checks in School
Fri 20 th October	Last day of term
Half Term Holiday	Monday 23rd October – Friday 27th October
Mon 30 th October	Children return to school
Tues 7 th November	School Visit to War Memorial
Tues 7 th November	Parents' Evening (3:30 - 5:30pm) Further details to be sent
Thurs 9 th November	Parents Evening (4:00 - 6.30pm) Further details to be sent
Fri 17 th November	Children In Need
Wed 20 th December	Last day of term

Have a great weekend and we look forward to seeing you on Monday.

Donna Walker
Acting Headteacher