



# Hemsby Primary School & Nursery

## School Newsletter – 29<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

What a great week we have had in school. The children are embracing the new CUSP curriculum with great enthusiasm and focus. We are so excited to be on this learning journey, and it has been wonderful dropping into the engaging lessons being taught and being shown the high-quality work being produced, as well as the children being keen to talk about their learning.

Thank you to all the parents and carers that attended our class information sessions over the past two weeks and our 'Look at a Book' session this week. It was lovely to see so many of you. If you have any questions or queries about your child's learning, please do always speak with your child's teacher.

It was also great to see Grandparents visiting Nursery as part of our 'Stay and Play' programme this week.

I thought I would share this beautiful photo as a reminder that we are now officially in Autumn, and the weather is changing.



Please ensure all children come to school with a jumper and a coat. We encourage children to go outside as much as possible, even when raining a little. Fresh air helps refocus the brain and running around burns off excess energy before the next learning session.

A big welcome back to Jenny from the Norfolk Reading Project who will be in school each week to hear our children in our Year 1 Jays class read. It's so lovely to see Jenny back in school this term.

I am keen to see parents/carers in school supporting with learning in school– could you spare an hour a week to volunteer to hear readers or support with time-tables retrieval? You don't need any experience; we will provide you with everything that you need. Do come and have a chat if you would like to become a part of our volunteer team.

I hope you all have a great weekend. See you on Monday!

Donna Walker  
Acting Headteacher



# Hemsby Primary School & Nursery

## Learning across the school

### Nursery

The children in nursery have been thinking about Autumn this week, as part of their home learning the children have been enjoying Autumn walks with their families to collect conkers, pinecones and different coloured leaves. They have been using these Autumn goodies to support their learning, talking about the different colours we see and the days getting colder and darker. The children have created some lovely pictures of squirrels and hedgehogs and enjoyed conker rolling in the paint.

### Reception: Robins

This week the Robins have been working on numbers to 5. They took their 'Five frames' out into the wooden area and collected 5 objects.



### Year 1: Jays

Jays have been looking at poetry in English, listening carefully for rhyming words and even finding rhyming words around the classroom! In Maths, they have been looking into the phrase 'fewer or more'. Are there more apples or bananas? In Art, the children have started to explore Paintz online, creating an amazing artwork on a computer! Whilst in Geography, they have been singing the Continents song and placing these onto a map. Wow, what a busy week! 😊

### Year 2: Kingfishers

In Science the Kingfishers explored where animals live in the woodland area. They predicted where different animals are likely to be found. The class explored these potential microhabitats, and they discussed their findings afterwards. The children were very enthusiastic about finding the animals, particularly the frogs!



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## **Year 3/4: Woodpeckers**

This week, Woodpeckers have been writing our own poems about feelings and emotions. They have been looking at examples of similes and alliteration and trying to use these in their own poems. In French they are continuing to learn new vocabulary. The children can greet each other by saying hello and goodbye in different ways, and now they have learnt French instructions for look, listen, read, write and repeat. Fantastic Woodpeckers!

## **Year 4/5: Swallows**

This week the Swallows have worked hard to improve their understanding of place value, and have been rounding numbers of up to one million. They produced some beautiful leaf rubbings in art. Science saw them talking about the Earth and our universe, a topic the children really love. They have been continuing our play leader training in PE as well as playing hockey! The children have been writing some fantastic stories relating to ancient Greece. Fantastic work this week, Swallows!

## **Year 6: Herons**

Herons have been looking at common factors, multiples and divisibility rules in Maths. They have started looking at a new text in English, 'Is unseasonable food becoming unsustainable?'. In Science they have looked at the symbols used in electricity and why we use symbols rather than drawings. In Geography the children continued their learning on the Tatra Mountains and looked at the pull factors which bring tourists to that area and the species which live at different elevations on Mount Rysy.

## **NSPCC Pantosaurus – 'PANTS' rule**



Along with many schools across the country, at Hemsby Primary, we use the NSPCC Pantosaurus rule to help to teach children about keeping themselves safe. With the help of the friendly Pantosaurus dinosaur, adults, both at school and at home, can teach children about how to stay safe.

At a level appropriate for their own age, all children learn about how the parts of their bodies which are covered by their underwear are private parts and are not for other people to see or touch and how important it is to talk to someone about anything which upsets or worries them.

We will be revisiting the Pantasaurus rule in school next week.



# Hemsby Primary School & Nursery

## Pantosaurus Song

Meet Pantosaurus - our pant-wearing Dino! He wants every child to stay safe and strong, just like him, and he's on a mission to share an important message.

<https://youtu.be/-lL07JOGU5o>

Please visit the following link for advice on how to answer questions from children on this subject.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/pants-how-to-answer-questions/>

## Personalised Christmas Cards and Gifts

Once again the children from Nursery to Year 6 are busy designing their own personalised Christmas designs, which can be printed onto cards, mugs, gift tags and coasters. This has been so popular the last few years and really makes a lovely Christmas gift as well as a keepsake of your child's artwork.

We will again have an **online shop**, where you will be able to place your orders directly and the products will be delivered to school with no postage costs for you. **The personalised order forms, each showing an image of your child's design, will be sent home before half term, along with more information.**

Many thanks to Mrs Ritchie for organising this.

## Attendance - Every Day Counts

Our 'Class of the Week' Attendance trophy has arrived in school. I spoke with the children about this in today's assembly. We will launch this on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October and next Friday we will find out which class has had the best attendance during the week and will be awarded the trophy to keep in their classroom during the following week.

**This week's whole school attendance rate is: 92.48 %**





# Hemsby Primary School & Nursery

## Leave in Term Time

As a school, we are not allowed to authorise any requests for children to be taken out of school for a holiday during term time.

Requests for leave can only be granted in exceptional circumstances, and a holiday would not be considered exceptional. Requests for leave must also be made to the school in advance. To do this please come into the school office to complete the necessary Leave in Term Time application.

Parents may receive a penalty notice if their child is absent from school without permission. We appreciate the challenges that some parents face when booking holidays, particularly during the school holidays. However, regular attendance at school is vital in helping children and young people to achieve their full potential and get the best possible start in life.

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 let the school office know in advance.

## Free school meals and other support for pupils – here's what you need to know:

Hemsby Primary School is an inclusive school, and we work hard to support all children no matter their background. We know that some children are, however, more vulnerable than others or some may need greater support to help them be successful in school. We have additional support for children from disadvantaged backgrounds. This includes providing free school meals, special support during school holidays and providing extra funding to schools to support pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds and improve education outcomes.

Here's everything you need to know about the support we offer and how to access it.

Which children get free school meals and how do they access them?

We've significantly expanded access to free school meals in recent years. You can check your eligibility for free school meals below. [Free school meals - Norfolk County Council](#)

Not only does this entitle your child to free school meals, but you will also receive up to £240 per child, per year in supermarket vouchers to help with the rise in the cost of living. These vouchers will be paid up to and including March 2024, so it is important to check your eligibility as soon as possible.

Sainsbury's



MORRISONS



ASDA





# Hemsby Primary School & Nursery

## Contact details

For any parent/carer who may change their contact details (mobile number, address and email address), please let the school office know right away to ensure our system is up to date. Thank you for your support in this matter.



## School Photographer

Another reminder that Mr Murphy from Caister Primary Federation will be in school on **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October** to take individual school photos.

Mr Murphy will return on **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October** to take siblings photographs. We are only able to offer siblings photos for those children who attend our school and nursery.

If your child attends nursery and is not in nursery on either of these days, we are offering an opportunity for your child to have their individual photo taken between **9:30 - 10:00am on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October**. Please come along to the main school office between these times.

## 'Let's Talk About...'

This academic year, as a part of our work both in implementing the DFE's revised Reading Framework and our own curriculum development, the development of oracy skills will be a focus across our school. We will seek to ensure that all pupils have the opportunity and support to become fluent, confident and skilled communicators.

**Each week on our newsletter, there will be a 'Let's Talk About...' a topic/theme to promote conversation and discussion at home.**

## Let's Talk About...Inventions!

This is a great oracy activity to really stimulate the imagination. We never fail to be impressed and astonished at some of the incredible ideas and solutions that children come up with when asked to invent something that will solve a problem or make something easier. For this task, ask your child to first draw or model their invention and then talk you through it.

Some questions to ask, either in advance or when your child goes through their invention are:

What problem did you want to solve?

- How does this solve it?
- Who will it be most useful for?
- What/who will you need to make it?
- How much will it cost to make?
- Is there anything similar out there?
- Are there any variations or adaptations you could add?

Please do encourage your child to bring their design into school and chat with me about it.



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## Lost Property



Please remember to label your child/ren's clothes including shoes. We are aware that some of the new reception children may have been taking home the wrong clothes, so please ensure they are labelled so we can help you re-home/ find them. Thank you.

## Cleaning Vacancy

We currently have a vacancy in our Cleaning Team. If you are interested and would like to join our wonderful team, please contact the office who will be able to give you further information.

## Census Day – try our school meals!

**Caister Primary Foundation**

# NEVER TRIED OUR SCHOOL MEALS?

Why not give them a try on  
**Thursday 5th October**

Thursday 5th October is **Census Day**.

This is an **important day for schools** with a large proportion of **school funding** based on how many children eat a school lunch.

Help make sure we get as much money as possible for our children by ordering a tasty meal!

**Chicken Nuggets**  
or  
**Vegetable Nuggets**  
with  
**Chips and Sweetcorn**  
and  
**Chocolate Oatcake**  
or  
**Piece of Fruit.**

**Don't forget!**  
All children in Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 are entitled to **Free School Meals!**

You can also apply for **Free School Meals**.

Visit [www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals](http://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals) or Use the QR code below.



# Hemsby Primary School & Nursery

## Local Half Term Clubs

Starting Mon 23rd Oct - Fri 27th Oct

£12 PER DAY  
Payments must be received in advance

50% DISCOUNT  
For children that are unable to attend for their school week or small premium (cost requested)

Please bring packed lunch and plenty of drinks

For any enquiries please contact our Facebook page or email address

## OCTOBER HALF TERM CLUBS 2023

FOR CHILDREN IN RECEPTION - YEAR 6

**Sports** (including football, dodgeball, cricket, rounders + many more)

**General Play**

**Cooking** (on Tuesday 24th October)

**Movies**

**Pumpkin Carving** (on Thursday 26th October)

**Arts & Crafts**

Monday 23rd October - Friday 27th October  
at Martham Academy School  
9:00am - 3:00pm

Book via our Facebook page or email [gwillson.sportsunited@gmail.com](mailto:gwillson.sportsunited@gmail.com)  
Bank details: MR G A WILSON, sort code 20-99-21, account no. 10169749

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking for compassionate, non-judgmental and caring individuals who can spare 2-3 hours a week to join our community of volunteers to share their parenting experiences and knowledge with families in Norfolk.

Being a parent has never been easy. It can be lonely, frustrating, heartbreaking and overwhelming. Our volunteers offer tailored support to families in their own homes, helping parents to develop their confidence to learn to cope with the challenges and stresses life has thrown at them.



### NEXT TRAINING DATES

Thursday 9th, 16th, 23rd 30th  
November 9:30am - 2:30pm

### GORLESTON LIBRARY

\*Must attend all dates



Scan QR code to find out more

**HOME START**  
Norfolk

[www.homestartnorfolk.org/volunteer-training/](http://www.homestartnorfolk.org/volunteer-training/)

For more information, pop along to our coffee morning

02nd November  
10:00 - 12:00

### ABOUT HOME-START NORFOLK

Home-Start Norfolk is a family support charity for families with children under five living in Norfolk. We work with families who are dealing with a range of issues, from mental health issues to postnatal depression, isolation, victims of domestic abuse, parents struggling with substance abuse or learning difficulties, families who have suffered bereavement or family breakdown and anyone with young children who need a little extra support.

We match volunteers with families to offer informal, non-judgmental, confidential support in their own homes for a couple of hours a week to help them develop their confidence and learn to cope with their challenges. In doing so, parents are empowered to function effectively and independently in their day to day lives, building their own resilience and better lives for their children.

### BENEFITS OF VOLUNTEERING

The benefits of volunteering can last a lifetime —not only for the families you are helping but for yourself as well.

It can help you to:

- Meet new people and build friendships
- Build your confidence and self-esteem
- Improve your mental well-being
- Gain new skills to develop your career
- Giving something back



### REGISTER TODAY

Funded by UK Government

Increasing volunteering and tackling loneliness through the Know Your Neighbourhood Fund







# Hemsby Primary School & Nursery

## Academic Year Term Dates

Norfolk County Council **2023-2024** Norfolk Model Calendar

This calendar applies to community schools, community special schools, VC schools and nursery schools and sets the days on which school transport will be provided. While most Foundation, VA, foundation special, free schools and academy trusts who are able to set their own dates, adopt the Norfolk Model, we advise you to check with your child's school before making holiday or other commitments.

September 2023							October 2023							November 2023							December 2023						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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25	26	27	28	29	30		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31
							30	31																			

  

January 2024							February 2024							March 2024							April 2024						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31					26	27	28	29				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30					

  

May 2024							June 2024							July 2024							August 2024						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5					1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4	
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20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30	31	

Key : White dates - schools open to pupils  
Yellow dates - pupil holiday  
Red dates - bank holiday

Five staff training days will be selected from yellow dates, we suggest 4th & 5th September, 3 January, 28th March and 22 July. Some may choose to use twilight hours for staff training instead of some or all of these.

## Dates for the diary

Wed 4 <sup>th</sup> October	Harvest Service at Hemsby Church 2.15 – 3pm (parents/carers invited)
Thurs 5 <sup>th</sup> October	Robins Story Café 9am – 10.30am (Robins parents/carers invited)
Mon 9 <sup>th</sup> October	Individual photographs
Tues 10 <sup>th</sup> October	Sibling photographs
Wed 11 <sup>th</sup> October	Individual photographs (for those not in Nursery on 9 <sup>th</sup> or 10 <sup>th</sup> October) 9.30am– 10am
Tues 17 <sup>th</sup> October	'Look at a Book' classroom sessions 3.20pm
Thurs 19 <sup>th</sup> October	Yr R & Yr 6 Height & Weight Checks in School
Fri 20 <sup>th</sup> October	Last day of term
Half Term Holiday	Monday 23rd October – Friday 27th October
Mon 30 <sup>th</sup> October	Children return to school
Tues 7 <sup>th</sup> November	School Visit to War Memorial
Tues 7 <sup>th</sup> November	Parents' Evening (3:30 - 5:30pm) Further details to be sent
Thurs 9 <sup>th</sup> November	Parents Evening (4:00 - 6.30pm) Further details to be sent
Fri 17 <sup>th</sup> November	Children In Need
Wed 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day of term