



Hackwood News

30th March, 2021



Dear Families,

It has been really lovely seeing all the children back in school and welcoming some new families to Hackwood. We will welcome some more children to Nursery after Easter and also have a couple of new children joining Year 4. In September we will welcome a full class of Reception. Thank you to all the families who have applied to join Reception at Hackwood. Families will receive notification of a Reception place from Derby City admissions on National Offer Day which is 16th April. We do hope that you are allocated Hackwood if this was your first choice. In September we will split Hedgehog Class so that children move into separate classes as they join Year 1 and Year 2. Year 4 will move into Year 5, they will be helping us to decide on names for the new classes as they did for 'Foxes' and 'Squirrels'.



World Book Day

The children enjoyed World Book Day and they shared some fabulous books in class. Year 3 had a virtual visit from Paul Morton who is the author of Bug Belly. He is a book pen pal for Hackwood and he writes to Owl Class each half term. More author visits are booked for the summer term with the amazing Jennifer Killick visiting Foxes Class online and a funny poet currently being confirmed for Hedgehog Class. We believe that reading quality books is essential for children's learning and happiness so we will be developing our library area to make it more inviting for everyone, ready for September. We can't wait to be able to invite you all back into school so that you can help your children to choose books to read at home. #Read, Achieve, Succeed

Trim Trail and Outdoor Learning

Finally we have been able to place the order for a brilliant new Trim Trail for our grassed area. This has been planned since before we opened but we had to wait for the grass to settle—literally! We know that the children will enjoy using this along with some new netball posts for the playground. We continue to develop the outdoor area for Nursery and Reception. Mrs Tricky is leading on this and has ambitious and exciting plans.

We continue to look for ways to make playtimes and lunches more fun for children and have ordered some new equipment to liven up their play. It has been more difficult due to Covid '19 restrictions as the classes can't mix but we know that better times are coming for everyone. The children are enjoying using the field for PE and for break times.



Red Nose Day—Friday 19th March

On Friday 19th March it was Red Nose Day. The school raised £111.50. Thank you very much for your donations.

Easter—Reminder

We break up for the Easter holidays on Wednesday 31st March. **(The 1st April is an INSET day for staff)**. On 31st March the children in Nursery and Reception will be making Easter bonnets in class. There will be an outside parade so that other children can see them. There will also be an Easter assembly and all classes will be making cards for Easter/Spring. Ravensdale Infants will also be joining in with the parade (socially distanced, of course) and it will be lovely to see the two schools celebrating Easter together.



Birthday Celebrations—Reminder

We are aware that due to Covid, many children have been prevented from celebrating their birthdays with their friends. On Wednesday 31st March, we would like to celebrate all the birthdays for this term by giving everyone in school a cake. We are also inviting **all** the children to come in their party clothes if they wish. The children enjoyed this last term and it made the children feel special.

Parent / Carer survey

We have created an online survey for you so that we can ask you your views on potentially having childcare provision at Hackwood for before and after school. We would also like to ask you about after school clubs so we can put plans in place for September. Please look out for an email with a link to the survey coming after the holiday.

Floorbooks

In school we use large sketchbooks to record the work that a class does together. They are a lovely way for the class to celebrate their learning and share ideas and will enable all of us to look back and revisit the learning over time. We would like to share these floorbooks with you so we have videoed them and put the links on our YouTube channel. The staff are just putting the last few bits together for this term and then an email will be sent with a set of links, please do look at the floorbook for your child's class and if you have time please do look at the others as well. Thank you to the children and staff for making the floorbooks so colourful and inviting! When we are able to have visitors into school we will have an area where completed floorbooks can be shared.

Easter—home learning (optional)

We do hope that all of you have a lovely break over the Easter holidays. With restrictions lifting somewhat it should be easier to see people and visit more places. Hopefully the weather will be kind to us as we visit people in their gardens.

To support children that would like to use it, teachers have put some optional tasks on Purple Mash that children could do over the holiday. We will also ensure that your child has one or two reading books so that they never get bored over the holiday. Children have been working hard in school and they do need a good break but opportunities are there for home learning if that feels right for your family.

Parking

Thank you for sticking to the drop off and collection times for school. Don't worry, we won't be changing them again this term! We do appreciate that parking outside school can be busy, notably on rainy days. As the school grows, more families will live within the new housing and so will be able to easily walk to school. In the meantime, please do drive and park carefully ensuring that you do not block people's driveways.

Beat the Street

Some of you may have noticed a small grey box on the outer fence. There is a large banner due to go up next to it this week. Hackwood has joined in, for the first time, with Beat the Street which is a city wide initiative to encourage children to walk. Your child will come home this week with a letter giving more information and a little card / fob that they use to press against the box. It records their journey. Other boxes have been placed around the city, usually outside schools. Please do join in if you can. There are prizes for schools that complete the most journeys but the main thing is that children keep active and get to know their local area.

Harnessing Technology, Maximising Learning strategy (HTML)

Watch out for the Harmony Trust letter coming this week announcing exciting plans of how Hackwood will be harnessing technology to maximise learning as part of the Trust's wider strategy.

Thank you for your continued support. Have a restful holiday and see you when school reopens on Monday 19th April.

Best Wishes,

T Rolfs

S Binoy

Mrs T. Rolfs

Mrs S. Binoy