



Hackwood News

4th October, 2021



Dear Families,

Wow—September has gone past so quickly... we have been delighted to welcome so many new families to school. We now have 183 on roll with more children arriving for Nursery in January.

We hope that you find the information below useful and interesting. Please do let us know if you have any questions about school life. Another newsletter will be sent by the middle of November particularly relating to Christmas.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs T. Rolfs

Mrs S. Binoy

Executive Principal

Head of Academy

Changes in Staff

We have been pleased to welcome Mrs Gore to the school office working in the mornings alongside Mrs Brotherton. We also have Mrs Waldron starting in the afternoons from 11th October. Mr Harrison, our site manager who has been off sick for a long time, has now retired. We wish him a long and happy retirement.

Wraparound Care

We have been pleased to see many parents choosing to use our new breakfast and afterschool clubs. We now have registers open for after half-term. Parents who opted to keep the same days all year have been booked on already. Please let us know if you wish to book by speaking to the office staff. Prices are £4.50 for breakfast club arriving from 7:30am and £10 for afterschool club with pick up by 6pm. Prices include cereal and juice for breakfast or a cold packed tea for afterschool. If your child is in afterschool club and you need to speak to the school urgently please call the mobile on 07384 547902. We ask that parents pay in advance using ParentPay or Childcare Vouchers.

Soccerstars After School Club

Children have enjoyed attending this club so we have decided to continue to offer it for next half-term. The price is £4 a week bookable through their website. The club covers a range of different sports, it is not a football club.

<https://soccerstarsuk.co.uk/courses/after-school-clubs/>



We are currently looking into a range of other clubs to offer in addition to Soccerstars and Cello, if you or your child has any ideas, please let us know.



Anti-Bullying Week

As part of anti-bullying we are having an Odd Socks Day on Wednesday 17th November. All children can come with odd socks on to help them to see we are all unique and different and to respect each other's differences. We are not collecting money for this event and it would be great to see all children (and staff) taking part.

Read Achieve Succeed at Hackwood

On Wednesday 6th **October** we have one of the best days of the year—our Read, Achieve, Succeed Day! All children in the school will have the chance to choose their very own book from a huge selection as we have a special book shop being set up in school. The Harmony Trust is sponsoring this event so you child will not need any money. We hope that they will enjoy their new book and look after it after it as a souvenir for being part of the Hackwood and Harmony family. The children were very excited last time this happened in 2020.



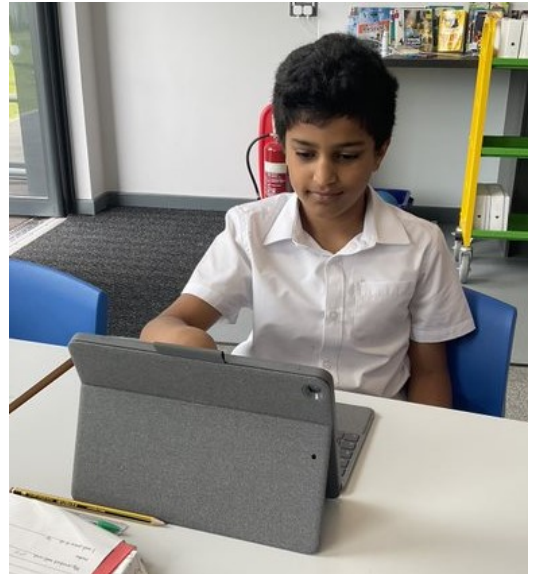
National Fitness Day



The children enjoyed National Fitness Day on 22nd September with an extra opportunity to be physical that day. We hope it encourages them to find new ways to keep moving and stay fit for life.

Harnessing Technology, Maximising Learning

Last term the Harmony Trust made the important decision to invest in an iPad for every child in Year 3 upwards to use in school AND at home. We know we are one of the first groups of schools in the country to provide this. We have seen how beneficial it is and how proud our children were to receive theirs to take home. We are pleased that all the children in Owls, Foxes and Badgers who joined the juniors in September have now received their training and are ready to take their device home to use. We also have iPads in school for younger children to use during the day. We will continue to raise money towards the purchase and upkeep of these iPads and we are grateful for any sponsorship you can give towards them.



Birthdays

We know children like to celebrate their birthday and share treats with their friends but can we please ask that no food items are brought in to school to share. This is for health and safety reasons around food allergies. Also, if your child is inviting people to a party can we please ask that invites are given out outside school time (and not at school) so that others don't feel left out. Apologies, but we are not able to give out lists of names of children in the class.

Dates for your diary:

Wednesday 6th October—Read Achieve Succeed Day in school

Wednesday 3rd November— Harmony Pledge Day—Show your true colours (dress in the colour of your choice—£1 **donation** more information to follow)

Wednesday 17th November—Odd Socks Day

Monday 22nd November—INSET day, School closed to pupils

Wednesday 15th December - Christmas Dinner Day