



HIGHAMPTON PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

8/2020-2021

Next term

Exciting new developments for Highampton Community Primary School

- ✓ The DMAT has invested in new Audio-visual and IT infrastructure including new Chromebooks and Tablets for the children
- ✓ Highampton school is lucky to have such lovely grounds and we are going to develop them further to encourage students to be more physically active
- ✓ Our children are taking part in the new Inter-Federation Challenges which will include sports and other activities led by our new specialist PE teacher Ms Scullion.

Looking back and saying 'goodbye'

The school is sad to be saying farewell to a long-standing member of staff. Mrs Felicity Lowe has been with the school as a Teaching Assistant for nearly 14 years and will now begin her well-deserved retirement. The staff and students wish her all the very best for the future and have presented her with an artist easel and watercolour brushes for her new hobby. Mrs Lowe would like to thank everyone for their kindness and notably the PTFA for their gift.

PRE-SCHOOL The Highampton Pre-school joined the school for a leading role in the Nativity production this year. The school is providing the children involved with a copy of the Nativity DVD. All children at the Pre-school have been given the gift of a book from Class 1 to encourage enjoyment of reading.

REMEMBER: SCHOOL UNIFORM

Uniform helps your child to look smart and encourages a sense of identity so please make sure your child(ren) wear the correct clothing. Uniform is ordered online through Brigade Clothing. Some second-hand uniform is available from the school.

COVID-19 AT CHRISTMAS

If your child tests positive for COVID-19 in the first 6 days of the Christmas Holidays, you must let us know by emailing pwhittle@dartmoormat.org.uk

We will need to seek advice from Public Health and we may need to ask children within the bubble to isolate, even though it is school holidays.

Dates for the Diary

Spring Term

Parent/Teacher Meetings : We will ask parents to sign up for meetings in January. 20/21 January for Class 1 and 21 January for Class 2

PE: We will be welcoming a specialist PE teacher, Ms Scallion who is part of the Dartmoor MAT family this term. Ms Scallion will be coming on Tuesdays, so PE days have to change. Could parents please note the different day and make sure students have the right kit please?

Summer term



Music: A specialist music teacher (also part of the Dartmoor MAT family) will be visiting the school.

Swimming: Depending on Covid restrictions, we intend to go swimming on Thursdays for the last 6 weeks of term.

Free School Meals Over Christmas:

Devon County Council (DCC) have now put in place arrangements to provide supermarket vouchers to families of children who receive free school meals, to help their families buy groceries over the Christmas holidays.

- From Tuesday 8th December, DCC will be sending a unique code per child to all families that are currently in receipt of Free School Meals. Each code can be used once on a website called 'Hawk Select' to redeem vouchers to the value of £30 per child (£15 per week for the two weeks of school holidays) for Sainsbury's, Tesco, Morrison's, Asda, M&S Food and Waitrose.
- The website requires families to provide an email address for the vouchers to be sent to once they have chosen their preferred supermarket.
- When received, they can save the vouchers to their phone or tablet to use online (depending on the supermarket) or show at the checkout in store. Alternatively, they can print the vouchers off to give to the cashier.
- We are conscious that a few parents may not have access to the internet or a mobile device to receive and store the vouchers on, if this is the case, please contact the office, as they will be able to complete the process for you on the Hawk Select website and print off the vouchers.
- Parents will need to provide the office with their unique code in order for us to redeem the voucher on the Hawk Select website on their behalf.
- DCC education helpline is available on 0345 155 1019 for any questions about the distribution of the unique codes. There are also some useful FAQs on the Hawk Select website along with contact details for any technical support about using the codes and vouchers.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

We all had a great festive lunch with everyone in their Christmas jumpers, and hats that the children made themselves.



PTFA

The Virtual Auction was a new event for the PTFA and it proved to be a winner; raising an amazing £1,141 !! A huge thank you to all involved who made it such a success.

We had a special visitor to school yesterday - Santa arrived on a tractor with his Elf Helper, which thrilled the children. Many thanks to Santa for making a special visit when he is so busy at this time of year. We are hoping that Santa will visit on a tractor every year!

The PTFA are always happy to welcome new members and if you are interested, please get in touch with Davina Dimmock-Wright.

