



The Hormead Link

Informing the community of
Hormead CE Primary School

Oah ar me hearties and welcome to our 16th newsletter updating you on everything happening in our little family.

Jeans for Genes Day

I'm delighted to say that we had a fantastic response to our Jeans for Genes day event. Last year we raised £69 – but we more than doubled that with a brilliant £140.

A big thank you to everyone for your support.



Parents and friends may be interested to know that Ben Heraud is on a slow road to recovery and is now out of immediate danger. He is still being monitored but has been allowed home.

Mrs Heraud was deeply moved by the cards, messages and efforts of the children for Jeans for Genes day.

Letters out Today

Please check your child's bag today for information about the new winter menu and a data collection sheet for you to complete and return to school.

Book Week

We had an excellent start to our book week with a visit from a storyteller Lizzie Lewendon. Lizzie used a variety of puppets and props to read stories to children in classes 1 and 2 in the morning and in the afternoon held a story writing workshop in

class 3. The children really enjoyed her visit.



Lizzie Lewendon with pupils from class 1

Nature Area Redevelopment

I'm pleased to report that we have received the plans for the nature area redevelopment project. These are available in the entrance foyer for parents and friend to look at.

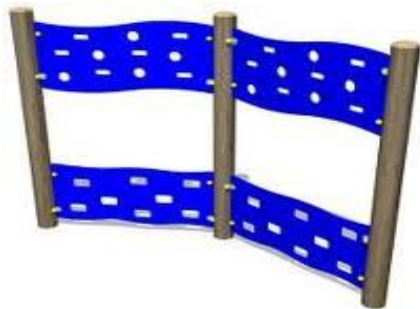
As with all projects, this will take some time to come to fruition – very little happens overnight in Education! I'm hoping that the letters I am writing to various charities will see some funds being available in the Spring for a start on the first phase, which is simply clearing the nettles, laying a path and removing the old lean to shed.

Thank you Beehive

I'm delighted to report that we have had a very generous donation from The Beehive Public House in Hare Street. On Friday 1st October they held a golf fundraising event, charity auction and raffle. The total amount raised was an amazing £2,230, which they have decided this year to donate to the school. After discussing our needs with them we have decided to use this money to purchase and install several pieces of playground equipment to make our playground a more stimulating environment. This very neatly ties into the next article!

Playground Refurbishment

As promised some time ago I am continuing to look at refurbishing our playground. I have received several quotes ranging from £7,000 for a simple design to £15,000 for a more complex design. This only refurbishes the rather muddy area outside class 2. We would need to pay even more money to add a couple of extra pieces to the school field or playground. Thankfully the Beehive donation now enables us to proceed with a least a few items added to the playground (I am thinking of a target board for ball games and a traverse wall). With some careful spending we will be able to add at least one piece of larger equipment to the field as well – the children like the idea of a bridge with tunnel or play house.



Traverse wall

Obviously I am sure that many of you are frustrated (as am I!) at the slow progress. However funding is extremely tight.

On a more positive note I have been in contact with the local Extended Schools Co-ordinator who successfully applied for, and got, funding for two local schools to refurbish their playground areas. I am hoping she is able to do the same for us!

Headteachers Conference

On Thursday 14th and Friday 15th of October I will be away at the Hertfordshire Primary Headteachers Conference. Whilst I am away Mrs Russell, as the senior teacher, will be teacher in charge.

Parent Consultations

This terms parent consultations take place on Wednesday 20th October. This is a chance for you to meet with your child's class teacher and discuss his or her progress. A letter has been sent out today which it is important that you return as soon as possible.

Friend Christmas Shopping Evening

Christmas already I hear you groan!

Well, yes, but it's for a good cause and you get a chance to purchase one or two fabulous and rather individual Christmas presents.

On Thursday 21st October, from 6pm, until 9pm we will host to a variety of stalls selling household nic-nacs, handbags, children's clothing, wooden craft gifts, toys etc. In addition the usual Christmas refreshments will be available – and there is nothing quite like a glass of mulled wine to cheer you up on a damp evening.

I hope to see as many of you there as possible.



Scooters

Could I remind parents that scooters need to be walked across the upper playground rather than rode.

Pirate Day

Pirate day was a great success. The children and staff all dressed up and we had an interesting talk by Jack Trelawney about his work as an author.



High Frequency Word Assessments

As mentioned during the Welcome meetings these have now been completed on all children in classes two and three. The results have been sent to you. Some children have also been assessed on the next 200 high frequency words as well. These 300 words make up over 50% of all our reading so it is very important that children are able to read these by the end of year 4, or earlier.

Mrs Russell – Jury Service

Mrs Russell has been called upon to do jury service in the first two weeks of November. For these two weeks I will be teaching in class 3. Hopefully Mrs Russell will not actually be needed for the full two weeks.

Diary Dates

Thurs/Fri 14th /15th Oct:

Mr Reade away at Headteachers Conference.
Mrs Russell in charge.

Thursday 21st Oct:

Tag Rugby Festival for class 3

Wednesday 20th October:

Parent consultations – reply slips out today.

Thursday 21st October:

Christmas Shopping Evening 6pm – 9pm.

Mon 25th Oct:

Half Term week.

Monday 1st November

Mrs Russell Jury Service – Mr Reade in Class 3