



The Hormead Link

*Informing the community of
Hormead CE Primary School*

Welcome to another edition of our school newsletter. School has well and truly started now and the pupils, new and old, are all settling in very well. We start, as usual, with the key dates that you need to put in your diary.

Diary Dates

Fri 14th Oct: Kingswood Meeting for parents of children in Classes 3 & 4

Mon 17th: Friends meeting at 3.15pm – Class 4. Everyone welcome.

Thurs 20th Oct: Tag Rugby Festival at Edwinstree for classes 3 & 4.

Thurs 20th Oct: Staying On meeting in Class 4.

Fri 21st Oct: Class 1 assembly

HALF TERM

Mon 24th – Fri 28th Oct

Advance notice:

Parent consultations are on Nov 22nd, 3.30-6.00pm and Nov 23rd, 6.00-8.00pm.

Schoolympics

Children in classes 3 and 4 took part in the recent "schoolympics" event in Royston. They competed against other schools in a variety of activities including tag rugby, table tennis, and athletics. They had great fun and represented the school very well.



Raising Awareness of Makaton

On Wednesday, we had a visit from the Sensory Service. They introduced Makaton to pupils in classes 3 and 4. Makaton is a way of using hand gestures to communicate with those who have speech or hearing difficulties. The children found it interesting and enjoyed learning lots of new sign language



Music Day

On Thursday pupils in classes 2, 3 and 4 all took part in a music day. In the morning the children had great fun producing and making musical instruments from old "junk" and in the afternoon we had a visit from musician Bob Buckle who entertained the children by playing his banjo, singing songs and teaching the children a few new songs as well.



Bob Buckle and his Banjo

Firework Spectacular

Our annual "Firework Spectacular" takes place this year on Friday 4th November. Gates open at 6pm. Refreshments in the form of a winter warming BBQ will be available as will tea, coffee, cakes as well as the usual wine, beer and lager.

Tickets are on sale now at £12 for a family ticket. (2 adults, 2 children)

Individual tickets are also available at £4 per adult and £3 per child.

Tickets are available from Mrs Tompkins in the school office.

A poster will be given out and we would ask parents to display it in their front room window, or their car window, as long as it does not obscure your vision of course.

Hormead's Great Annual Firework Spectacular



Friday 4th November
6.00pm
Tickets Available Now

Christmas Shopping Fayre

This years shopping fayre is on Friday 18th November, from 6pm – 8.30pm. There will be lots of stalls selling a variety of different, often unique presents, ideal for children, adults, friends and relatives, just in time for Christmas! So if you're looking to purchase something a little more individual please pop along and support this event. Refreshments will be available as usual.

Lost Property

We are getting quite a pile in our lost property box. Could I ask parents to ensure that your child's name is on their jumpers, tops, trousers etc to prevent them ending up in our ever growing lost property pile!

Could parents also check that children come home wearing the correct clothes, especially our younger children.

Good Luck Mrs Russell

We said a temporary farewell to Mrs Russell on Friday 7th as she left us to take maternity leave. We may see her again, as I'm sure she will pop in once or twice before and after the happy event. I'm sure parents will join me in wishing Mrs Russell, her family and the new baby the very best.

Parent Questionnaire Results.

Thank you to all those parents who completed and returned the annual questionnaire last term. The results are available for parents to see on the school notice board and in the reception area. Overall we had lots of very positive feedback.

Areas that parents seemed particularly pleased about were:

- Strong links with the Church
- Range and variety of after school clubs

- The school building, maintenance and appearance was highly thought of.
- Parents felt happy with their pupils progress
- Finally, parents felt the school was well lead and managed.

I would like to express my sincere thanks for your positive responses.

Obviously there were one or two areas that parents felt could be improved. These were:

- Improved communication between home and school.
- More information about who the Governors are.
- More information and clarity about how school manages behaviour.

Our Actions:

- 1) To improve home/school communication I have trained all my colleagues on how to use Parentmail. Hopefully this will mean that reminders of events etc, can be sent via text to the relevant parents.
- 2) We will ensure that the school website is updated at least once every half term with relevant dates etc.
- 3) We will produce an information leaflet detailing who the governors are and put up photos of the governors in the school library. We will also add a governor's page to the school website detailing what the Governors do and who they are.
- 4) We will produce a brief leaflet explaining the school behaviour policy and a copy of the behaviour policy will be available on the website.

Harvest Festival Appeal

We raised £50 for the Bishops Harvest Appeal and Carol was very impressed at the amount of tinned and dried food very generously donated for St Jimmy's Night shelter. A big Thank You for your support.

Thinking Global

I'm delighted to say that we will be twinning with a school in Gambia, Africa, as part of the charity "Helping Education and Local Projects IN Gambia". This is all part of our efforts to think globally and strengthen the Christian Ethos of the school. The children have already suggested ways in which we can support our twinned school by raising funds to purchase basics like books, pencils etc. Mrs Heraud has agreed to lead this initiative so watch this space for further news.