



Welcome Back!!



I cannot put into words how happy I am that as I write this I can hear the children all in the hall together singing!! There have been many moments of normality these last few days and it is truly such a pleasure. Long may it continue! The children have all come back with fantastic attitudes, outstanding behaviour and looking really smart. Wonderful! 😊



### Attendance ...

Now that we are aiming for normality as much as we can, we are under pressure again nationally and locally to ensure that our attendance is as good as it can be. We will now be resuming our full attendance policy in school. This means we will be following advice from the 'powers to be' to celebrate good attendance and will be returning to issuing fines for holidays in term time. I am sure you will all support this, as we are all working really hard to make up for lost learning time over the last two years, and want the children to make as much progress as possible.



Every student. Every day.



### Dates for this term...

We have a few initial events planned which I will share below, but there will be more to come for this term...rest assured we will be undertaking as many activities as we can for you to join in with this year.😊

Team 6 Residential	12 <sup>th</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Individual and Family Photos	Thurs 14 <sup>th</sup> Oct
Hindu Celebration Day, incorporating a Colour Run to Celebrate Holi, and a Macmillan Coffee Afternoon. 2pm	Fri 18 <sup>th</sup> Sept (more info to follow)	Whole School Maths Day – "Maths in Space!"	Mon 18 <sup>th</sup> Oct
European Day of Languages Day	Mon 27 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Break up for Half Term	Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup> Oct
Clubs start (more info to follow)	Mon 27 <sup>th</sup> Sept	INSET DAY	Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> Nov
ECB Cricket Coaching Y5 and 6	Thurs 30 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Back to School	Tues 2 <sup>nd</sup> Nov
OPEN MORNINGS for new Reception Places in September 2022	Mon 4 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Ho Ho Helsby	Sat 4 <sup>th</sup> Dec
	Wed 6 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Break up for Christmas	Fri 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec
	Please tell all your friends and neighbours! 😊	Back to School	Tues 4 <sup>th</sup> Jan

### Performing Arts at Horn's Mill



The Arts at Horn's Mill on...



Instagram

You will have read in your welcome letters from your child's team that Mrs Emily Caroe has taken up the role of Arts Lead at Horn's Mill. She will be teaching Art and Design across KS1 and 2 but will also be leading all of the performing arts across school. We have a few dance, music and art projects looming, and we are excited to re-apply for our Arts Mark award this year. Emily has created an Arts Instagram account which you are welcome to follow. It will show all of the arts work that is going on in school. You can find it here: [https://instagram.com/hmillschool?utm\\_medium=copy\\_link](https://instagram.com/hmillschool?utm_medium=copy_link)



## School Start and Finish Times...

The morning and afternoon systems seem to be working really well – thanks so much for your support with this. Just a couple of notes...

- Children can come to school anytime between 8.30 and 8.55am
- They can walk to their class in any direction
- If they are in after 8.55am, they are late and will need to come through the front door – please ensure this doesn't happen unless it is an emergency. It makes our lives much harder in school in terms of snack/lunch orders, starting learning time and making sure the children all get that really valuable morning learning time.
- Children finish at 3pm in Rec, T1 and 2; and at 3.15pm in T3,4,5 and 6. Children in Rec, T1 and 2 can wait in their classrooms until 3.15pm if you also have a child in the juniors.
- Please **do not** arrive at classroom windows before the finish time – this really distracts the children for the last bit of their learning time. Feel free to wait at the front of school if you arrive early.

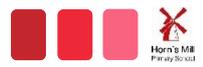
## Water Bottles...



Thank you to everyone for providing your child with a water bottle for school. I am seeing an increasing number of children who are bringing squash instead of water. I am aware that we have a couple of children who refuse to drink plain water, and for exceptional circumstances we are obviously fine with them having cordial or flavoured water as opposed to dehydrating. But can we ask that the rest of the children (who would probably prefer squash but can drink water) please just bring water. Ideally they would just leave the bottle in school and we will refill here. Bottles go in the dishwasher every day. Firstly, and most importantly, this is much better for their teeth, but also really helps us with avoiding sticky messes in school which attract bacteria and ants! If you would like to request that your child has cordial instead of water, please see your child's class teacher. **NB. Their water bottle should not also be their lunchtime drink – please send a separate drink for pack lunches.**



## Mouse Merit Certificates...



Throughout this academic year we will be undertaking a review of our behaviour and relationship policy, so I wanted to let you know that your child will not be bringing Mouse Merit certificates home this year. Something else will be happening instead, so we wanted to avoid children feeling they were half finished! You will hear more about the review as the year goes on.



## Learning Recovery...

As I am sure you have assumed, we have been planning carefully to ensure that we work as hard as we can to make up for lost learning time over the last two years. One of our major challenges since the pandemic is that we have assessed an increased spread of children's abilities/levels within some classes.

This makes it more difficult for teachers to meet all of the children's individual needs as they only have a finite amount of time and pairs of hands! I can assure you that my team are amazing at this, and with the support of Emily Hughes (our Inclusion Manager) we have created a provision map that uses our resources to the maximum! The vast majority of our academic (Reading, Writing and Maths) intervention happens during morning lessons, when children have lessons planned for them that are specifically planned for their needs. This means that extra sessions are not required and children can enjoy the full curriculum in the afternoon. However, some extra sessions have to happen outside of morning lessons to support social and emotional needs and individual academic needs that cannot be met during lessons times.

At parent's evening, which we will be holding in October, you will find out exactly where your own child is up to and the intervention (if any) that they are receiving to meet their individual needs. Some of you will be contacted sooner for us to share your child's Individual Education Plans (IEPs) if they have one. If your child does not usually have an IEP and you want to know whether they are receiving any intervention prior to parent's evening, please feel free to contact your child's teacher by email.



## After School Clubs...



## After School Clubs

In order to meet some of the additional needs I have mentioned above, we have decided to continue with the clubs we started last year to which children were individually invited. Most of these will not be to support academic needs, but more aiming towards supporting mental and physical health, and social and emotional requirements. There will be a few 'open' clubs too (charged at £10 per term), which you will be able to book onto as we did prior to COVID, but these are reduced for now. The clubs letter will be sent out to you next week. You will also be receiving invites to the recovery clubs via email, so keep an eye out for those.



## And finally...

Again, thank you for such a jolly start to the year and for sharing your wonderful little people with us. A special welcome to our new Reception starters who are already settling in beautifully!

Thanks everyone

Sharon Wyatt (Head Teacher)

[head@hornsmill.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:head@hornsmill.cheshire.sch.uk)

@HMillSchool on Twitter

@hmillschool on instagram

