

News News News...

December 2023



Horn's Mill
Primary School

Christmas thank you!

Thank you so much for supporting all of our Christmas events this last week or two. It has been such a busy time for you and us, but the children have all had a wonderful time and we have managed to raise some money for school and also for charity. You are all so kind and generous to us and I wanted to say a big thank you for the lovely cards and gifts we have received. Times are not easy right now and you should know how much these messages and gestures are appreciated. 😊❤️



@HMillSchool on Twitter (Now X)



@hillschool in Instagram



School Spider

Lovely Peter Duffy...



We were very sad to hear that our neighbour and friend Peter Duffy passed away recently. Peter has been part of our school family for many years: as a Grandad, a Parish Councillor and Chair of Governors. He was extremely supportive to me at some of the most challenging moments of my headship here, and I am very grateful to have known him. He loved Helsby and our school, and worked very hard to support us all. What a wonderful, kind, hardworking, community spirited man, who will be very much missed. We send our thoughts and love to his family and friends.

Safeguarding Update – Advice on New Devices...

With Christmas only days away, it won't be long before children across the land are gleefully opening the new devices that Santa's delivered. Whether it's their own phone, a tablet or the latest console, Father Christmas will soon be furnishing many children with a shiny new device. So what do parents need to know in advance? How do we make sure children can use these devices safely? And how do we keep their screen time down? This guide has the answers and is a useful starting point for parents and carers whose children are about to get an internet-enabled device. To access the guide, please click [here](#).



Winter Mini Challenge and Christmas events in Libraries...

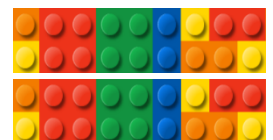


Following the success of the Ready, Set, Read Summer Reading Challenge, the theme has been extended into the Winter Mini Challenge. Join in at <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/> from 1 December 2023. More information on the Challenge can be found on the website.

“BUILD your VOCABULARY”

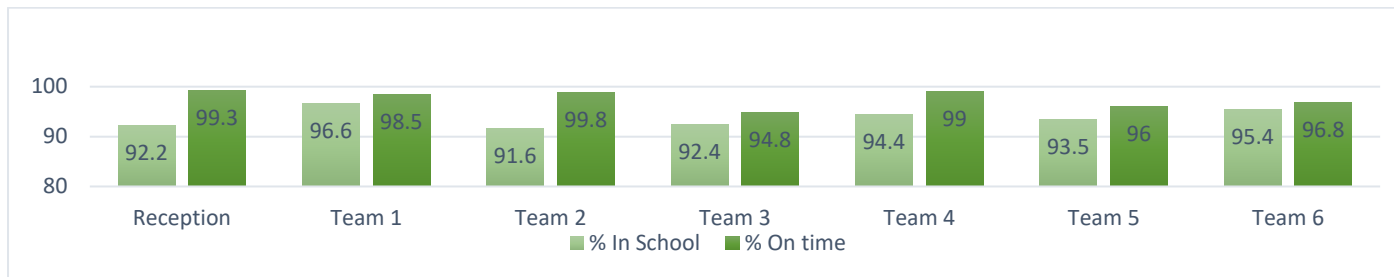
The junior children have learnt a new word recently...the word is “festivities”

Children in Team 3-6 have been trying hard to use it.



Attendance and Punctuality ...

Team 1 win this month for their attendance and early bird award goes to Reception for punctuality!



Dates for your diaries – Spring Term so far...

BACK TO SCHOOL	Wed 3rd Jan	T6 Dodgeball Festival FAVSP	Wed 6 th Mar
Chester Phoenix Visit School	Fri 5 th Jan	World Book Day	Thurs 7 th March
Team 3/4 Let's Walk road safety training	15 th & 16 th Jan	Parents Evenings this week	wb 11 th March
Reception Parent Workshop - Phonics	Tues 16 th Jan	T5 Class Assembly 9am	Thurs 14 th March
Team of 4 T6 children to Maths event at HHS	Fri 19 th Jan	T1 Mini Kickers FAVSP	Thurs 14 th March
Football Match V Elton 3.30pm	Tues 23 rd Jan	Red Nose Day	Fri 15 th March
Team 5/6 Netball FAVSP	Wed 24 th Jan	Science Week	wb 18 th March
T2 Residential Meeting for parents 5.30pm	Tues 30 th Jan	T3 Class Assembly 9am	Wed 20 th March
Reception Parent Workshop – Personal Development	Tues 30 th Jan	KS2 Cross Country at Delamere	Fri 22 nd March
Choir at Young Voices 12.30 – 10.30pm	Mon 5 th Feb	Musical Extravaganza 5.30pm	Fri 22 nd March
Team 2 Residential	7 th & 8 th Feb	Non-Uniform – Please bring an Egg	Fri 22 nd March
Reception Parent Workshop - Number	Tues 13 th Feb	Easter Bingo 3.30pm	Tues 26 th March
Cheshire Fire and Rescue to T5	Thurs 15 th Feb	Horn's Mill's Got Talent Final	Thurs 28 th March
T2 Class Assembly 9am	Thurs 29 th Feb		
Break up Friday 15th December at the usual time and return Wednesday 3rd January			

Ashley Atkin

Ashley started her role in Team 1 in September 2023, and has spent much of the term absent with ill health. Due to a change in her personal circumstances since her recruitment in May last year, she has found this role a significant challenge. Last week, Ashley resigned from her position at our school and we wish her well and offer our best wishes for her future. Miss Hayley Foster and Mrs Emily Caroe (returning from maternity leave) will job share in Team 1 for the rest of the academic year.

Christmas Events at Helsby Methodist Church...



Polar Express Film Night

You are warmly invited to join us for a showing of the full Polar Express film on our big screen on Friday 15th December starting at 6pm.

Admission is FREE, but there will be an opportunity to make a donation should you wish! Popcorn, drinks and sweets will be available. © 2004 U. 134/40 run time

**Friday 15th December
2023 at 6.00pm**

A free showing of the Polar Express Film

Reserve your seat on our website @ www.helsbymethodist.org.uk

Christmas Eve

Why not start your Christmas with our short, beautiful Christingle service where we will explore the nativity, meet Festive Fred, sing some well-loved Christmas songs, and light our Christingle oranges.

No need to book just turn up on the day.



Christingle Service,
Helsby Methodist Church,
24th December, 4pm.

All are welcome!



Events at St Paul's this Christmas

Nine Lessons and Carol Service,
Sunday 17th December at 6.30pm



Father Noel would like to warmly welcome you all to these two Christmas events at the St Paul's.



Christingle service on Christmas Eve at 4.30pm

French at Horn's Mill

From January, we will be enhancing the way we teach French. We are going to be introducing 'incidental language' throughout the school to embed vocabulary and to increase confidence for both staff and children. All staff will be aiming to use the identified language daily with all of the children where possible. Each month will see the introduction of new words or phrases for us to use with the children. I will let you know which vocabulary is being introduced each month in this newsletter so that you can maybe use this with your children at home too! Merci beaucoup! 😊

In January, we will all use:

Bonjour (Hello)

Salut (Hi)

Au revoir (Goodbye)

Monsieur/Madame/Mademoiselle (Mrs/Mrs/Miss)



And finally...incredible Christmas Performances

I wanted to finish the last newsletter of 2023 with huge congratulations to all the children for their incredible performances this month. I was devastated to miss Team 1 and 2 in their "Higgledy Piggledy Nativity" but the reviews I have heard were very positive indeed! Team 5 and 6 gave a wonderful 'Christmassy' performance as St Paul's earlier this week and our Team 3 and 4 superstars worked so incredibly hard to host their amazing Christmas Markets. As always Reception were super cute in their performance of "Ralph the Reindeer!"

There is nothing like Christmas in a primary school, and whilst we are all a little tired (😊) it is a very special time of year. We hope you enjoy looking at the children's Christmas Books that will come home this week; they have worked extremely hard on them and we believe they offer a beautiful keepsake and tradition each year.

So, all that now remains is for me to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year. We will see you all back on Wednesday 3rd January for another Spring term of excitement at the Mill!

Thanks everyone,

Sharon Wyatt

Head Teacher

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