



Headteacher News

This time last year we had snow; I am relieved to say this is not the case at the moment though a new salt spreader was purchased some weeks ago. It is happily sitting waiting in the boiler room! Please do though ensure that your children have coats so they are warm at playtimes.

Unfortunately, we do suffer with mud here at Hunton this time of year. We are happy for your children to change into their wellington boots or trainers for outside play.

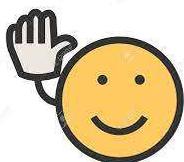
Our early experiences of school make an indelible mark on us that for most, will leave memories that can last a life time. As a parent you want your child to be happy and enjoy their time at school and seeing smiling faces greet you, fills our hearts. This week we had visiting teachers from another school; they commented on how wonderfully confident, open and friendly our children are. How willing they are to share their learning, calmly focused and engaged in what they are doing. They said, 'it was wonderful to see such focused learning and smiles wherever we went'. As parents you share their joy as they proudly tell you about their day. Like many things in life, what we see initially does not reveal the foundations below that enable this to happen. Creating the environment in which our children flourish requires exceptionally skilled, passionate teachers and support staff who have a deep affection and respect for the children they teach. Next time you see your child burst forth from those school doors, beaming with pride and keen to share the events of their day, please take a moment to reflect on those foundations.

It is particularly special to see children independently coming to me with ideas and promotions. This week Maddie has thoughtfully promoted the Big Garden Birdwatch whilst Lavinia has organised a cake sale to fund new bird boxes for our site. Chloe has brought in an 'impactometer' to measure random acts of kindness. Thank you to them; children like these bring our school values to life and make our school a special place to be.

On Monday all the children were treated to the 'Fantastic Fred' experience, a mental health resource provided for free by our local NHS Trust. The session looked at the importance of Food, Resilience, Exercise and Devices and how all of these factors affect our concentration, ability to learn and happiness. Please do talk to your children; we have sent you more information in this newsletter.

Finally, you are invited to St Mary's Church Hunton for a special 'Snowdrop Sunday' service. The children's art work as well as poems will be on show as well as some of our pupils reading in the service. The snowdrops around the church should be in full bloom too!

Mrs Makey



Goodbye

We bid farewell to Mrs Barker who is moving out of the area and wish her and her family all the best in their new adventures.



Star of the Week



Every week, each class nominates a pupil as 'star of the week' for an outstanding achievement or learning that has taken place. Their achievement will be linked to the Christian value they show. Look out for it on their certificate.

A huge well done to the children who got awarded star the week! Congratulations for all their hard work. We are so pleased that we can invite parents in again to celebrate the Stars of the Week together.

	w/e 21 st Jan	w/e 28 th Jan
Devas	Faye	Shaelie
Bannerman	Pippa	Ronnie
Porteous	Sora	Landon
Borton	Madison	Stanley

Safer Internet Day 2022 will be celebrated on 8th February with the theme 'All fun and games? Exploring respect and relationships online'. From gaming and chat, to streaming and video, young people are shaping the interactive entertainment spaces they are a part of. Safer Internet Day 2022 celebrates young people's role in creating a safer internet, whether that is whilst gaming and creating content, or interacting with their friends and peers. In school we will be working in our classes to further explore the ways in which we can use the internet responsibly and with respect. Our school website has a useful parent guide to the digital world. [Click here](#)

Dates



Monday 10 th January – Monday 7 th February	Choir after school club 3:15-4pm Yrs 2-6
Monday 10 th January – Monday 7 th February	Creative Club after school club 3:15-4:15pm Yrs R-3
Wednesday 12 th January – Wednesday 9 th February. Plus Wednesday 23 rd February	Dance club 3:15-4:15pm Yrs 1-6 The Right Step Dance Co
Thursday 3 rd February	Bannerman trip to Science Centre
Saturday 5 th February	Curry & Quiz night
Sunday 6 th February	Snowdrop Sunday at St Mary's Church
Tuesday 8 th February	Safer Internet day
Tuesday 8 th February	Parent's evening
Wednesday 9 th February	Porteous trip to Maidstone museum
Wednesday 9 th February	Parent's evening
Friday 11 th February	Last day of term 3
Tuesday 22 nd February	First day of term 4

Parents evenings

We are so pleased to tell you that we intend to hold face to face parents' evenings this term on the Tuesday 8th February and Wednesday 9th February, 3.30pm-6pm. This is so important and something you really have missed as parents. We will be asking you to wear masks and also take a lateral flow test before your visit to protect our staff. We will still need to closely monitor the situation with the pandemic but we are hopeful we can have you all in school. Please complete and return the form which was emailed to you on 27th January.



Attendance

Together with yourselves we are sure that you recognise that good attendance enables good learning and progress. It is important that your child is at school on time, ready for learning. Learning does start straight away and being late in class can mean that your child misses the essential start of a lesson and then finds it hard to engage.

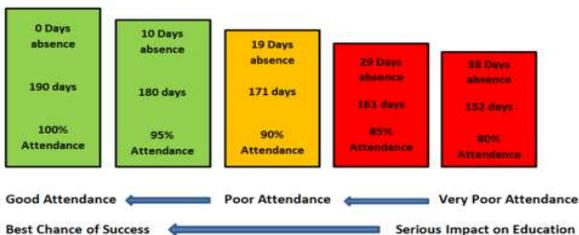
In order to ensure that the children have a settled start to the day, we would ask all parents to make sure that their children arrive before their start times.
Borton and Porteous – 8:40am
Devas and Bannerman – 8:45am

Good attendance means...

Being in school at least 95% of the time (180-190 days a year)

There are **365 days** in a year and **190 days** in a school year.

This leaves 175 days for holidays, shopping, birthday treats and non-urgent medical appointments.



For the past 10 days, these were the class attendance totals:

Devas 81% Bannerman 97%
Porteous 95% Borton 94%

Well done to **Bannerman** who achieved the highest attendance for 17th January – 28th January 2022.

Twitter



@huntonceprimary

Remember to check out our Twitter page which is updated on a daily basis with information and photos about what the children have been up to.

Earrings

Just a reminder that children should not be wearing hoop earrings - only studs are allowed. Children will be asked to remove them. They're extremely dangerous, especially when children are active on the playground. Long hair should also be tied back.

Great British Birdwatch

The RSPB are running their annual birdwatch 28th – 30th January 2022. The children can register online and request a pack. There are PDF posters, identification guides etc.

[Big Garden Birdwatch | The RSPB](#)

Be wowed by your local wildlife. Big Garden Birdwatch is for everyone, whether you're a complete beginner or a birding expert. Simply count the birds you see in your garden, from your balcony or in your local park for one hour.

Snowdrop Sunday – 6th February

St Mary's Church, Hunton are holding a special family service at 9:30am and they are hoping that many of our families will be able to attend. Following the service there will be hot chocolate and other refreshments available to buy as well as the opportunity to look around the Church grounds and see the abundance of snowdrops that grow there. Refreshments will be available until 3:30pm so even if you are unable to attend the Church service, please do pop along to the Church at some point during the day. Over the next week leading up to 'Snowdrop Sunday,' the children will be taking part in different art activities, conducting research, exploring symbolism and writing poetry to display in the Church. So, do come along and enjoy this community event on Snowdrop Sunday.

How you can support your child's learning

You can see your child's curriculum overview on our website so you can see what they will be learning in class this half term. You could go to the library and find some books about their topic or look it up online. It would be great to find out some information together and talk about it. You could even write some questions together that you want to find out more about and bring them into school for the teachers.