

Headteacher News

In the last fortnight we have all been in awe and inspired by the runners taking part in the London Marathon. It has been so exciting. Three parents from Hunton entered as well as our Deputy Headteacher, Mr Ming.

What a representation from a small community! The week before the marathon we learnt all about the preparation, the value of training and the desire to try your very best. Then the day came and as you may have seen on Twitter some of us could follow him on an app whereas others actually got a 'high five' from him when they cheered him on.



In collective worship on Monday, less than 24 hours later, we saw the medal and his t shirt. (I am glad to say that this was a T shirt celebrating his completion of the race and not the one he actually wore!). We let Mr Ming sit down for a question and answer session led by our Head Boy, Noah, and Head Girl, Anya.



After a thunderous round of applause, the children were intrigued and inspired. Questions such as, 'Were you hungry?', 'How did you feel at the end?', 'What kept you going?' were Mr Ming's favourites. The children also praised Mr Ming for putting our school values into action though 'respect' was the value we truly showed to him.

Mr Ming wishes to thank everyone for their support. 'More than Words' is a very special local Kent charity which as a school we will continue to support so that families can learn to use Makaton and communicate with children who find it hard to talk. We are all going to try and learn to sign a carol for Christmas.

This week we have had our termly pupil progress meetings. This is when I and Mrs Denney, the SENDCo, meet with teachers to discuss attainment, progress, attendance and any needs. We have seen children bounce back in so many ways since returning to school but we are mindful of the effects lockdown has had on them. With writing we are seeing that some children lack the strength in their wrists and hands and therefore handwriting is affected. Activities such as cooking, playdough, Lego, sewing, bat and ball games all help to develop those hand and wrist muscles. With reading and classroom learning we are really working on developing their vocabulary. Reading opens up the world to our children. Never underestimate the value of you reading to them, discussing stories and explaining words.

I would like to end with a specific thank you to our PTA. A few parents came to the PTA AGM with wonderful fundraising ideas for our school. Being a small school makes it a special nurturing place to be. It can also mean our budget is very vulnerable and we have to think so carefully about how we spend the small budget we have. Already the PTA has funded new First Aid bags for trips and resources for our new phonics scheme called Little Wandle. We are able to purchase more of the Little Wandle programme through our book sale, thanks to Miss Blundell and her swift organisation. We hope the children are enjoying the books they bought for themselves.

'Let us run with endurance the race God has set before'. Hebrews 12:1

Have a good weekend.

Mrs Makey



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 the star over the past 2 weeks! 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 1 st Oct	w/e 8 th Oct
Devas	Henley	Penelope
Bannerman	Zuki	Danny
Porteous	Orla	Percy
Borton	Amelie	Mia

Dates



Wednesday 13 th October	Final Creepy Claws club 3:15-4:15pm
Thursday 9 th September – Thursday 25 th November	Porteous class swimming lessons at Mote Park Leisure Centre No swimming on 21st Oct
Monday 20 th September – Monday 18 th October	Football club 3:15-4:15pm Yrs 3-6 No football on 11th Oct
Tuesday 19 th & Wednesday 20 th October	Parents consultations via Zoom – please remember to return your slip to the office with your chosen date/times.
Wednesday 20 th October	Individual child school photographs
Wednesday 22 nd September – Wednesday 20 th October	Netball club 3:15-4:15pm Yrs 4-6
Thursday 23 rd September – Thursday 21 st October	Art club 3:15-4:15pm Yrs 2-4
Thursday 21 st October	Term 1 ends
Friday 22 nd October	Staff development day – school closed
Monday 1 st November	Term 2 begins
Friday 19 th November	PTA School disco – details will be sent out soon
Friday 10 th December	Christmas fayre – details will be sent out soon
Friday 17 th December	Term 2 ends

Free Trial Session and £40 discount at Perform

Popular children's drama and dance school Perform is offering a free trial session and a **special introductory discount of £40 for members of Hunton Church Of England Primary School** if they sign up by Tuesday 25th January.

Parents should quote HCOE250122 when they book their free session by going to perform.org.uk/try or calling 020 7255 9120. You can find out more about the classes at perform.org.uk/try.

The nearest classes to Hunton are Boxley Road, Kings Hill & Hildenborough.



Attendance

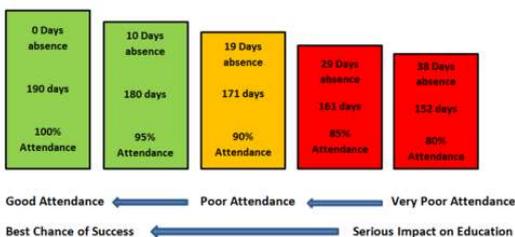
It is proven that good attendance results in good outcomes for children. We would like to thank you for your support in ensuring that your children are in school regularly so that we are able to move their learning on. We would define good attendance as above 96% which is the national average. In line with governor policy, all term time holiday requests are recorded as unauthorised unless they are exceptional circumstances and a fixed penalty notice issued. Where unauthorised rates are high and/or attendance rates are significantly below 96%, we will have no option but to consider referring on to other agencies.

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 2 weeks, these were the class attendance totals:

Devas 93.7% Bannerman 82.2%
Porteous 88.2% Borton 93.8%

Well done to Borton who achieved the highest attendance for 27th September – 8th October 2021.

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.

PTA News & Events

Thank you to everyone who attended our tea, coffee and cake afternoon in the hall and our PTA AGM. We are pleased to welcome Nicola Henderson, Naiomh and Rob Edmans to the PTA and look forward to planning the events over the next year.

Before Covid we held a very successful curry & quiz night which was well attended and raised over £1000 for the school. So, we have decided to hold another one early next year. Information will be sent out once we have organised the details.

Many thanks,
Andrew Martin, PTA Chairman

Uniform

Donations of pre-loved Hunton uniform in good condition are gratefully received and can be left at Reception.

Please do not donate white shirts/polos or trousers, dresses or skirts. We are only able to accept donations of clothing with the Hunton logo on.

We have pre-loved uniform in stock which we sell for a fraction of the cost, so if you are looking for anything, please email office@hunton.kent.sch.uk

Please remember that hoodies are for outdoor and P.E use only and should not be worn inside the school or classrooms.

There has been some concern this week about the number of school uniform items that have gone missing. The children do often take their jumpers and cardigans off at playtime and lunchtime and can leave them on the field and playground. We are finding that a lot of items are not labelled and this does make it difficult to return the uniform to the correct children. It may also lead to children taking home uniform that does not belong to them too. Please can I ask that you label the uniform, to ensure that items do not stay lost or misplaced. Thank you.



World Mental Health Day – 10th October

For many of us, gardening and getting outdoors is a way to escape the hustle and bustle of our everyday responsibilities. Spending time in nature each week has been proven to reduce anxiety and depression, as well as improving confidence and self-esteem.

On Sunday 10 October, it's World Mental Health Day <https://www.who.int/campaigns/world-mental-health-day/2021>

Whether you're pulling up some carrots, deadheading autumn flowers or simply having a cup of tea on your balcony, a short break in nature can go a long way to nurturing positive mental wellbeing. Why not take some time on this day to put pen to paper and create a poem that reflects what being in nature means to you? Share it with a friend or post on social media to help others explore the mental health benefits of getting outside!

Secondary school admissions

Online applications for secondary school admissions will close at midnight on the 1st November 2021. You can apply for up to 4 schools, putting them in order of preference. It's in your best interest to list 4 schools. Naming only one school does not guarantee your child a place at that school or give your child priority for a place over another child, neither does naming a school more than once.

Any children who sat the Kent 11+ test, results will be emailed to parents after 4pm on the 21st October.

For advice call 03000 41 21 21 or email kentonlineadmissions@kent.gov.uk. You can also find lots of information on the following link:- <https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/secondary-school-places#tab-2>

National offer day is 1st March 2022.

New YR Children for September 2022

If you or someone you know has a child born between 1st September 2017 and 31st August 2018 then from 5th November – 17th January it will be time to submit their primary school choices. To find out more about what Hunton CE Primary can offer your child then please contact Mrs Lang in the office to book a tour. We have slots available on 8th, 9th and 10th of November 2021, at 10:00am and 1:45pm.

In May this year Ofsted noted that:

- Pupils really enjoy being at school. They love to learn and are confident that staff will protect and nurture them. The close-knit school community helps to ensure that teachers know each child well.
- Pupils work and play happily with each other throughout the school.
- Teachers have high expectations for every child. They are ambitious for pupils to succeed in their learning as well as in their personal development. The excellent relationships mean that pupils respond well to their teachers' encouragement. They are eager to show their teachers what they can do.
- Pupils behave exceptionally well both in and out of class. In their lessons, they concentrate and learn with purpose. Teachers encourage pupils to work with each other, which they do in a mature way.

Devas, Reception class 2020

