



### Headteacher News

Happy New Year to you all! I hope that you all had a restful Christmas break. I know that for many of you and for some staff, celebrations and family time was disrupted by the pandemic once again and we wish those who are still struggling with tiredness, coughs and aches a speedy recovery. The determination to continue to work and come into school really is inspiring.

I have just looked at the newsletter from a year ago; it was my first newsletter here at Hunton. Extraordinarily, I started here as Headteacher of Hunton meeting very few of the children, parents or staff on my first day. We had just entered the second major lockdown. The excitement and anticipation of growing our school was very much there despite the writing of Covid management plans, organisation of remote learning and rotas for schooling on site for key workers. The children throughout have been truly amazing and inspirational. They chose our final 4 new Christian values of compassion, joy, hope and perseverance but more significantly demonstrate and articulate these on a daily basis.

The highlights have been too numerous to mention them all. Our sporting achievements with our hockey and football teams and Captain Tom's Challenge day in May which, with your generous donations, meant we could start to transform the school inside. When the unanticipated Ofsted call came in May, everyone was determined to show what our school is like on a day to day basis. The first lines of the report, 'Pupils really enjoy being at school. They love to learn and are confident that staff will protect and nurture them,' encapsulates our school perfectly. We have welcomed new children and families increasing our pupil numbers and the buzz around the school is palpable.

We have 95 followers on our Twitter account who are able to see what the children experience in school. Can we make it to 100?

The children have come back ready for learning and excited to start the New Year. It is a busy term ahead, with lots of exciting learning opportunities planned and events for the children to participate in. The numerous snowdrops in Hunton will soon be nodding their delicate heads and we will be celebrating with St Mary's Church for 'Snowdrop Sunday' on 6<sup>th</sup> February.

Wishing you all a wonderful 2022.

Mrs Makey

### **Contacting School**

Please send emails to [office@hunton.kent.sch.uk](mailto:office@hunton.kent.sch.uk) rather than directly to staff / class email addresses.

Thank you



## 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 this 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 14 <sup>th</sup> Jan
Devas	Chloe
Bannerman	Mariela
Porteous	Elsie
Borton	Nathaniel



As temperatures drop, it can be quite chilly in the classrooms some of the time so please do ensure you dress your child with layers so they are warm in school. They can wear their coats in class but we are trying not to do this as they then feel chilly when outside for play or lunch. We are doing our best to keep a balance between clean fresh air and warmth.



## Dates



Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> January – Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	Choir after school club 3:15-4pm Yrs 2-6
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> January – Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	Creative Club after school club 3:15-4:15pm Yrs R-3
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> January – Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> February. Plus Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Dance club 3:15-4:15pm Yrs 1-6  The Right Step Dance Co
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> January	Non-uniform day for £1 donation
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> January	Fantastic Fred in school – NHS well-being
Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> February	Curry & Quiz night
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	Snowdrop Sunday at St Mary's Church
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> February	Safer Internet day
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> February	Parent's evening – information will be sent out soon
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	Parent's evening – information will be sent out soon
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> February	Last day of term 3
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February	First day of term 4

### Thank you ....

Sue and Steve (Mr and Mrs Lollipop) would like to say a big 'thankyou' for the many good wishes, Christmas cards and gifts received at the end of last term and wish all students, parents and carers a safe, happy and healthy 2022.



## 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.

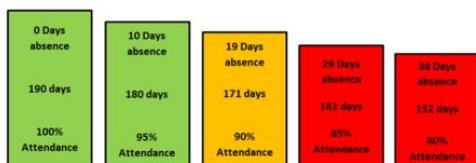
In order to ensure that the children have a settled start to the day, we would ask all parents to make sure that their children arrive before their start times.  
Borton and Porteous – 8:40am  
Devas and Bannerman – 8:45am

### 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.



Good Attendance ← Poor Attendance ← Very Poor Attendance  
Best Chance of Success ← Serious Impact on Education

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

*Devas 96%                      Bannerman 97%*  
*Porteous 96%                      Borton 90%*

*Well done to **Bannerman** who achieved the highest attendance for 5<sup>th</sup> January – 14<sup>th</sup> 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.



PTA News & Events  
pta@hunton.kent.sch.uk

## Curry & Quiz Night

16 tickets remaining!

**Date: Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2022**

Venue: Hunton Village Hall

Time: 7 - 11.30pm. Quiz starts at 7:30pm.

Tickets: £20 per person

Contact: pta@hunton.kent.sch.uk

Curry will be provided by Kashmiri Kitchen.

There will be a desserts auction and a chance to win a magnificent hamper of goodies. Bring your own drink although a limited amount will also be on sale on the night. If the event has to be cancelled due to covid, all tickets will be refunded.

Teams of 8 people, but there are lots of people coming along in pairs so you can join forces on the night.

To reserve your seat(s) please email the PTA. Everyone is welcome so bring along your friends, family and neighbours.

Please come along and support this event. As always, all money raised goes towards new equipment for your children and the School.

Many thanks,  
Andrew Martin, PTA Chairman

### Great British Birdwatch

The RSPB are running their annual birdwatch 28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> 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.



## Breakfast club

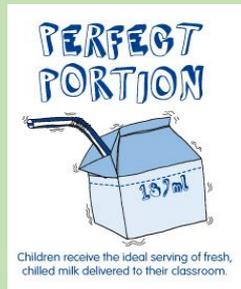
We offer breakfast club every morning from 8:00am at a cost of £4 per child, per day (£3 for additional siblings attending).



You can use breakfast club on an ad-hoc or regular basis.

## Milk

If you would like your child to receive a carton of milk each morning please register them on the [Cool Milk website](#).



## Cricket Coaching



It certainly isn't cricket season, is it? Similarly, to the free hockey coaching we received last term through a 'Chance to Shine' we have

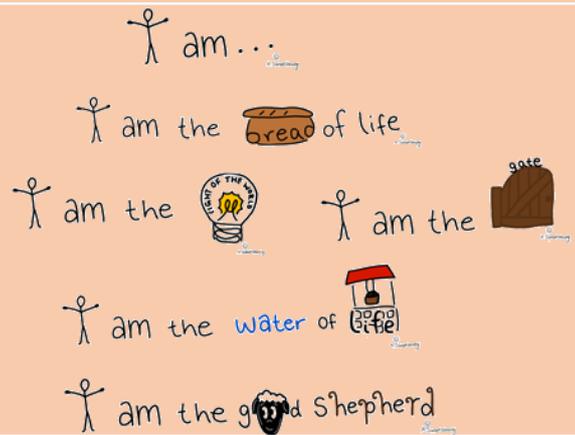
now managed to organise free cricket coaching for all the children in Borton and Porteous. Adrian Crust, from Kent County Cricket Club, comes each Thursday to deliver the coaching. We are so conscious that our children missed out hugely on sporting opportunities during the pandemic and we have been proactive in finding chances like these for them. A huge thank you to 'Chance to Shine' and Kent Cricket; coaching in the winter months should mean we'll be ready for matches this summer!

'Cricket is also an effective way to develop skills like communication, leadership and perseverance that will benefit them throughout their life.'

'Chance to Shine is a national charity that aims to give all children the opportunity to play, learn and develop through cricket. We believe that cricket can help to develop the personal, social and physical skills of the 600,000 children that we work with every year.'

## Collective Worship

This term Collective Worship centres around who Jesus is through the stories associated with, through the 'I am' sayings of Jesus which can be found in John's Gospel. It provides a pause for wondering and reflection about the life and teaching of Jesus and how his example can continue to underpin the everyday life of our school.



## Latest Covid message from the DfE

Confirmatory PCR testing following a positive result on a lateral flow device (LFD) will be temporarily suspended. We do, however, require proof that your child has covid and request a photo of the positive LFD.

From Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January, people with COVID-19 in England can end their self-isolation after 5 full days, as long as they test negative on day 5 and day 6 and do not have a temperature.

Individuals who are still positive on their rapid lateral flow tests must stay in isolation until they have had 2 consecutive negative tests taken on separate days.