

THE HAMLET HERALD



'Outstanding learning, within a glittering curriculum, where everyone matters'

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HEAD OF SCHOOL'S NOTE

I do hope that many of you will be able to come and join us for our first Open Classroom of the year this coming week. In response to feedback, we are providing two opportunities for you: an after-school and a before school slot. This is an opportunity for you and your child to engage in a reflective conversation about their learning. We know that the children will really enjoy presenting and sharing their work with you, celebrating specific highlights, as well as explaining processes and their learning journeys to date. We will hold our formal parents evenings towards the beginning of next term, when you will get the opportunity to meet 1:1 with your child's class teacher. This will be followed with a further Open Classroom in the summer term.

We have welcomed Ian Sillett to our team this half-term. Ian is leading ICT, splitting his time between us and our sister school, The Belham. Ian will be working with us on curriculum design and technical support, but also in helping us to look to the future with regards to our IT provision and infrastructure.

I was quite shocked by the number of scooters left behind at school last Friday, and not only that, none of them were locked. Knowing that the gates would be open at various points over the weekend, I took them all home for safety! I have learnt from our DVIS friends only this week of property being stolen from inside their school grounds. Please can we urge all scooter/bicycle owners to secure their belongings and take them home at the end of every school day.

PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTION

A few weeks ago we announced in the Hamlet Herald that we would be holding parent governor elections. We would now like to invite those who are putting themselves forward for election, to write a 'pen portrait' of no more than 400 words. This should include information about yourself and your background, why you are interested in joining the Governing Body, and what skills and competences you could bring. The deadline for pen portraits is 30th November. Voting will then open the following week, if we have more than one nominee. Please see our email communication today for full information.

KEY DATES

Monday 19th November

Whole school assembly with Angelina Jandolo about dance

Tuesday 20th November

Whole school assembly: 'Choose Respect' Launch of DHJS Anti-Bullying Week

Wednesday 21st November

'Dancing in odd socks' day
Open Classroom 3:25-4:15pm

Thursday 22nd November

Open Classroom 8:30-8:50am
'Random Act of Kindness' day
Individual and DHJS sibling photos

Friday 23rd November

OpenView Education production and workshops:
'Becoming an Upstander'

Saturday 24th November

PTA Christmas Fair 12:30-3pm. Village entrance

COATS!

You may recall that we started the week with a sudden downpour; we were amazed by the amount of children arriving at school with no coat. We know that the children don't seem to feel the cold as much as us adults, but nonetheless, now that we are firmly into November, please can we ask that you ensure your child arrives at school every day with a waterproof jacket/coat.

WEEKLY HOUSE POINTS

Topaz Water	Ruby Fire	Garnet Earth	Sapphire Air
59	44	92	48

DHJS ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

In preparation for Anti-bullying week, we would really appreciate your help to enforce our anti-bullying messages at home. Please remind your child that if they see or experience any form of bullying behaviour, they need to tell a trusted adult. Speaking out is the first and biggest step towards tackling the problem. If you suspect that your child may have witnessed or been a victim of bullying behaviour, please tell his or her class teacher straight away. This NSPCC link contains information on both bullying and cyberbullying that you may find useful.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/child-abuse-and-neglect/bullying-and-cyberbullying/>



READING CURRICULUM EVENING:

We had a great turn-out at our Reading Curriculum Evening last night, with much audience participation! Here you can see Mrs Evans leading everyone in a 'SUHUPU' (stand-up, hand-up, pair-up) activity which is a teaching technique we use regularly with the children.

We will place the upper school and lower school reading lists that we shared on the Curriculum page of the website early next week. There are a few hard copies available in the office if you would like to take one.



MUSIC: ASSISTED PURCHASE SCHEME Y6

The window for Y6 parents of children who learn an instrument with us at school to take advantage of the Assisted Purchase Scheme is now open. This is an initiative that enables parents to purchase a musical instrument via the school without paying VAT, therefore saving 20%. There is a set of criteria and guidelines to follow; please see the leaflet on our website for the full information. There will be hardcopies available in the office. This is a great opportunity to be secondary 'musically' ready as the majority of secondary schools do not provide instruments for their musicians. The deadline for selecting an instrument will be Thursday 28th February 2019.

THE MILE/CROSS COUNTRY

It has been really wonderful seeing so many of you run the mile on a regular basis, come rain come shine. We want to encourage more of you to come along on a Monday, Tuesday &/Thursday at 8.30am. You don't have to be the best or fastest runner and it's a great way to start your day. As an incentive to come along we've introduced a competitive element; we're going to see which year group has the most children, parents, carers and teachers running the mile. We hope that when you've been once you'll enjoy it so much you'll keep coming! Next week we're focusing on Y3; we want as many Y3 children, parents, carers and teachers to come along, even if it's for just one of the three sessions. The following weeks we'll be inviting years 4, 5 and 6. The results will be shared in assembly and the HH. So come on, do your bit, support your year group and start your day with a run.

On a similar note, we need more girls at our Cross Country club. We know we have some terrific runners in the school and we'd like to see you on a Thursday morning from 8am. We have a few cross country fixtures in the new year and we'd like to be able to send a strong girls team, as well as a boys team.