

THE HAMLET HERALD



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

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HEAD OF SCHOOL'S NOTE

Over the next few weeks, Mrs Purcell will be handing over guest editorship to the Core Leadership Team to introduce themselves to the school community.

Dear Parents, my name is Mr Salomonson and I have been the Assistant Head since the start of last academic year. As the eager, most recently appointed (and youngest) member of CLT, I gladly 'volunteered' to introduce myself first. I have been a teacher for over 12 years working at schools in London, with a three year stint at a British School in Spain. My eldest son has just started Y1, providing me with a bit of a parental perspective on schooling.

Last year I co-ordinated a big push on values and behaviour. We are very lucky to have a wonderful community of well-behaved children but we are also ambitious and keen to improve in every area; we want children to leave here with a clear moral purpose, excellent communication skills, an understanding of their place in the world and an inclusive attitude. We also want their time here to be a happy one so the values of respect, integrity and resilience are of utmost importance to us.

I am also responsible for maths in the school and am proud of our journey towards becoming a centre of best practice for maths in the local area. We are about to welcome senior leaders and maths leads from 7 local primary schools into our maths hub which will run over the course of 6 sessions this year, and I'm confident that we will learn as much, if not more, from the experience than they will from us.

Other projects on the horizon for this year are our involvement in the Place2Be Mental Health Champions initiative which I will be supporting Mrs Begley with; my continual, and slightly obsessive, drive to make the staff here research savvy and up to date with matters of pedagogy; and co-ordinating our School Council and first ever Eco Council. Not forgetting the most pleasurable side of my job – teaching 6SP.

I feel very privileged to work in a school with such a long and well-recorded history. If you're interested, the Dulwich Society have some fascinating articles about [our origins](#) and [links with the founder of Dulwich Hamlet Football Club, Pa Wilson](#) and our [twitter feed](#) has some wonderful photos from former generations of Hamlet pupils.

I look forward to meeting those of you who I haven't met already over the course of this year – do say hello!

KEY DATES

Thursday 26th September

Y3 visit to Horton Kirby

Friday 27th September

Macmillan Coffee Morning. 8-9am Village playground
PTA AGM 9am, Burbage building

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

As we set-up the new school year, you may have noticed that the Voluntary Contribution has been added to your Parent Pay account. Thank you to those of you who have been incredibly on the ball and already paid. We kindly ask that you contribute £25 per term, or you have the option of paying for the full year (£75) in one go. This year you will also have the option of an additional payment of £25, taking the total to £100, as some parents have very generously expressed an interest in contributing more.

This important fund supports the school in order to provide the wealth of activities/events that help to bring the curriculum alive. Voluntary Contribution is not an additional payment to the many visits and trips your children participate in throughout the course of the year. As such, you will notice that we do not ask for a payment every time your child is engaged in one of these opportunities, for example this term, the Y3 visit to Horton Kirby, Y4 visit to the Sky Skills Studios, Y5 workshops and visit to the Ragged School Museum, Y6 workshop with the Young Shakespeare Company, Anti-Bullying show and workshops for all after half-term for all, and that's just for starters....! Thank you all in advance.

WEEKLY HOUSE POINTS

Topaz Water	Ruby Fire	Garnet Earth	Sapphire Air
			
89	99	72	66

GUIDANCE REGARDING MEDICATION IN SCHOOL

At the beginning of a new academic year, it is always helpful to remind you all about arrangements around administering medication in school. We follow the Department for Education's statutory guidance. In line with *Supporting Pupils at School with Medical Conditions, December 2015* – we can only accept prescribed medicines if these are in-date, labelled, provided in the original container as dispensed by the pharmacist and include instructions for administration, dosage and storage.

If your child requires us to give medication that meets the above criteria you **MUST** come into the school office and complete a permission form for administration of the medication. We cannot administer medication without this. Advice is that "where clinically possible, medicines should be prescribed in dose frequencies which enable them to be taken outside school hours." So for example with antibiotics to be taken three times a day they can be taken before school, after school and at bedtime.

The only exception to administration of prescribed medicine is travel sickness tablets. If your child requires travel sickness medication or bands, please make sure that these have been administered before we leave on a visit or journey. Extras can be provided for the return journey which we will administer on receipt of a completed medical form.

Please come and talk to us in the office if there is anything that you are unsure of.

Under no circumstance should a child bring medication into school without permission, nor keep medication on their person/within their school bag.

PUNCTUALITY AND ATTENDANCE

We have been very impressed with our pupils' punctuality since the beginning of term, this makes such a difference to the start of the day and to the children's readiness for learning. However, we would like to politely remind you of our 3:25pm pick-up. For some children it can be an anxious wait if parents and carers are not here to collect on time.

Congratulations to our new Y3 cohort who are leading the way in terms of attendance since the beginning of term, coming in at an impressive 99.27%. Let's keep it up!

Y3, 4 AND 5 CURRICULUM EVENINGS

Thank you for joining us at our Curriculum Evenings this week. We hope you found them both informative and interesting. Please follow these links to view the presentations:

[Year 3](#) [Year 4](#) [Year 5](#)

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

Don't forget we are hosting a coffee morning next Friday (27th) to raise funds for Macmillan cancer support. We will be offering a selection of hot and cold drinks as well as a slice of cake not for any fixed price but a donation instead. Do come along and join us; the kettle will be on from 8am. If you would like to donate a cake, please bring it along on the morning, as early as possible for all to enjoy! Please remember we are a nut free school. Any willing volunteers to run the cake stall are very welcome!

The children will learn all about the work of Macmillan in assembly on Monday. The sad but true fact is that more people than ever require the help and support of this charity. Do please come along with your child to help us raise as much money as possible whilst enjoying a coffee and cake. For any further information, contact Nikki Thomson: nthomson3.210@lgflmail.org

MAYOR'S THAMES FESTIVAL

Congratulations to our Y5/6 Thames Festival singers who did themselves and DHJS proud at The Scoop last Sunday, singing as part of the 500 strong Kids Choir. Thank you to Miss Campbell for rehearsing and organising this opportunity.



Richard Frostick, who is the Director of the Thames Festival Kids Choir, and very good friend to the Hamlet, has provided us with information for the Southwark branch of the Music Centre London. We have disseminated this information via the book bags today. If your child is a keen singer, available on a Sunday during term time, and interested in committing to an exciting extra musical activity, this might be something you wish to pursue. The Southwark sessions take place at Charles Dickens Primary School.