

THE HAMLET HERALD



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

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HEADTEACHER'S NOTE

December has arrived, and our Christmas preparations are now in full flow; we have much for the children to look forward to between now and the end of term. Despite an increase in confirmed Covid cases this week, we have everything crossed that we can continue with our Christmassy activities as planned. Please see a list of Christmas arrangements on the next page.

We will of course keep you updated should our Covid 'status' change – we hope not! We are in communication with Public Health England and return daily information to the DfE. If your child is absent unwell, and then they receive a confirmed Covid test result, it is important that you make us aware of this change so that our return figures are accurate and a true representation of our community.

I wanted to say a personal 'thank you' to the PTA and to you all for supporting our Christmas Fair last weekend. An incredible effort was put in, making it a huge success. It was lovely to see so many people getting into the festive spirit - I got that glass of mulled wine! The grotto was so beautiful: Mr Purcell and Ade said they were happy to keep their office looking like that! Enjoy a selection of photos a little further on.

PSQM OUTREACH AWARD SUCCESS!

We are absolutely thrilled that Dulwich Hamlet Junior School has been awarded the Primary Science Quality Mark Outreach Award this week, taking DHJS Science to the next level, following our recognition of the PSQM Silver Award back in 2016. While this is very much a team effort, a huge thanks and congratulations must go to Beth Harris, our Science Subject Lead. Beth completed the PSQM submission, and constantly pushes us forward and enthuses us all with all things science. Look out for the autumn term Trust magazine for more details.



DOODLEVISION!



The top three classes with the highest % of being in 'the green zone' this week are:

First place (12 points): **3H** **61%**

Second place (11 points): **5TS** **60%**

Third place (10 points): **3GR** **53%**



Many congratulations. We are very proud of you all!

KEY DATES

Monday 6th December

Christmas Celebration rehearsals

Tuesday 7th December

Christmas Celebration rehearsal and recording at St. Barnabas (to be emailed out to parents & carers w/c 13/12/21)

Wednesday 8th December

Flu immunisation 'mop-up' for children who missed the previous opportunity

Pantomime for the whole school – Turney Hall pm

Christmas post box open for children to bring cards in to school

Friday 10th December

Final PTA uniform shop of the term 9:00-9:30am

Bassistry Arts world music workshops for Y5/6 & whole school assembly performance

WEEKLY HOUSE POINTS

Topaz Water	Ruby Fire	Garnet Earth	Sapphire Air
77	72	67	73

CHRISTMAS FOOD BAGS

This year, as in previous years, Dulwich Hamlet are proud to be collecting Christmas **food bags** for the local community and will be giving our donations to the Norwood and Brixton Foodbank. The foodbank has asked for cloth bags or strong carrier bags as these are easy to carry and serve a dual purpose. The cloth bags can be plain or decorated perhaps with a Christmas theme. If you would like to send in a donation, we have included a suggested list of the things that are most needed at this time of year below.

We will be discussing the need for these items in a whole school assembly and the children are aware that there are children and families less fortunate than themselves.

Please send all food bags into school from Monday 13th December until first thing on Wednesday 15th December. The bags will be collected mid-morning on that day. We kindly request not bringing bags in to school before this date as we do not have the space to store them.

- Longlife sponge puddings
- Longlife cakes must last into January or beyond
- UHT custard cans, cartons, packets
- Tins rice pudding
- Jellies and instant whips
- Small cartons fruit juice
- Hot chocolate jars or sachets
- Breakfast bars or similar
- Small jars jam, chocolate spread, honey
- Small packets of sweets or chocolate
- Tins corned beef/ham (these are so popular and the foodbank never have enough)
- Tins evaporated milk
- Small tins of nice tinned fruit things like raspberries, strawberries, apricots are popular
- Children's toiletries for all ages so from Peppa Pig to things like Lynx for young teens
- Flannels
- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Shower Gel
- Shampoo
- Christmas Cracker



Thank you in advance

SCHOOL/TRUST POLICIES

Our half-termly reminder that there are a wealth of school policies and reports available for you to view on our website. If you would like a paper copy of any of our policies or reports, please contact the school office who will be able to provide you with this:

office@dulwichhamletjuniorschool.org.uk

CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS

As we go into the last two weeks of term, here are some dates and information you might want to make a note of:

Tuesday 7th December – We will be performing and filming, 'The Twelve Days of Christmas' at St Barnabas Church. A link will be sent w/c 13th December. All children should have their costume in school as appropriate by Monday morning, 6th December.

Wednesday 8th until Wednesday 15th December – post boxes will be available in Village hall (lower school) & Turney hall (upper school) if children wish to bring in clearly named cards (first & last name/class) for their friends at school.

Wednesday 8th December - is panto day. 'Oh yes it is...!'

Tuesday 14th December - is 'Festive Hat' day. We are inviting all children and staff to wear a festive hat for a minimum donation of £1. The money raised will go towards the British Heart Foundation.

Tuesday 14th December is also Christmas lunch day.

PE has now finished for Years 3 and 4 until January. The last lesson for Year 5 will be on the 9th December and Year 6 Monday 13th December.

The year group parties will go ahead this year. The children can come to school party ready in their party clothes:

Wednesday 15th Years 3 and 6

Thursday 16th Years 4 and 5

Thursday 16th December – Music Concert at JAGs, evening. Final decision to be made next week.

Friday 17th December – last day of term. Final registration 1.25pm. Please collect your child promptly.



PICTURES AT A PTA CHRISTMAS FAIR...



THANK YOU AND UPDATE FROM THE PTA

Huge thanks for all who helped make Christmas Fair 2021 a storming success

A windy, rainy day could not dampen the excitement of the crowds at Saturday's Hamlet Christmas Fair! Children embraced the return of old favourites like jingle jars, games and sweet stalls, as well as new excitement from Adrenaline Rush Laser Tag; while adults embraced the hotdogs and bar, selling us out of mulled wine in record time!! Exciting raffle prizes were won, steel drums were played and the carol sing-a-long created a delightful Christmassy feel. Santa was kept very busy sorting the wish lists of the children - Hamleteers only on the 'nice' list of course!

A staggering £6500 was raised for the school! HUGE thanks to all those volunteers involved and to the school staff who supported us in raising these much needed funds.

PTA events make a massive impact on our funds as well as bringing the fun-factor. **To mount more events like the fair, we urgently need to replace our Treasurer** who has had to step down due to unforeseen circumstances. The PTA cannot operate without this role. You don't need a finance background, just decent organisation skills! Please consider stepping forward. Email dulwichhamletpta@gmail.com if you want to know more about what's involved.

And finally... don't miss the last baking and cake-stuffing opportunity of the year! Show off your mince pie, Christmas cookies, and cupcake-decorating skills by donating goods for the **Christmas Bake Sale on Friday 10th December**. Donations welcome on tables outside the office from drop-off on Friday morning through to pick-up time. ALL cakes will be sold by the PTA for the school. Due to recent changes in Covid guidelines, we are asking for individual items such as cupcakes rather than large cakes requiring cutting. Baked or bought, all donations are very much appreciated.

Kate & Lu (your PTA Co-Chairs)

DHJS EARLY HELP SIGN-POSTING

At this festive time of year, when we are busy rushing around making preparations, it is all the more important to take some time out and to reflect-upon and prioritise the wellbeing of ourselves and families. We are using some of the Young Minds advent calendar activities with the children in class, and would like to share their family activity with you.

The Young Minds' quick and effective snowflake activity can help families display how they are feeling then reflect and discuss this together. Please follow this link for the details: <https://youngminds.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=5c889624b166d3d24a24424d4&id=ace602c502&e=140fecaa6c>

Parents and carers can also find information about supporting children and young people with their mental health via the A-Z guide here:

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/a-z-guide/>



EPEC (Empowering Parents, Empowering Communities) is an innovative, evidence-based and effective peer led parenting programme. It recruits, trains and supports local parents to lead parenting groups in their own communities. The groups are co-facilitated by two trained parent group leaders and supported by specialist EPEC supervisors. Email EPECproject@slam.nhs.uk if you would like more information.

There is help and support out there for parents, but it's often aimed at mums and difficult for dads to get to, so dads end up trying to figure things out on their own.

EPEC is offering two different approaches for dads next term:

Being a Parent (dads only) – an 8-week online group (evening) run by experienced dad parent group leaders

Being a Dad – online support delivered weekly in bite-sized nuggets, and regular 'Dad MOTs' with a dad parent group leader

There is the chance to meet the dad parent group leaders / ask questions / find out more at an **evening info session on Wednesday 8th December 7-8pm (zoom)**.

Email EPECProject@slam.nhs.uk to register.

