



# Hughenden Primary School

Working together, Empowering Lives, Enriching Minds

Newsletter – February 2023  
SCHOOL NEWS



Dear Parents / Carers,

As we get into February, I can start to feel Spring in the air. Hopefully, warmer times are coming!

We cannot wait to have you all in for parents' evenings in to see what the children have been up to and to hear about how they are progressing. I have certainly seen lots of impressive work in books over this half term and I have enjoyed putting just a small selection of writing up on our 'Chalk, Cherries and Chairs' display. At the start of every term, all of the children in school look at the same exciting stimulus and have a go at some writing. It is wonderful during these weeks to hear pupils and teachers from across the school discussing their ideas about the same topic. This half term, we were focusing in on the beautiful place that we live; the Chilterns! Key stage 2 created their own journey stories and Key Stage 1 used the local legend that is Roald Dahl as their inspiration. It is a chance to develop some creative writing over a shorter timeframe (a week) and this allows our pupils to build their resilience for writing, creativity and vocabulary.

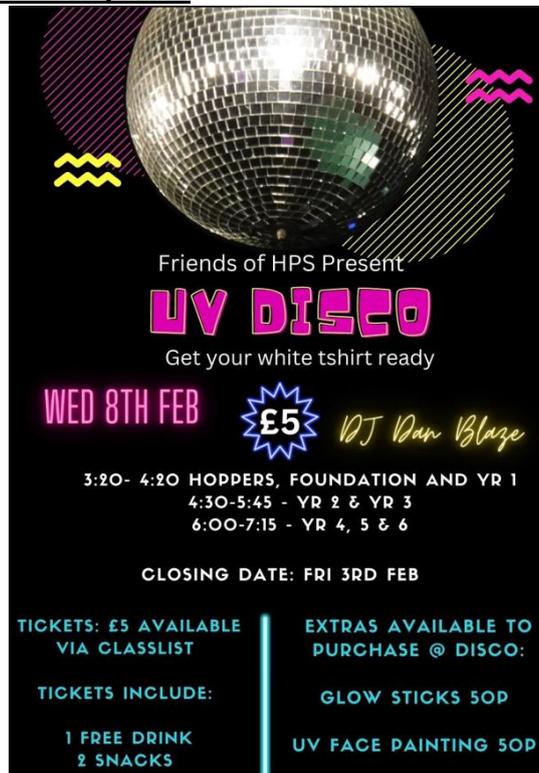
Talking of vocabulary, we have just developed a short list of very ambitious adjectives and verbs for each year group to learn and love. Our vision is that each and every child finishes their year with these words firmly rooted in their day-to-day language and writing. If you hear your child describing the weather as 'drab', the dog's fur as 'lustrous' or asks their little sibling to stop 'rampaging' around, then please give them a high-five from us!

And finally, we would like to extend a warm welcome to Mubarak, Rayhan and Salmah and their family who have started with us this term.

Have a wonderful half term when it comes.

Mrs Messenger  
Deputy Head

## PTA UV Disco – Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2023



### Late Collections

Lately, we have been experiencing an increase in children being collected late which impacts on staff heavily. Here is a reminder of our collection times:

EYFS/KS1 – 3.10pm

Hoppers – 3.15pm

KS2 – 3.20pm

If you are going to be late, please call the school office to inform us so we can relay this to staff, rather than send a class dojo message which may not get seen straightaway. If you are going to be more than 5 minutes late, please make use of the ASC or make alternative arrangements. Thank you for your assistance with this.

### Dolce – increase in charges

We have been informed by our hot lunch provider, Dolce, that they are imposing an increase to all their charges effective from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023.

For children in Hoppers and KS2 who pay for their hot lunches, prices are increasing from £2.50 to £2.71 due mainly to the rise in inflation for staffing and food distribution costs.

### Nuts and Allergies

We are asking for your help to ensure our children with nut allergies are not put at any undue risk. Please can we ask you not to provide your children with any food products containing nuts. This includes Kinder chocolates in packed lunch boxes. If you can check the ingredients first, it would be appreciated. If in doubt, don't include it and keep it for a snack at home instead.

### **The eSchools Lite App**

The app has been designed to help increase parental engagement without providing your staff with any extra work.

The key features are as follows:

- Branded with your school logo and primary colour
- No login required – parents just need to search for your school and subscribe
- Latest News – Any news articles added to your website will feed through to the app
- Newsletters – Any newsletters uploaded to the homepage widget will appear on the app
- Links and Downloads – Parents will be able to access all content from the links and downloads widget
- Calendar – All events added to the website calendar will be automatically available on the app
- School website – a link to the full mobile version of your school website
- Contact – The contact details for the school



### **New School Photographer – Smiles at School**

We have listened closely to parental feedback and moved our school photography to a new company with immediate effect which I hope raises a smile! Smiles at School have impressed us with their offer and are booked for the group photos and Year 6 leavers on the 15<sup>th</sup> May 2023.

Their offering provides great value for parents including:

- 20% Early bird discount for online orders by the deadline date
- FREE delivery to school available or choose direct-to-home P&P for only £2.99 per order (FREE for orders over £32)
- Fast 48-hour dispatch on most direct-to-home online orders
- Print quality assured with their 'No Smile Left Behind Guarantee'

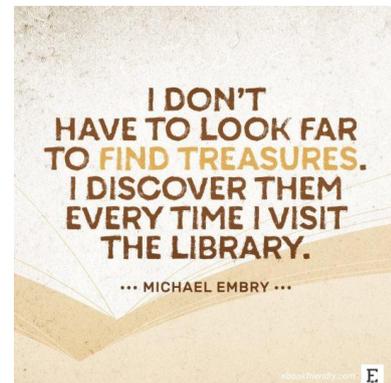
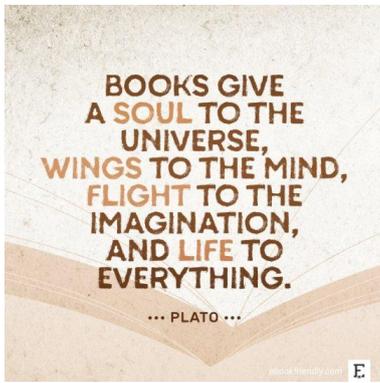
Our new provider has listened closely to our requirements and will be offering options for choice and value for all parents in the Autumn when we do our individual school portraits.

This will include:

- 3-4 photo options per child. The same choice for every child. Plus, Sibling photos of course.
- Mix and match packs, and build your own packs - no need to buy a pack per sibling. Choose what you want with up to 30% discount on standard prices. No waste, no expense for unwanted prints. and great value for those with siblings.
- Digital options with discount for multiples. High resolution with full license to make unlimited prints
- An exclusive great value pack for those wanting multiple prints with no mounts

In addition to this, in order to improve affordability for ALL parents, the school has forfeited their school commission to increase the parent Early bird discount to 20% (instead of the standard 10%) on photos ordered online by the deadline date, making all early orders 20% cheaper for everyone!

Smiles at School have been providing photography for schools and nurseries in the local area for many years - some parents may recognise the name from their children's preschool days - and we're confident they will bring great photographs to Hughsden Primary too!



## Looking after our library

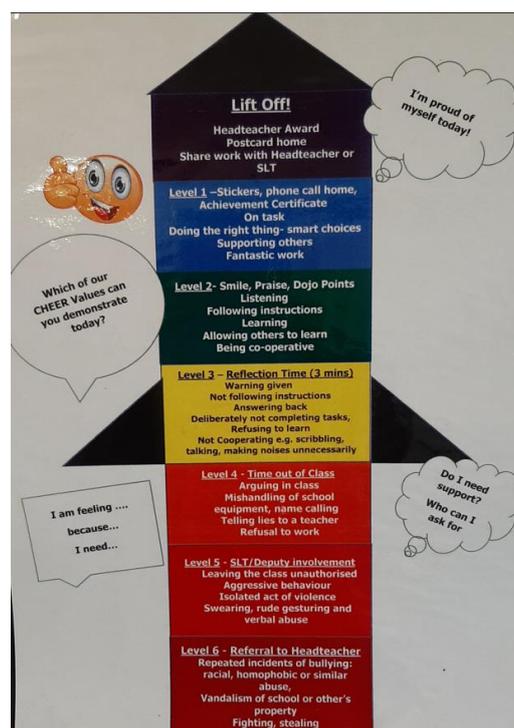
Go into our library at lunchtime and you will find a group of Year 6s busily tidying and taking care of our wonderful stock of books. They have been doing a fantastic job so I'd like to say a big THANK YOU! Our other stock of books, used by children in key stage 1, live in our corridor and were kindly purchased by our wonderful Friends (PTA). They are books especially designed to be easily read by those learning phonics. These ReadWriteInc books are set at different levels and they are taken home in book bags alongside another picture books which can be read together with parents, a 'reading for pleasure book'. We are really pleased and proud that our pupils take home books links closely to their reading level - be that children reading Accelerated Reader books or those with a ReadWriteInc book. We want to keep allowing pupils to take books home however a few are coming back damaged, or not coming back at all. As a school, we cannot afford to replace these damaged book,- especially those which have been bought just this year at great expense by the PTA.

Going forward, we will have to charge parents for books that are damaged or lost. We will charge at cost price.

|                            |    |
|----------------------------|----|
| ReadWriteInc book          | £5 |
| Reading for pleasure books | £7 |
| Accelerated reader books   | £7 |

We understand that accidents happen, water bottles leak etc so, to help with this, we will start to send our ReadWriteInc books home in A5 plastic wallets. Thank you in advance for your support with this.

## Behaviour at Hughenden



## Behaviour at Hughenden

At Hughenden, we believe in positive behaviour management and in pupils celebrating their successes. Our aim is to develop pupils who can reflect on their choices and ultimately start to regulate their own behaviour.

### **The behaviour rocket:**

Each day, pupils start on green and are asked to move their names up to blue for making positive choices. These could be for anything from displaying our values to putting in good effort into their work. Getting to the blue earns them a dojo point!

Moving further up the rocket to purple in the same day requires something even more impressive- maybe they have worked really hard for multiple days in a row or shown lots of enthusiasm with a piece of homework. Getting 'to the purple' earns them two dojo points and a Deputy Head certificate.



For one of those 'WOW!' moments when we are totally blown away, a pupil will move 'out of this world' and shoot off the top of the rocket. To reward such amazingness, pupils will receive 5 dojo points and an illustrious Headteacher's award.



Should a pupil make a negative choice such as not being respectful to their teacher or to other pupils, they will first be given a verbal warning. If the negative behaviour continues they will be asked to move their name down the rocket. Pupils can move back up again that same day. Sanctions for going down the rocket include reflection time in class, talking to a teacher in a different class or going to see the Head teacher. As parents, you will be informed of behaviour that warrants moving to the very bottom of the rocket.

**Dojo points + house points:** Each week, some of our hard-working Year 6s total up the dojo points for each class and convert them into house points. They announce the winning house each week in assembly and colour in our House trees.

**Class certificates:** Our class teachers give out maths certificates and another certificate which could be for any other subject, on a Friday in celebration assembly. This is a chance for the rest of the school to recognise their peers for displaying our values.



## **Accelerated Reader- what is it and how can you use it at home?**

<https://ukhosted102.renlearn.co.uk/6703707>

### **When do pupils start using it?**

At Hughsden, when pupils are in Year 2 and finish the phonics scheme (this could be at any point in Year 2 but generally not before Christmas) they will move onto using Accelerated Reader.

### **What is it?**

At its heart, 'Accelerated Reader' (AR) is simple. A student reads a book, takes an online quiz, and gets immediate feedback. Students respond to regular feedback and are motivated to make progress with their reading skills. Based on these comprehension tests as well as extra ones we do called Star Reader tests, the system generates a number range for the child. They will then go to our school library or their class library and choose a book that is numbered within this range.

Accelerated Reader gives teachers the information they need to monitor students' reading practice and make informed decisions to guide their future learning. AR reports reveal how much a student has been reading, at what level of complexity, and how well they have understood what they have read. Vocabulary growth and literacy skills are also measured, giving teachers insight into how well students have responded to reading schemes

### **What can you do at home?**

Encourage your child to read every day. Read with your child, using voices when you read and asking questions along the way to check their understanding and to show your own interest in the text. Encourage your child to finish books before they move to another- unless they really aren't enjoying it! We want our students to build good reading stamina. You can log them in at home to take the comprehension quizzes when they have finished! Even if the book isn't from school, it is likely to be on the AR system so pupils can still take the quiz. The web address at the top of this page will take you there and your child will have been given their log in details at school. Feel free to message teachers for the login if it has been forgotten.

#### **1. Encourage your child to read**

Reading helps your child's wellbeing, develops imagination and has educational benefits too. Just a few minutes a day can have a big impact on children of all ages.

#### **2. Read aloud regularly**

Try to read to your child every day. It's a special time to snuggle up and enjoy a story. Stories matter and children love re-reading them and poring over the pictures. Try adding funny voices to bring characters to life.

#### **3. Encourage reading choice**

Give children lots of opportunities to read different things in their own time - it doesn't just have to be books. There's fiction, non-fiction, poetry, comics, magazines, recipes and much more. Try leaving interesting reading material in different places around the home and see who picks it up.

#### **4. Read together**

Choose a favourite time to read together as a family and enjoy it. This might be everyone reading the same book together, reading different things at the same time, or getting your children to read to each other. This time spent reading together can be relaxing for all.

## **5. Create a comfortable environment**

Make a calm, comfortable place for your family to relax and read independently - or together.

## **6. Make use of your local library**

Libraries in England are able to open from 4 July, so visit them when you're able to and explore all sorts of reading ideas. Local libraries also offer brilliant online materials, including audiobooks and ebooks to borrow. See [Libraries Connected](#) for more digital library services and resources.

## **7. Talk about books**

This is a great way to make connections, develop understanding and make reading even more enjoyable. Start by discussing the front cover and talking about what it reveals and suggests the book could be about. Then talk about what you've been reading and share ideas. You could discuss something that happened that surprised you, or something new that you found out. You could talk about how the book makes you feel and whether it reminds you of anything.

## **8. Bring reading to life**

You could try cooking a recipe you've read together. Would you recommend it to a friend? Alternatively, play a game where you pretend to be the characters in a book, or discuss an interesting article you've read.

## **9. Make reading active**

Play games that involve making connections between pictures, objects and words, such as reading about an object and finding similar things in your home. You could organise treasure hunts related to what you're reading. Try creating your child's very own book by using photos from your day and adding captions.

## **10. Engage your child in reading in a way that suits them**

You know your child best and you'll know the best times for your child to read. If they have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) then short, creative activities may be the way to get them most interested. If English is an additional language, encourage reading in a child's first language, as well as in English. What matters most is that they enjoy it.



## February & Easter Holidays Gymnastics & Trampoline Camps

During the February Half Term & Easter Holidays we will be running some fun and action-packed gymnastics and trampolining holiday camp days for ages 4 – 11 years, with the option for half or full days.

Please visit our website [www.springbucks.co.uk](http://www.springbucks.co.uk) and click on the Holiday Camp section for more details on how to book in via our website shop.

**VENUES:** Hazlemere Youth Centre, Rose Avenue, HP15 7UB  
Court Garden Leisure Centre, Pound Lane, Marlow, SL7 2AE

**February:** Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> at Hazlemere Youth Centre & Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> Feb at Court Garden

**Easter:** Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> April at Hazlemere Youth Centre and Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> April at Court Garden

**PRICE:** £16.00 for a half day (9am – 12 or 1 – 4pm)  
£35.00 for a full day (9.00am – 4.00pm)

**BOOKINGS ARE FILLING UP FAST SO BOOK IN ASAP TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT!**



## TEACH IN BUCKS RECRUITMENT FAIR

Interested in becoming a teacher?  
We want to meet you!

Saturday 4 February 2023  
11am – 3pm

Buckinghamshire New University | High Wycombe Campus

### Event Programme

Featuring presentations from a number of organisations including the Department for Education, Now Teach and several of the county's school and university based Initial Teacher Training providers:

|        |   |
|--------|---|
| 11am   | Get into Teaching - presented by a representative from the Department for Education   |
| 12pm   | How to Apply - applications, qualifications & compliance  |
| 1pm    | Sessions covering: Early Years Teacher Training Programme / Primary Teacher Training Programme / Secondary Teacher Training Programme |
| 1.30pm | Get into Teaching - presented by a representative from the Department for Education   |
| 2pm    | Changing Careers into Teaching  |
| 2.30pm | An introduction into qualified routes into teaching: The Apprenticeship Route / The Assessment Only Route / University Routes         |

Register for a **FREE** ticket:  
[Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com)



If you have any queries about the event, please email [teachinbucks@bucks.gov.uk](mailto:teachinbucks@bucks.gov.uk)



**Premier Sport – February Holiday Camp** – details can be found by following the link below:

<http://www.premier-education.com/holiday-camps>

**PREMIER HOLIDAY CAMPS**

INSPIRING ACTIVITY

SCAN HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION  
or visit [premier-education.com/holiday-camps](http://www.premier-education.com/holiday-camps)

Trustpilot  
Based on over 15,000 reviews

**YOUR NEAREST HOLIDAY CAMP**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>MANOR FARM UNR,</b><br>HP15 7PH<br>Mon 13th & Tue 14th    | Time: 9am - 1pm or 3:30pm<br>Cost: £17.00 or £24.00 a day |
| <b>CEDAR PARK SCHOOL,</b><br>HP15 7EF<br>Wed 15th - Fri 17th | Ages: 4* to 11 year olds                                  |

Additional info: Half day option is suitable for children aged 4, as per our ofsted guidelines. "Extra-time" is available too, and an additional option for a full day booking, 8:30am - 4pm

Mix it up this half-term with our multi-activity holiday camps!  
These camps are a perfect blend of activities for all ages, combining different sports with a variety of team games.  
Every day is different, with a mix of fun activities that children may not have tried before - from orienteering to tennis and flag-football to chess.

**PLEASE BRING**  
Appetised lunch  
Plenty of water  
Suitable clothing  
Loads of energy!

# Supporting Together – Environment, Parents, Schools

## STEPS

The Mental Health Support Team (MHST) would like to offer parents an opportunity to join them on a short workshop presentation in

### Overcoming Childhood Anxiety

The workshop will help you as parents understand when anxiety might be a problem (as opposed to a 'normal' developmental phase) and describes different anxiety issues. It is also an opportunity to learn brief key treatment strategies and understand the important role you play as parents in supporting your children and young people that may be struggling with anxiety.

There are various sessions planned to take place on:

**Monday 20/2/23 – 18:00-19:30 – Virtual via Teams**

**Wednesday 1/3/23 – 13:00-14:30 – Virtual via Teams**

**Friday 10/3/23 – 09:30-11:00 – Virtual via Teams**

If you are interested in attending either of these event's, please click on the link below or scan the QR code to complete a short form of interest. Further details and links will then be sent out closer the time.



<https://forms.office.com/e/uTyjnsmkxr>



List below are links to some resources regarding Children's Mental Health Week and Time To Talk Day in February. In particular, there are some fun ideas for mental health activities for children.

Children's Mental Health Week 2023 will take place from 6-12 February 2023. This year's theme is Let's Connect. Time to Talk Day 2023 will take place 2 February 2023.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/teach/childrens-mental-health-week/zk37bdm>  
<https://www.elsa-support.co.uk/childrens-mental-health-week-2023-lets-connect/>  
<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/professional/resources/beano-resilience-lesson-plans/>  
<https://schoolofkindness.org/childrens-mental-health-week-2023>  
<https://timetotalkday.co.uk/download-a-pack/>

### SPRING TERM 2023 DIARY DATES

|  |  |
|--|--|
| 07/07/2023                                     | INSET days 22/23 academic year   |
| 3rd February 2023                              | KS2 Cross Country Festival @ The Misbourne   |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> -3 <sup>rd</sup> February 2023 | Woodrow Residential – Year 5 (collect from Woodrow)  |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> February 2023                  | Numbers Day – all children to come wearing a number  |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> February 2023                  | Young Voices Concert @ Wembley Arena<br>Year 5 Energise 1 <sup>st</sup> Rehearsal @ Town Hall  |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> February 2023                  | PTA Class Discos – for further information see Classlist                                       |
| w/c 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2023             | Half Term  |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> February 2023                 | Year 1 trip to Windsor Castle – more information to follow                                     |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> February 2023                 | Parents Evening – 3pm to 7pm – book on eSchools  |
| 27 <sup>th</sup> February 2023                 | Parents Evening – 3pm to 5.30pm – book on eSchools   |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> March 2023                     | Secondary Offer Day  |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> March 2023                     | World Book Day   |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> March 2023                     | Year 5 Energise 2 <sup>nd</sup> Rehearsal @ Town Hall  |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> March 2023                    | Year 5 Tag Rugby Festival @ The Misbourne – details to follow                                  |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> March 2023                    | Energise dress rehearsal 9.30am @ Wycombe Swan<br>Energise performance Year 5 @ Wycombe Swan – |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| 25 <sup>th</sup> March 2023                              | Energise matinee performance Year 5 @ Wycombe Swan           |
| 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2023                              | Last day of Spring Term – 1.30pm finish                      |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2023 – 14 <sup>th</sup> April 2023 | Easter Holidays  |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> April 2023                              | National Primary Allocation Day                              |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> May 2023                                 | Coronation Music Concert to whole school and parents, 2.30pm |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> May 2023                                 | Bank Holiday   |
| 9 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> May 2023              | KS2 SATS   |
| w/c 29 <sup>th</sup> May 2023                            | Half Term  |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup> June 2023            | Year 6 Residential to Kingswood – Isle of Wight              |
| w/c 26 <sup>th</sup> June 2023                           | Travelling Book Fair   |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> July 2023                                | Year 6 Games @ Misbourne – details to follow                 |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> July 2023                               | EYFS Multi Skills @ Misbourne – details to follow            |
| 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2023                               | Last day of Summer Term – 1.30pm finish                      |