



# Hughenden Primary School

Working together, Empowering Lives, Enriching Minds

Newsletter – December 2020

## SCHOOL NEWS



Dear Parents / Carers,

It is hard to believe it is already December and we are beginning the countdown to Christmas! The children continue to smile and continue to enjoy a varied curriculum and wider opportunities particularly the PTA organised disco last Friday (thank you to them for organising this.) Thank you to all of our parents who came to the 'virtual' parents' evenings. These were very well attended. On the whole the technology worked well and positive feedback was received. If there are any queries arising from the discussions, please do speak initially with the class teachers.

We have a few parents who have a permit to park in the disabled bays outside the front of the school. These must be displayed in the front of your car. If you do not have one of these permits, you should not be parking in these bays – that includes dropping off at Hoppers. We believe there are only 2 families with a permit – if you need one, and have a valid reason for requesting one, please contact the office.

Going forward we are happy for the turning circle to be used to 'drop and go' which will help to relieve pressure on the local roads but you must only allow your child out of the car when you are at the front of the queue and they need to be able to walk themselves through the gate so that you can drive straight off.

A polite reminder that **all parents should wear masks when coming onto the school site.**

Unfortunately, we can only accept birthday sweets and chocolates if they are individually wrapped into small bags and have been quarantined for 72 hours before distribution. They can be distributed at home time outside by the birthday child.

Please do drop me an email via the office if there is anything important I need to be aware of.

Kind regards,  
Miss J E Garlick  
Interim Headteacher

### **Christmas Around the World**

Following the announcement yesterday that Buckinghamshire is now in Tier 2 for the foreseeable future, and in order to comply with the strict COVID guidelines, we have taken the difficult decision to film the Year 1 & Year 2 Christmas Assembly in their class bubbles rather than inviting parents into school for the shared performance. The filming will take place on Tuesday morning. We are sorry we can't perform face to face and understand you will be disappointed to hear this but we have a duty of care to keep everyone safe and to adhere to the latest guidance.

We would like all children to come to school in smart clothes on Tuesday rather than their school uniform to give a bit of a 'wow factor' to the video! Party clothes / shirt / bow ties / tinsel are all accepted!

We have sent a text out this morning, asking permission for your child to be filmed. Please note, this will be shared through a YouTube private link to just your class, and we ask that you do not share it outside of your family. If your child does not have permission to be filmed, they will speak their line off screen and join in with the songs, but not be shown on the film.

As per our eSchool email yesterday, regarding the change to the PE days, please note the following:

Year 2 PE Monday as normal - wear PE kit to school

Year 1 PE cancelled, no longer on Tuesday - please wear sturdy footwear to school as we are filming in the morning and Year 1 are going on a local walk in the afternoon.

Many thanks for your understanding and support.

Kind regards

Mrs Churchman and Mrs Wainwright

### **Christmas Jumper Day**

In support of Save the Children, Christmas Jumper Day which is taking place on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2020 is a perfect way to raise funds and help disadvantaged children across the world. Please show your support by bringing in £1 and handing to your class teacher who will collect their class contributions.

As Year 6 have their Vikings Day in school on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December, they can wear their Christmas jumper on Thursday instead to coincide with the Christmas lunch. Please can they still bring in their £1 donation towards Save the Children.

### **Christmas Post Box**

The Christmas Post Box will be in the front office from today. We have 2 post boxes and will swap them over to enable us to quarantine cards for 72 hours before delivery into classes. One class will do the sorting for the whole school, wearing gloves, so please ensure each envelope is marked with the full name and year group so it reaches the right person.

### **Rotary Jingle Bell Jog**

The Rotary Clubs of Oxford Spire and Abingdon are combining forces to have a bit of fun and put smiles on people's faces.

It is only £10 per entry and goes to the wonderful "OK" Our Kids. The money will go towards printing our AWESOME "Watch Out" books and "Mistakes and Ladders" board game.

100% of the money raised will go towards printing our products and in turn, empowering young children.

Register for the Rotary Jingle Bell Jog here: <https://tinyurl.com/rotaryjinglebelljog>

### **SchoolGrid accounts and Christmas Lunch**

From Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December, we would like all parents to pre-order their children's hot lunches from home instead of ordering in the classroom. This is to ensure pupils order food they actually like to eat and to ensure parents are fully involved of the ordering for allergy or dietary preference reasons. If you are unable to do this, please call the school office to discuss further. Thank you for your support with this. Our preference is for all pupils in KS1 to order a school lunch as this is funded from the government but if for particular reasons you prefer to make a packed lunch, that is also fine on the understanding that there will not be any spare lunch if the lunchbox is forgotten!

Please can parents in KS2 check their account balances and ensure there are funds available to cover all meals ordered and taken – thank you.

This year's Christmas Lunch is taking place on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2020 – please order in the usual way using your Schoolgrid account. If your child is in KS2, please ensure there are funds on the account to cover the cost. Meals are charged at £2.40 each. We are happy for children to wear their Christmas jumpers to school for this if they wish to, especially Year 6 as they have their Vikings Day taking place in school on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December and would otherwise miss taking part in Christmas Jumper Day.

### **Buckinghamshire Family Learning**

We have uploaded information on Family Learning workshops taking place in December and January to our school website. Please go to Community/Buckinghamshire Family Learning for more information. For any parents who may be struggling to find a job, their other departments at Adult Learning provide courses (many which are free) which can be found on <https://www.adultlearningbc.ac.uk/>

### **School Tour for Prospective Parents**

Due to the current restrictions, we are unable to hold our Open Days in school this year following advice from the Council. Applications for school places open in November 2020 and close in January 2021.

We are, however, pleased to share our new promotional school tour video with you all – please feel free to share this appropriately and direct any queries to the school office. To view, please follow this link: <https://youtu.be/jPiQGoCz-Ec>

### **Internet Code of Practice**

We still have a large number of Internet Code of Practice forms that were handed out to all KS2 children which have yet to be handed back in at school. Could all parents check that they have completed their child's form and the children can give them to their teachers and the office can then update their records.

### **One Can Trust**

Thank you to you all for your support with our food collections, your support has been overwhelming. We have planned a collection each half term. The next collection dates are: 26<sup>th</sup> January 2021, 16<sup>th</sup> March 2021, 12<sup>th</sup> May 2021, 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2021.

### **Snacks**

Please can we ask that if you are bringing in grapes for your child's snack that you cut them into halves to reduce a potential choking hazard – thank you.

### **Belongings and the School Office**

Please ensure your child brings everything with them to school in the mornings. Due to Covid restrictions, the school staff should not be carrying items to your child's classrooms that are brought in late. Also, please do not enter the school building in the morning or at the end of the school day. We are working really hard to keep our staff and pupils safe and to avoid cross-contamination wherever possible. If you have something to hand in, please give it to your child. If you have a message, please email or telephone the office. Alternatively, you can also message your child's class teacher through ESchools.

## School Travel Plan Update

As a whole school community, we have been working very hard in promoting sustainable travel. School has achieved Gold Accreditation for the last three years, something we are very proud of and are continuing to work on. Our School Travel Plan Policy is available for you to view on the school's website.

With many people having enjoyed more walking and cycling this year, and families being asked to consider whether they can walk or cycle to and from school, now is a great time to bring road safety to life for the whole school community. Walking, cycling or scooting to school is the best way to reduce congestion and pollution, while improving the mental and physical wellbeing of pupils. These benefits are more important now than ever. That's why we would like to encourage everyone who can, to 'Get Active' on their journey to and from school. We would like to encourage families that have to travel by car to park at least five minutes away from school and use our School Crossing Patroller. By encouraging park and stride we reduce the number of cars manoeuvring and parking close to the school, creating a safer space for walking, cycling or scooting. Reducing vehicles and creating more space around school will also make it much easier for families to socially distance and feel safer.

If you are travelling by car, we ask you to park respectfully in the neighbouring roads, park further afield. The area outside our school is busy in the morning and at the end of the school day. Some drivers park irresponsibly, potentially placing children in danger. Please help create a 5-minute protective **Walking Bubble** around our school so that everyone can travel safely and actively.



**Transports for Bucks** have developed a winter driving online e-learning module, which is a great refresher for drivers that would like advice on driving in winter weather. This module and our others on speed management and older drivers can be viewed at: [www.buckinghamshire.edrivingolutions.com/ModuleList.aspx](http://www.buckinghamshire.edrivingolutions.com/ModuleList.aspx)

We have recently been made aware of parents parking inconsiderately in certain areas within the school vicinity. Whilst this isn't under the school jurisdiction, we do ask you all to park and walk using the crossing patroller to relieve pressure on the local side roads. This not only ensures the safety of all our families and children but is also showing consideration to our school neighbours. Thank you.

## Reminder of new Collection Times

We are revising the end of day collection times to the following with effect from Monday 9th November 2020. Here is a reminder of the times.

Hoppers: 3pm	Foundation: 3pm	Year 1: 3.10pm	Year 2: 3.10pm
Year 3: 3.20pm	Year 4: 3.20pm	Year 5: 3.30pm	Year 6: 3.30pm

Younger siblings will now leave with the older sibling and the younger sibling will be kept in class with a member of staff until their allocated leaving time. Each class will be issued with an updated list of children who have siblings and the times will be adjusted accordingly. Thank you for your support, please contact the school office if you have any queries.

### **School Uniform Updates**

We hope you have seen the updates sent via E-schools with regards to returning to school uniform from the 9<sup>th</sup> November 2020 and we are very pleased that the majority of our pupils are now in uniform. We would like to reiterate that there is a degree of flexibility this half term to allow parents time to prepare for the return to uniform so please don't worry if the whole uniform cannot yet be worn. If you have recently purchased other clothes these can be worn until Christmas after which time we **would expect all pupils to be back in full uniform and shoes for the Spring term**. Just to clarify:

- On PE days they may wear their PE kit and trainers for the whole day. PE kits should be taken home weekly to be washed please.
- Pupils will need a warm coat and to wear their school cardigan / jumper as the windows and doors remain open in school for additional ventilation and it is getting colder.
- Pupils in EYFS / Foundation can continue to wear jogging bottoms this half term due to the amount of time they are spending outdoors and it's fine to wear trainers, not shoes.
- PE kits can be replaced with the school PE kit when your child has outgrown their current kit.
- Please ensure your child has wellies in school so they can go on the school field at lunchtime.

For a full list of our uniform please visit our website and go to the 'Uniform' tab for all the information. PLEASE NAME EVERYTHING TO ENSURE LOST ITEMS CAN BE RETURNED PROMPTLY – THANK YOU

### **Attendance Email address**

Our new email address for attendance is working well, however, we note that some parents are still using the office account. In order for your child's attendance to be recorded and responded to accurately, it is essential that you send all attendance emails directly to [attendance@hughendenprimary.co.uk](mailto:attendance@hughendenprimary.co.uk)  
We still have the school message service available as a useful back up.

### **Getting a Covid Test**

If you need to book a Covid 19 test, please follow this link:

<https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

Please keep us informed and forward your results for our records as soon as they become available.

### AUTUMN TERM 2020

Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> December 2020	Filming of Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas Around the World – this event is being filmed instead of playing to an audience – see details above
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> December 2020	Christmas Lunch – pre-order via Schoolgrid  All children can wear their Christmas Jumpers, normal uniform on the bottom half!
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> December 2020	Christmas Jumper Day – Save the Children  All children can wear their Christmas Jumpers, normal uniform on the bottom half!
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> December 2020	History off the Page – Year 6 in school activity
18 <sup>th</sup> December 2020	Last day of term – <b>all children finish at 1.30pm</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup> February 2021	Tempest photos – Individual only, currently no non-school siblings or family photos
26 <sup>th</sup> January 2021, 16 <sup>th</sup> March 2021, 12 <sup>th</sup> May 2021, 22 <sup>nd</sup> June 2021	One Can Trust food collections