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No: 9

School Newsletter

May 2017

Special Event- Open Afternoon

We are finally at the end of our build and would love to give you all the opportunity to come and see the school once everything is back to normal and looking lovely! Therefore, on Friday 26th May you are invited to collect your child from school from 2:30pm so that you can go on a tour of the school and look at some of the amazing work our pupils have been up to. Understandably, not all parents will be able to attend so please be assured that all pupils not collected early will be kept in school until 3:30pm and Pippins will run as normal. We want to thank you so much for your continued support during the disruption of the building work and hope you will enjoy seeing the lovely new school that has emerged.

Music at Freegrounds Junior School

Just before the Easter holiday we invited children from local schools to join our pupils in an orchestra workshop and concert to celebrate the Chairman's Year of Music through Hampshire Music Service. It was a wonderful event in which over forty pupils from Wildern and our local primary schools gathered at Freegrounds to celebrate and enjoy making music together. The orchestra was conducted by Mr Cranston, father of James in Year 3 and member of Hampshire Music Service, who had written the music especially for the afternoon. Special thanks to Mr Cranston and everyone who made the afternoon possible. This is definitely something we want to repeat!

If your child is interested in learning a musical instrument next year we are extending the range of instruments on offer. Through Hampshire Music Service we are continuing to offer pupils the opportunity to learn the guitar, keyboard or violin. As second 'front teeth' are needed before starting to learn brass instruments, pupils in Year 4 onwards are invited to learn to play a brass instrument. In addition, next year we are offering pupils the opportunity to learn to play the flute or clarinet.

If you are interested in finding out more about learning a musical instrument please contact the school office.



Hampshire Music Service offers a wide range of quality student-level instruments for hire for only £20 to £30 per term.

Look on their web site for more details or ask at school.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/>

Dinners

HC3S have issued a new menu. Please have a look on our website as there are a lot of changes and children are trying to order dinners that are currently unavailable.

Our preferred payment method for dinner money and trips is Tucasi, where payments can be made securely by credit/debit card via the Tucasi website. Alternatively, payment can be made by cheque (cheques made payable to H.C.C.) or cash.

We are unable to provide any child with a dinner unless they are paid for on or before the Monday of the week that they require a lunch, dinners cannot be paid for on the day. Dinners can be paid for in advance weekly, monthly or termly at the cost of £2.15 per meal. If your preferred method of payment is cash or cheque it should be placed in a clearly named envelope stating your child's name and class on the front. Your **child** should place their dinner money envelope into the correspondence tray in the classroom. As per our Charging and Remissions Policy a dinner money debt should **not** exceed £10.00 or more.

Hampshire County Council Catering Services (HC3S) has launched a new online service so parents can check their eligibility for free school meals themselves.

This self service option is available at <http://www3.hants.gov.uk/hc3s/freeschoolmeals>.

Please note that the criteria for free school meals is the same, regardless of method of checking eligibility, but for the online service, all you need to do is enter your name, national insurance number or asylum number, your address and your child's details. Press 'submit' and you will find out if you are eligible.

If your result comes back 'found', this means your child is eligible for free school meals and the system automatically tells the school.

For more information, check out the web address above, or phone
Sue Martin on 023 8062 7738.

Freegrounds do the double!

Freegrounds will be sending two more teams to the Hampshire School Games after they pulled off fantastic wins in the cluster Tri Golf Competitions. Our Year 5/6 started the ball rolling with a win in their age group event, finishing seven points ahead of second placed Botley in a field of eight. Our Year 4 team followed up with a win in their age group the following week, also in a field of eight teams. With both teams spurred on by great support from each other and parents, they were a joy to watch and thoroughly deserved their victories. Well done Golfers!



Year 4

On Wednesday, 26th April, Year 4 started their new topic 'More Invaders' by dressing up as Anglo Saxons for the day. The children arrived in fantastic costumes ready for the day's activities. Children got to weave wool onto a cardboard frame to create their own colourful pattern. Next the children designed their own illuminated letter using their initials. Illuminations were letters that enhanced the start of a piece of writing. The children used paint, pastel or pencil to create their illumination.

Finally the children wrote their own Kenning. Kennings are a type of riddle in a form of a poem using two words to create an imaginative description. Anglo Saxons wrote these types of poems, the most famous being Beowulf.

Fish eater
Tree watcher
Fast acting
Air swooper
Small creature
Rainbow colours
What am

By Gracie Stanley-Ridoutt



Attendance

Well done, to all **211** pupils who received their 100% attendance certificates for the first half of the summer term. Each of you will receive your certificate in Year Group Collective Worship.

Term time holidays and unauthorised absences

I am sure you are aware from the media that the Supreme Court has now delivered its judgement in relation to term time absence and has unanimously agreed that no child should be taken out of school without good reason.

We are currently working with Hampshire County Council and our local cluster of schools to discuss the implications for the issuing of penalty notices for absences taken during this interim time. However, the local authority is very clear that fixed penalty notices are to be issued from this point onwards in line with the Hampshire Code of Conduct. Full details are available in the Attendance Policy on our website. If you wish to have further clarity, please contact the school office to speak to a member of staff.

Playground before and after school

Hampshire County Council has asked all schools to clarify with parents about playground supervision and use before as well as after school. Our playground is supervised by at least one member of staff from 8.45am onwards. Children cannot arrive prior to this time as the playground is unattended by a staff member. Children are allowed to drift into their classrooms from 8.45am where they will be supervised. The day starts at 8.55am and children are expected to be on the playground walking in to school or already in their class by this time.

The gate is opened at 3.25pm ready for parents to arrive to collect children. The playground is unsupervised at this time and any children on the playground are the responsibility of their parent/carer. Younger children should be waiting with their parent/carer and not on scooters or bikes. They should **NOT** be playing in the wooded areas or at the top end of the playground near the school building / entrance.

Teachers bring the children to the playground at 3.30pm for collection. The playground is unsupervised after this time.

After School Clubs

This term we are pleased to be offering a wide variety of clubs for our children to attend after school. Currently, we have over 100 children attending a club. To give every child an opportunity to join a club, each half term is organised in 5 week blocks and pupils will be allocated places for one half term block. This half term the clubs run until the half term break on Friday 26th May.

To fund resources for these clubs and to support school fund raising, this year towards a play trail for the children, we are asking parents for a £1 donation for each session attended. Payments should be made through Tucasi.



DIARY DATES

Monday, 15th May - Year 5 Bikeability training starts for two weeks

Wednesday, 17th May - Class photos

Friday, 26th May - Open afternoon from 2.30pm

Saturday, 27th May to Sunday, 4th June - Half-term Holiday

Monday, 5th June - Year 5 swimming starts for six weeks

Thursday, 8th June - Year 4 Trip to the New Forest

Wednesday, 14th June - 1.00-3.00pm-Father's Day shopping event

Thursday, 15th June - Year 3 Open Box theatre in school

Thursday, 15th June - 1.00-3.00pm-Father's Day shopping event

Friday, 16th June - Year 5 Trip to Fairthorne Manor

Wednesday, 21st June - 2.00-3.00pm-School Production

Thursday, 22nd June - 6.30-7.30pm-School Production

Friday, 23rd June - Year 2/3 Sports Day

Wednesday, 28th June - Transition Day

Thursday, 29th June - Hampshire School Games (letter to follow)

Friday, 30th June - Monday, 3rd July - Year 6 residential weekend to the Isle of Wight

Thursday, 20th July - 2.30pm - Year 6 Leavers assembly

Thursday, 20th July - 3.30-5.30pm - Year 6 Leavers Party

Wednesday, 26th July to Sunday, 3rd September - Summer Holidays

The school website www.freegrounds-jun.hants.sch.uk

has a link to the calendar on the front page



Pippins out of school club

For all bookings and enquiries please call Michelle Brightwell on 07926433130
or email at m.brightwell@freegrounds-jun.hants.sch.uk

Registration and Booking forms are also available on the Freegrounds Junior School website
under the Pippins tab. www.freegrounds-jun.hants.sch.uk

**Please can you make sure that your child has a water bottle in school EVERY DAY.
Filled only with water.**

