



# Hugo Meynell School Newsletter

## 'Aiming High; Supporting Dreams'

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2020

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### Welcome Back

Welcome back and a very warm welcome to the new children and their families who have joined us this year. It is so lovely to have everyone in school and to be writing this newsletter. We are all immensely proud of the children - they have been amazing and have adapted to the new routines brilliantly. Thank you all for your patience and understanding, it has really helped us to start the new academic year in a safe, welcoming and calm way.

### Uniform

Thank you to everyone for ensuring your child is wearing the correct school uniform and looking so smart. Please help us to return belongings to you by ensuring **that every item of clothing is named inside as well as lunch boxes (named on the outside please)**. Every year, we have a large amount of uniform / lost property which we cannot return to its rightful owner because often it is unnamed. Please could we also ask that you send your child to school with **a coat every day** due to the changeable weather. Children should only wear **plain gold or silver** stud earrings to school. **However, on the days that your child has PE, we would ask that earrings are not worn.** Children may wear watches but not bracelets or bangles please. **Make up of any kind is not allowed and nail varnish should not be worn in school.**

### PE Kit

We expect children to wear our school kit when participating in PE lessons and children should wear their PE kit to school on the day that their class has PE. All children from Reception to Year 6 are in a house team. Coloured PE T-shirts that identify which house your child is in are to be purchased from Smart Uniform. Please contact school if you are unsure of what coloured T-shirt your child needs. Siblings will all be in the same house.

### Water Bottles

Please ensure that your child brings their own filled water bottle to school each day and takes it home to be washed at the end of the day.

### School Meals

Children can currently order a packed lunch from the kitchen and a copy of the menu is attached to the newsletter. The cost of a school meal is **£2.15** per day; payment should be made on ParentPay in advance either on a Monday, daily or for the whole term. Children in Reception, Year 1 and 2 are entitled to a Universal Free School Meal.

If your child has a packed lunch from home, please ensure they bring their own cutlery should they have a yoghurt or pasta pot etc. **Please be reminded that all lunch boxes and water bottles should be washed every night.**

### Admission to High School – September 2021

The application process for admission to high school (Year 7) has now opened. The closing date is **31<sup>st</sup> October**. A letter with further details has been sent home this week with those children who reside in Staffordshire. Children who reside outside Staffordshire will need to request an application pack directly from their home Local Authority. Full information is available at: [www.staffordshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/admissions)

### Little Owls



If you wish to contact Little Owls directly please email [littleowls@hugomeynell.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:littleowls@hugomeynell.staffs.sch.uk). Please note you can now also contact Little Owls by dialling the main school telephone number and selecting option 3. There is an answer phone when they are not there. Little Owls will no longer be using their mobile number.

The activities next week are:

**Monday** – Split Pin Knight    **Tuesday** – Frog Hoppers    **Wednesday** – Split Pin Pets  
**Thursday** – Pirate Cones    **Friday** – Pirate Hats

## Star of the Week!

**Congratulations to this week's winners!**

**Year 1**      Evalyn Renton & Joshua Smyth  
**Year 2**      Oliva Ashenden & Darcey Tonge  
**Year 3**      Ryan Hallam & Isla Cameron

**Year 4**      Corben Baker & Isla Gradwell  
**Year 5**      Hugh Lightfoot & Laicie-Jo Williams  
**Year 6**      Finley Small & Grace Owen

### Community

#### Loggerheads Community News

<http://www.loggerheadsparishcouncil.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Final-CN-Sept-2020.pdf>

The September edition of Loggerheads Community News is now available to view by clicking on the link above. In this edition read about the proposed memorial area in Loggerheads; an update on the Eccleshall Road planning application and the Burntwood project and an obituary for Tony McCullagh.

## Messages from Mrs Gleave

**The first full week back has flown by. The children have settled in well to their new classroom surroundings and our additional routines are becoming more familiar. Thank you for your support with respecting our new procedures at the start and end of the day. Adults maintaining a social distance around the site is an important part of our risk assessments in keeping the site safe. Please ensure that when dropping or picking up your children that you are social distancing from other parents on site. Thank you for your continued support with this. It is through working together that we can keep our families as safe as possible on the school grounds.**

### Nursery

The children in Nursery are really settling well, as they get used to our routines. This week, they have been super engaged with the trains and train track. As well as creating some amazing tracks with tunnels and bridges, they have really impressed us with their turn taking and sharing. We have been busy exploring our outdoor area too, especially the water play with funnels and pipes. We cannot wait to see where our imagination will take us next week!

### Reception

Wow! Have we only been in Reception for 8 days? The children have settled so well and have been super busy. This week, we received a parcel with a dragon's egg inside and a letter from mummy dragon asking us to look after her egg. We have made it a soft warm nest, read it stories and we keep checking if it has hatched every day. Some of the children chose to draw pictures of what they thought the mummy dragon looked like using chalk outside and others helped to paint a huge dragon using corks and dabbers. They have also built a shelter for mummy dragon in case she comes to visit. If you have not been on Tapestry yet, please sign in to have a look as there are lots of photographs on there already. I wonder what next week will bring....

### Year 1

Year 1 have made a brilliant start to the term. On Wednesday, the class received a fragile parcel and discovered three unusual eggs hidden inside. As a result, they made predictions about what might be inside the eggs. Their fantastic predictions led us to read and respond to the story 'Tell Me a Dragon'. As scientists, Year 1 sorted living and non-living things into groups and labelled lots of living things in the Year 1 garden. In Maths, they sorted objects in different ways and developed their number formation skills. We are very proud of how well the children have listened to the importance of being healthy and hygienic. It is clear to see that they love doing their daily Jumpstart Johnny sessions and fully embraced their first PE session with Bee Active. Throughout the week, Year 1 have discussed their own emotions and have started to discover different things that can make them feel calmer and happier. All children have enjoyed showing off their reading skills and are looking forward to taking a phonetically decodable book home on Monday. What a super start to Year 1!

### Year 2

Year 2 have come back to school raring to go again! We have been very impressed with the way they are all following the new rules and with how kind and welcoming they have been to their new classmates. They have been excited and surprised by the discovery of three dragon eggs that they have been instructed to keep away from mice! This has prompted lots of questions as well as some writing using adjectives to describe them. The children have delighted in their new story of 'George and the Dragon'; they have made predictions about the story and identified the nouns and adjectives in the story. In Maths, they have been investigating tens and ones and counting and ordering numbers to 50. The children have been learning about the continents of the world in Geography and have learnt a song to help them remember them all; they have also been talking about where they live in the world and places they have visited. Year 2 had a short visit to the Computing suite where they spent some time remembering how to log on and enter passwords ready to start coding next week.

### Year 3

Year 3 have had a great first week back. They have discussed what rules we will have in place for the classroom and talked about goals they wish to set for themselves this year.

At the start of the week, they had a small brown box delivered with 'Caution! DO NOT OPEN!' written on the top. After many discussions about what could be in the box, they opened it on Tuesday to find an egg! They have thought about what it might be and written a description of the egg and we are waiting with baited breath to find out what it is. In Maths, they have started to explore numbers to a thousand and have used partitioning to solve problems.

### Year 4

How lovely to be back and settled here in Year 4. We have had a fantastic week getting back into a routine of 'learning' and really worked hard. In English this week we have been focusing on expanded nouns phrases and linked these to describing dragon eggs from our new story 'Tell me a Dragon'. We have been learning about place value in Maths and developed further understanding of 100s, 10s and 1s. We have started to look at our Topic this week 'Our World - Biomes' and have learnt about latitude and how this affects our weather and climate where we live. We have also discussed the different climate zones and how this affects our world and how this is impacted by the sun.

### Year 5

What a great week we've had in Year 5! All of the children have settled quickly and are getting used to the new routines. It is great to see them all so eager to learn and enjoying themselves back with their classmates. In class, we have been using the story book 'Tell me a Dragon' to do lots of work including creating our own dragon worlds and poems linked to feelings. The children have been playing lots of maths games this week to reinforce past learning. This has included times tables, place value, rounding and telling the time. For our PE lesson this week, the children have continued to learn and play a wide range of playground games that they can then use at break and lunch times - which they have really enjoyed. We have also started to recap British history on a timeline and placed the Victorians within it. Miss Wright has also enjoyed teaching them French this week, where they are learning 'All About Me'.

### Year 6

The children have settled back into Year 6 really well and are taking to the new routines very quickly. It has been lovely to see them all back learning and playing together. They have had so much fun learning how to play lots of socially distanced playground games and practised some really useful mindfulness techniques. In Maths, we have tackled place value to numbers to 10 million with enthusiasm and in English, we have started to explore our whole school text, 'Tell Me A Dragon', by Jackie Morris. Firstly, we drew and described our favourite dragons from the story, and we have moved on to drawing our own dragon land setting, so that we can use figurative language to describe them next week. We have begun our World War Two topic by creating Blitz paintings and learning about spiffires, ready to make a model next week.

Until next week,  
Mrs Gleave



**Autumn Term 2020 Diary Dates – Parent Copy**  
**(Updates in Red)**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
<b>September</b>	
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Piano lessons commence
<b>October</b>	
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	School Closes for half-term
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Inset Day
<b>November</b>	
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	School re-opens for the second half of the Autumn Term
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Flu Immunisations
<b>December</b>	
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup>	School closes for Christmas
<b>January</b>	
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Inset Day
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	School re-opens for the first half of the Spring Term