



Hugo Meynell School Newsletter

'Aiming High; Supporting Dreams'

Thursday 22nd October 2020

Telephone: 01630 67 22 87

www.hugomeynell.co.uk

Email: office@hugomeynell.staffs.sch.uk

littleowls@hugomeynell.staffs.sch.uk

School Menu for w/c Monday 2nd November is 'Week 3'

Attendance and Lates



School Target 2020/2021:	97%
Attendance This Week	97.71%
Attendance Year to date:	98.10%
Lates:	0



Diwali Workshop

We are excited to report that on **Thursday 5th November** we will be welcoming a West End choreographer into school to lead a series of socially-distanced Diwali Dance Workshops with Years 1-6. We will be exploring the Hindu epic story of the Ramayana and retelling the story through dance. We ask that children in Years 1-6 wear their PE kits to school on that day.



Firework Menu

AiP will be serving a special firework themed menu on **Thursday 5th November**. This will replace the published menu on that day and is available to all pupils in school. If your child would like to have the themed lunch, please ask them to order it on the day during morning registration. The menu will include a choice of hot dog or beef burger (vegetarian options will also be available), chips, beans or sweetcorn along with chocolate iced sponge and custard for dessert. The menu costs £2.15 per child except for children in Reception and KS1 and those in receipt of free school meals.

Admission to High School

Please may we remind all of our Year 6 parents that the closing date for secondary school applications is **31st October**. Please ensure that you have made an application before this date.

Childhood Flu Vaccination Programme

The school immunisation team will be in school on **Tuesday 10th November** to administer flu vaccinations to all children from Reception up to Year 6. A consent form needs to be completed electronically before 8th November and a link to access this will be emailed to parents.

ParentPay Fees

We would like to remind parents that **ParentPay fees** should be **cleared weekly** for any sessions used in Little Owls and Nursery unless you pay by tax free childcare vouchers when we will take payment monthly.

Admission to School – Reception Class 2021

The application process for admission to our Reception Class in September 2021 will open on **1st November 2020** and applications should be made directly to Staffordshire County Council before **15th January 2021**. If you live outside Staffordshire, please apply directly to your local authority. Your child is eligible to apply for a place in our reception class if they turn 4 years old before 1st September 2021. Full information is available at: www.staffordshire.gov.uk/admissions.

Half Term Holiday

A reminder that we break up for half term today as we have an inset day in school tomorrow. Thank you for your continued support this half term and we hope that you all have an enjoyable break. If you are going abroad during the break, please adhere to government guidelines particularly with regard to quarantining on returning to the UK. School re-opens for the second half of the autumn term on **Monday 2nd November**.



Congratulations to this week's winners!

Year 1 Bonnie Ankers & Freddie Chell
 Year 3 Sophie Davenhill & Lucas Sillito
 Year 5 Felix Weetman & Charlotte Watkin

Year 2 Ava Lunn & Zack Atkin
 Year 4 Logan Evans & Sophie Jackson
 Year 6 William Pickerill & Peter Amphlett



Little Owls

If you would like to book any sessions for your child please email littleowls@hugomeynell.staffs.sch.uk or contact the school office.

The activities after half term are:

Monday – 3D Firework **Tuesday** – Bonfire Night Colouring **Wednesday** – Fireworks Mindfulness
Thursday – Guy Fawkes Mask **Friday** – Draw the other half Firework

School Vacancy

We are looking to appoint an enthusiastic **Lunchtime Supervisor** to provide high quality lunchtime supervision to our children during the school lunch break. The vacancy is for 6.25 hours per week, term time only, Monday to Friday from 12 noon to 1.15pm (times may marginally vary). If you are interested in this post the vacancy will be advertised on www.wmjobs.co.uk or alternatively collect an application pack from the school office. **The closing date is 4pm on Wednesday 4th November.** A copy of the advertisement is attached to the newsletter.

PTFA

To help raise money for school, our fantastic PTFA have teamed up with Xmas4schools. The children will be coming home today with their completed Christmas themed design that can be turned into Christmas cards, calendars or gift labels, providing a personal touch to this year's festivities. Christmas may still seem a long while off but if you would like to see your child's design as a customised product, please complete the parent contact details on the order form sent home (this is on the reverse side of your child's design) and return to school on **Monday 2nd November**. The PTFA will then send off all completed forms to Xmas4schools who will upload the artwork onto their portal, which you will be alerted to view before you decide on your order.

Messages from Mrs Gleave

As we approach the half term holiday, I wanted to say how proud I am of the children. All have returned to school with positivity and enthusiasm for their learning and have both adopted and adapted well to their new school routines. We have been incredibly fortunate to not have had to close any year group bubbles and I want to express my thanks to our Hugo staff for their dedication and commitment to ensuring the best possible learning experiences for the children. As you will read below, the end of this first half of the Autumn term has finished with great gusto and I think it is safe to say that everyone has earned a restful, well-deserved break.

Nursery

What a fantastic first half term we have had in Nursery! The children have really impressed us with how well they have settled in. They have embraced the routines and are becoming independent as they access the self-service snack cafe, wash their hands and put their own coats and wellies on to go outside. Every day has been filled with lots of fun and learning as the children have led the way. We have looked at spiders, baby dinosaurs and this week, we have been excitedly spotting birds in our school grounds. We have used our super listening skills to identify different bird sounds too. We hope the children have a well-deserved rest and come back refreshed ready to continue our learning journey together.

Reception

In Reception this week, the children have been amazing. After an eight-week term, they are still busy exploring, learning, and smiling. They have been on a treasure hunt after receiving a map from the baby dragon. The map took us through the hollow tree, past the trees, up the hill, along the hedge and back down the hill with clues at every X – only to discover a very large, heavy pumpkin at the bottom of the Stick Man's tree. We made yummy pumpkin soup and wrote the recipe together. Mrs Shore and Mrs Stirland are really impressed with how well all the children have settled into school life this term and we are feeling very proud of everyone.

Year 1

Despite it being the last week of the half term, Year 1 have been extremely busy! In English, they completed independent writing activities where they labelled Mr Potato Head and recorded sentences about him. They also practised their sentence level skills in Science as they recorded labels and sentences about the photographs from last week's 'Signs of Autumn' walk. Furthermore, they started to think about the concept of a timeline and sequenced the different stages of the life cycle such as baby, child, adult and elderly. Some children extended their knowledge and also included a picture of a toddler and teenager. This helped children to gain a better understanding of the past and how they will develop in the future. In Maths, children had fun comparing groups of objects and organising them from the 'greatest' to the 'least'. They also picked out important numbers in word problems and used objects to help them to solve a selection of problems. During RE, Year 1 thoroughly enjoyed using pencil crayons to create Harvest pictures and demonstrated good listening skills when they made their own bread. They enjoyed eating their bread and it certainly made the Year 1 classroom smell like a bakery! Year 1's creativity flowed throughout the week as they followed instructions to draw a reindeer, snowman and Santa. Children then used their skills to design a Christmas card, which they took home on Wednesday for parents to view and consider purchasing. Year 1 were sorry to say goodbye to Mrs Lear and they wish her lots of luck in her new adventure. Now that Year 1 are in full swing of school life, they will start to receive homework after half term. Thank you for your continued support and have an enjoyable break.

Messages from Mrs Gleave (cont...)

Year 2

Year 2 have worked really hard again this week despite feeling tired and ready for the half term break. In English, the children have written their own story based on 'The Dragon Machine'; they have created their own characters, problems and solutions. Some of the language used has been very impressive and imaginative and the children have experimented with extending their sentences by using 'because.' Maths this week in Year 2 has focussed on adding and subtracting ones and working out missing numbers in calculations. The children have used their detective skills to spot patterns when finding ten more and ten less than 2-digit numbers. Year 2 have also been busy planting bulbs in their outside area ready for a spectacular display of daffodils and tulips in the Spring, keep your eyes peeled for it!

Year 3

This week, Year 3 have helped Miss Carter to hatch a plan to catch the dragon that laid the egg. They have used imperative verbs to write clear concise instructions and explained how to catch the dragon. In Art, the children have finished their dragon's eyes by painting them the shade of the dragon scales and have used a range of paints to create different effects. Through guided comprehension, the class have explored who Martin Luther King Jr was. After retrieving the information from the text, they have written an 'I have a dream' statement from their perspective. Some of these are very thoughtful and it is clear following a lengthy discussion they have understood that some people have been treated differently because of the colour of their skin. In Science, the children had a very important letter delivered from Boris Johnson. He asked if they could find a way to lift him on his chair using a helicopter. They tested which magnet would be the best from a choice of a bar magnet, a ring magnet or a horseshoe magnet. They concluded that the ring magnet was the best and would be the best one to complete Boris's Mission. The children have all worked so hard this half term and we are very proud of how they have adapted.

Year 4

This week, Year 4 have been working incredibly hard in Maths. They have been using their knowledge of 4 digit numbers to order and decide which number was greater than, less than or equal to using the correct symbols. They have also been doing lots of work on their times tables and this will be encouraged to continue during the half term. In English, the children have continued to apply their learning of speech marks, fronted adverbials and expanded noun phrases to write their own story this week. This was either drawing inspiration from the story 'Gorilla' which they have been reading for part of the term or using a spooky picture to help stimulate their imagination related to Halloween. In Science, the class have completed their 'Animals including humans' unit this week and have learnt about food chains. They understood crucial vocabulary for each phase of the food chain such as producer, prey and predator, as well as what was meant by animals and humans being consumers. In PE, the children showed great sportsmanship and teamwork when taking part in their teams during a handball tournament and in Art, the children have planned their self-portrait for after half term that builds on their learning of mixing colours, colour wheels and using these colours to imitate mood and emotion. Some children have decided to create a realistic self-portrait whereas others are going for a more abstract approach, including their hobbies in the background as well as the mood colour. As always, another busy and fun packed week! Well done on a great first half term.

Year 5

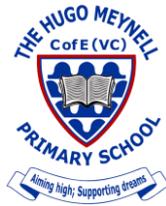
Year 5 have worked hard in Maths this week to understand and interpret two-way tables and timetables. They have had to apply their problem-solving skills in order to answer questions. In English, the children have discussed, planned, written and edited a diary from the main character in our class text, 'Street Child'. The children have tried to use a range of sentence openers and descriptions in order to interest the reader. They have continued with their coding in Computing, and in Science, they all enjoyed identifying reversible changes of materials. Year 5 enjoyed their last Chance 2 Shine session, which was finished off nicely with a friendly, yet competitive, tournament. For their History lesson, they have chosen a Victorian inventor to research in order to create their own Dragon's Den style presentation. We are really looking forward to seeing what they produce after half term!

Year 6

This week, Year 6 have applied themselves exceptionally well to addressing mistakes and misconceptions from last week's Reading and Maths assessments. I am really, really proud of how they have tackled their work this half term and would like to say a big well done to them all. We had a visit from the Assistant Head at Madeley School on Tuesday afternoon, when the children had the opportunity to ask questions about their next big step into High School. They were very enthusiastic and mature in the questions they asked and made a very impressive first impression on Mr Ostrowski. In History, the children have worked in groups to research the details of key events in World War Two, including D Day, The Battle of Britain, Pearl Harbour and the German Invasion of Russia. They used their English skills to write a report about their given event and explained why it was a turning point in the war. They then fed back to the rest of the class, who voted on which event they thought was the most important and why. In PE, the children improved their times in cross-country and enjoyed a final game of cricket with Myles, where they were able to apply the skills they have practised this half term. I hope the children have a restful week off; they deserve it!

Have a lovely half term and we look forward to welcoming the children back into school on Monday 2nd November.

Until next week
Mrs Gleave



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

Date	Event
October	
Friday 23 rd	Inset Day
November	
Monday 2 nd	School re-opens for the second half of the Autumn Term
Thursday 5 th	Diwali Workshop Years 1-6
Tuesday 10 th	Flu Immunisations
December	
Friday 18 th	School closes for Christmas
January	
Monday 4 th	Inset Day
Tuesday 5 th	School re-opens for the first half of the Spring Term