



Hugo Meynell School Newsletter

'Aiming High; Supporting Dreams'

Friday 27th November 2020

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School Menu for w/c Monday 30th November is 'Week 1'

Attendance and Lates



School Target 2020/2021:	97%
Attendance This Week	94.04%
Attendance Year to date:	97.32%
Lates:	1



COVID Update

We would like to thank parents for your support this week when unfortunately we received information of a positive case at our school. However, this has had a minimal impact on our bubbles due to the systems we have in place in school and only one class is self-isolating. We appreciate that this is a worrying time for parents, but we are doing everything in our power to keep our children safe and secure. We would like to remind parents how you can help to support us:

- **Only one parent/carer to drop off/collect children.**
- **Please keep a 2 metre distance between yourselves and other parents.**
- **Face coverings should be worn while on the school grounds.**
- **Please adhere to drop-off and pick-up times for your class bubble to reduce congestion.**
- **Please do not send your child to school if any member of your household has any of the symptoms of coronavirus.**
- **School should be kept informed of all tests/test results.**

If your child is unwell and unable to attend school, please contact the school office by either phone or email before **9:30am** to advise us of the reason behind the absence. We are required to record all absences daily and report them to the Department for Education so please make sure you contact the office promptly if your child is absent for any reason.

Informing us of a Positive Case

It is very important that you notify school immediately if any member of your household receives a positive test result. If the positive test result is received out of school hours, please email headteacher@hugomeynell.staffs.sch.uk providing a contact number for us to reach you so that we can take appropriate action.

Clothing

Although our heating systems are on, in line with DfE guidance, windows are open to ensure that our classrooms are well ventilated. As we move into the colder months, please ensure that your child always brings a jumper or cardigan to school. If they feel the cold easily, they may want to wear a vest or plain t-shirt under their school uniform.

Year 5 and 6 School Day Timings

From Monday, both Year 5 and 6 will be met on the yard by their teacher at **8:40am**. Year 5 will walk in first and go straight in to wash their hands. Year 6 will follow and use the cloakrooms before going up to the classroom to wash their hands to ensure that the two year groups do not mix. At the end of the day, Year 5 will leave the site at **3:05pm**, with Year 6 finishing at **3:10pm** instead of 3:15pm.

In order to be able to walk home independently, the children must **walk** sensibly both on and off site, ensuring they are taking due care and considering other families and members of the community.



Lockdown Challenge – Loggerheads to Lapland

There are only 5 days left in our Loggerheads to Lapland Lockdown challenge and we hope you have enjoyed taking part in this challenge. Sponsorship forms should be returned to school by **Wednesday 9th December**. We would prefer sponsorship money to be paid on ParentPay to avoid sending cash into school. Please overtype the default amount on screen to match the amount of money that you have raised. Thank you for your support with this.



Christmas Cards

Unfortunately, the Hugo Meynell Christmas postal service will not be operating in the same way this year. However, if children would like to send cards to their classmates please send these into their class between **1st and 9th December**. Any cards received between these dates will be given out to the children on Wednesday 16th December to allow time for quarantine.

Christmas Jumper Day

We are holding our Christmas Jumper Day in school on **Friday 11th December**. Children can wear jeans, trousers, jogging bottoms, leggings or skirts to complement their festive jumpers.



Christmas Dinner

AiP will be serving their Christmas dinner in school on **Thursday 17th December**. A delicious menu has been arranged to include roast turkey, pigs in blankets, vegetarian wellington, mash and roast potatoes, peas, carrots and sprouts along with iced sponge for dessert. There is no need to pre-order Christmas dinner this year as children will order this in class during the morning. The dinner will cost £2.15 per child for children in Nursery and KS2 and payment should be made in advance on ParentPay. Children in Reception and KS1 receive Universal Free School Meals so there is no charge.

Star of the Week!

Congratulations to this week's winners!

Year 1 Lola Venables & Daniel Ware-Rosenberg
Year 3 Seb Richens & Eleanor Davies
Year 5 James Bagguley & Abigail Tipper

Year 2 Leonardo Palagi & Darcy Tonge
Year 4 Sebastian Garnett & Mason Turner
Year 6 Finley Small & Aaron Chapman

School Travel and Transport Survey

As part of Staffordshire County Council's plan for getting all pupils back safely and sustainably after the Covid-19 lockdown, measures have been introduced across all transport modes to help keep everyone safe whilst travelling to/from school. The Council have been working with a number of partners to address transport issues experienced by schools. In order to determine if these measures have been successful, they would be grateful if parents could spend five minutes completing the following survey:

<https://consultation.staffordshire.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/parent-guardian-travel-survey/consultation/intro/>

The survey needs to be completed by **Tuesday 1st December**. **Please complete the survey even if your child does not use school transport.**



Little Owls

We have spaces available in Little Owls for both morning and afternoon sessions. If you would like to book any sessions for your child please email littleowls@hugomeynell.staffs.sch.uk or contact the school office.

In addition to lots of games, toys to play with and books to read, the craft activities for next week are:

Monday – Stained Glass Cards **Tuesday** – Tartan Designs **Wednesday** – I Spy Christmas
Thursday – 3D Baubles **Friday** – Split Pin Gingerbread Man



Twelve Days of Christmas Raffle

Thank you for all your generous donations towards the '12 Days of Christmas' hampers. The PTFA have been busy putting together all the hampers and the first draw will take place on **Thursday 3rd December**. There are some fantastic prizes up for grabs that have been kindly and generously donated by local companies (please see attached poster). There will be three prizes won everyday to include a Christmas hamper, a smaller chocolate or pamper bundle / voucher and a special gift or cash prize. All raffle tickets and money should be returned to school by **Monday 30th November**.



Community

NHS People Hub

The Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Health and Care People Hub are searching for caring, compassionate and dedicated individuals who are looking for paid work, to support health and care by becoming a key worker. **You don't need healthcare experience to apply for some available positions!** You will set your working preferences and we will share available and urgent placements that match to you. We currently have both clinical and non-clinical opportunities available.

For more information contact - STP-WorkforceProjectStream@mpft.nhs.uk

Loggerheads Parish Council

The December edition of the community newsletter is now available, please click on the following link:

<http://www.loggerheadsparishcouncil.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/CN-Nov-Dec-2020-final.pdf>.

Messages from the Classrooms

Nursery

Nursery have been on lots of adventures this week. Inside we headed off to dinosaur land on rockets and buses and outside we climbed 'up the mountain' for a beautiful frosty morning walk. We spotted that Stick Man's tree has lost all his leaves; had a good run around on the fields making patterns in the frost, and even found some ice! The children have been amazing this week, working hard and remembering all the important things they have learnt about how we behave and treat each other. We loved watching Mrs Vaughan on the videos she sent us and we sent some back to her so it never felt like she was far away.

Reception

This week has been a different week for us all in Reception as we have been learning school at home. However, the children and the grown-ups as always have been amazing. This week they have had ants hiding all over their houses and gardens as they used prepositional language to describe where they were and made maps to show the ant how to get home. They also explored their garden in the dark with a torch after looking at the storybook 'Flashlight' and made a list to help them remember what they would need in the dark: a coat, a hat and a torch. There were lots of ball games created and dances for Diwali both inside and outside. It has been lovely to watch the children and their parents playing and learning together. Mrs Shore and Mrs Stirland are very proud of everyone.

Year 1

This week, Year 1 discovered that Nibbles had nibbled away at plural nouns such as dresses, glasses and even pants! They found out that Nibbles had nibbled his way into his third story called 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. Using their knowledge of naughty Nibbles, the children predicted the possible events that could unfold and then used comic strips to record the mayhem caused by Nibbles. In Maths, the children developed their understanding of number bonds presented in part whole models, fives frames and tens frames. They successfully solved number bond problems linked to money and found different ways to make 10. Some children further developed their number bond skills by creating their own puzzles for another child to solve. They are beginning to learn that it is important to be systematic if they want to find all possible number bonds. In RE, the children learned all about 'advent' and decorated their own advent calendar. In PE, the children were excited to use the gymnastics equipment and just need to develop their ability to tie their shoelaces! As scientists, Year 1 developed their understanding of the properties of materials. They searched for a range of 'rough' and 'smooth' materials and used words and pictures to record their observations. In small groups, the children continued to learn a traditional Christmas song, as they are not able to do their Key Stage 1 nativity this year.

Year 2

This week, Year 2 have been completing some really tricky Maths, but they have risen to the challenge and are now using a formal column method to add two 2-digit numbers. They have been using what they know to find missing numbers and to solve problems using 2-digit numbers. In English, we have been pleased with their descriptive writing and their use of adjectives and adverbs to describe the night scene that the baby barn owl, Plop, was so afraid of. The children have been considering Plop's emotions and how his feelings change throughout the story. Computing has seen the children complete their coding to introduce objects and the 'when clicked' command. They have also been learning about how to search safely on the internet and also how to save and share their work. In PSHE, Year 2 have been thinking about what makes a good friend and how they should act and react in particular scenarios.

Year 3

Year 3 have had a fantastic and very busy start to the week. In Maths, the class have started to look at the area of multiplication and they have explored equal groups of and arrays before we move onto a more formal method of solving problems linked to multiplication. They have been using the 'magic stick' to help them with their 4 times tables. The children didn't believe that a stick would help them with their recall of tables and they are all amazed how easy it was. Through 'The Winter's Child' they have used conjunctions to express time, place and cause within descriptive writing. They have also investigated main clauses and have experimented with the order of the clauses to make their writing sound more appealing to the reader. The children have started to edit a piece of work this week to see where the common mistakes are and how they can improve it. As part of Art this week, they have researched the artist Andy Goldsworthy, who was born in Cheshire, and looked at some of the sculptures he produced. They put their wellies on, wrapped up warm and headed up to the field to create their own sculptures using natural materials. In Science, as part of their light topic the children have started to look at how light travels and what materials it reflects on. In Geography this week, the class continued to develop their knowledge of grid references and created a map of their own and written instructions using their grid references, which they will share with their partner next week to see if they can find the treasure.

Messages from the Classrooms (cont...)

Year 4

This week Year 4 have been hard at work (as always) learning about length, they have revisited measures of cm, m and km and learnt about the equivalents. They have used their past knowledge and understanding to also add length and next week will move on to subtraction and measuring perimeter. In English they have been learning more about possessive apostrophes, particularly singular and plural and the rules about when and where to place an 's' before or after an apostrophe. They also have written some excellent descriptions of a circus setting and have included many of the features of language we have been learning over the last few weeks. In D&T this week they have been investigating different sandwich fillings and took part in tasting a variety of fillings such as falafel and houmous, chicken salad, ham and cheese, egg and cress along with many more. The children really enjoyed tasting and many tried things they wouldn't normally eat. Who wouldn't be happy after a full tummy at the end of a lesson! They then used their experiences to begin to note down various ingredients and fillings that they wish to put in their sandwich design. In RE they are learning about the Jewish festival Hanukkah, they have been making some Hanukkah (Jewish candles) to celebrate this special time of year. They are continuing to enjoy gymnastics this half term in PE where they have been working on balance and jumps and developing a routine with a partner.

Year 5

This week, Year 5 have been looking in more detail at the characters from our class text. They have looked at the similarities and differences between them and then role played a conversation between two of them. From this, they have then written a short conversation to practise punctuating speech correctly within a story. In Maths, we began our new block of perimeter and area. So far, the children have recapped how to find the perimeter of rectangles and rectilinear shapes with missing sides. They spent their computing lesson exploring databases and using this information to answer a range of questions. They all really enjoyed this. The children have recapped the water cycle in Science and how this relates to the work we have been doing on evaporation and separating solutions. In History, we have looked at the Great Western Railway and debated the pros and cons of this and future rail developments. In RE, the children looked at the Quran and how to look after it and in PSHE, they have been thinking about healthy, balanced lifestyles. To finish the week, the children had French and took part in a dance PE lesson which they all thoroughly enjoyed.

Year 6

This week, Year 6 have worked really hard to tackle the dreaded fractions in Maths! They have recapped finding equivalent fractions and using common factors to simplify fractions. They have also converted between mixed numbers and improper fractions and used a number line to position them. In English, the children have continued to explore cohesion and used adverbials and conjunctions to show this in their writing. The children have also written passive sentences to describe a scene from our story 'Star of Fear, Star of Hope'. They all did really well in their spelling test, so keep up the hard work at home! In History, the children used various sources to explore how the Blitz affected daily life in Britain and wrote diary extracts from the point of view of a WW2 child. In Design and Technology, the class began to investigate the purpose and features of various shelters, to inform their own planning and design of the Morrison shelter they will be making in school.

**Until next week,
Mrs Gleave**



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

Date	Event
December	
Thursday 3 rd	PTFA 12 Days of Christmas raffle begins
Tuesday 8 th	PTFA Christmas Gift Stall
Wednesday 9 th	PTFA Christmas Gift Stall
Friday 11 th	Christmas Jumper Day
Thursday 17 th	School Christmas Dinner
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