

# Helmingham Community

## Primary School

Headteacher – Mrs Bernie Cleland Newsletter 8 – Sept 2013

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you all had a good holiday and are looking forward to this term. First of all here are just some reminders.

Parents of children in classes 2 & 3 are asked to let them come into school by themselves, to encourage independence. They should choose their lunch/ put packed lunch away and follow any instructions for the morning on the whiteboard. If you have any questions or need to speak to the teacher, can you please contact the office first or wait until the end of the day.

Parents of Yr 1 & Reception are welcome to bring their children into class 1.

All children should be in class and ready to start work at 9am. If you arrive after 9am please go to the office & sign in. Children should not be left to enter school alone if they are late. We finish at 3.15pm and ask that you wait on the playground until your child is handed over by the teacher and you leave the premises by 3.30pm.

We currently have a child in school with a nut allergy and ask that we once again become a nut free school. Can you please be vigilant and make sure there are no nut products (peanut butter, cereals bars, nuts etc) in your child's packed lunch. Also as we are a 'Healthy School' can you please not send in chocolate bars and fizzy drinks. We appreciate your help in this matter.

Reading : There are new parent reading sessions for all classes. Reading is a key skill and it would be great if you could come in on Mondays 9-9.30am and / or Wednesdays at 2.45-3.10pm.

PE : The children should have **a full PE kit in school every day.** They need PE T shirt, shorts, plimsolls & socks for indoors and a T shirt , tracksuit & trainers / plimsolls for outdoors.

Art: A painting shirt is required—an old shirt or apron should be named and left on your child's peg. If your child does not have one in school, they will still do art but may come home dirty!

Class 1: As we will be playing & working outside as much as possible the children will need to have named wellies and a warm / waterproof coat in school every day so that no matter what the weather, we can go out.

I was pleased to see how smart the children looked at the start of term. Please make sure that you ensure your child is dressed in uniform, with hair tied back with no nail varnish. Any earrings should be stud only and must be removed and replaced by the child for PE.

We welcome Noelia and Simon West in Sun class and Sophie, Freddie, Tomos, Jared, Lyra, Alice and Joseph in Reception and hope they all enjoy their time at Helmingham.

### Parent Governor Vacancy

We will shortly be writing, giving you the opportunity to nominate someone to become a parent governor. If you want any further information about being a school governor and what it entails, please google Suffolk governors.

### WANTED

Could you spare an hour at lunch time to be a midday supervisor once or twice a week?

If so, then contact the office for further information.

### School Improvements

I'm sure you will agree how fantastic the gazebo is in the playground. We have been using it for lessons and the children have really enjoyed it. Many thanks once again to the Friends for funding it.

The improvements to the Early Years area at the rear of the school are just about finished and what a difference it has made! There is still further work to be done but progress is being made.

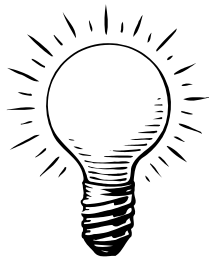
### Message from Mrs Tomlin

I would like to say a huge Thank You to everyone who was involved in my retirement celebration in July. It was really wonderful and very much appreciated. I would also like to thank everyone who gave me gifts and good wishes and am looking forward to enjoying my free time.

Mrs N Tomlin

## Parent Forum

We are keen to increase the parental involvement in school and would like to hear your ideas. Please come and talk about this on Friday 27 September at 2.50pm in the library or email the office on [admin@helmingham.suffolk.sch.uk](mailto:admin@helmingham.suffolk.sch.uk)



## Dates for your diary.....

### Autumn Term 2013

Sept

Tues & Wed 3 & 4 PD Days

Thur 5 Children back in school

Tues 10 Swimming starts Y4, Y5 & Y6

Thur 19 Mrs Coe (maths teacher) from DHS for Class 3  
This will be every Thursday until half term

Thur 26 Governors Meeting 4.30pm

Fri 27 Parent Forum

Oct

Thur 3 Open Evening DHS Y6

Tues 8 Parents Evening 3.30-5.30

Wed 9 Parents Evening 5-7.30 details to follow

Tues 15 DHS Liaison Morning Y6

Dental Screening YR – Y4 details to follow

Wed 16 Reading Information Evening for Parents 6.30pm

Thur 17 Author visit for whole school

Wed 24 Sun Class Assembly

Fri 25 PD DAY – NO CHILDREN IN SCHOOL

Mon 28 – Fri 1/10 HALF TERM

### PE News

There are some important changes happening with the PE provision and Multisports after school club. Please make sure you read the attached letter.

If you have any questions or concerns please speak to a member of staff and with home and school working together we can ensure that your child achieves their full potential.

Your ideas are always welcome. Just speak to member of staff or drop us a note.

### Office Request

We are now collecting Morrison vouchers & would be grateful for any donations.  
Thanks!



## Holidays in Term Time

I have received new guidance on what is termed 'exceptional circumstances' to allow authorised holiday during term time. These are now quite restrictive and may require evidence or further information to support any request. Considerations that are not exceptional are : cost of holiday, prolonged holiday, absent parent / grandparent taking the child on holiday during term time, absences during SATS and occasional days absence.

Mrs Cleland

## Online Ordering & Payments

Did you know that you can order our school uniform, including embroidered items direct from Tesco online? Just go to the [www.tesco.com/ues](http://www.tesco.com/ues)

You can also pay for lunches online too. You cannot pay in arrears, but any future payments will be allocated in school to any current lunches. The web page is [www.csduk.com](http://www.csduk.com)

## Term Dates 2013-2014

### **Autumn**

3 & 4 Sept PD Days

5 September Children back

25 Oct PD Day

28 Oct – 1 Nov Half Term

20 Dec End of Term

### **Spring**

6 Jan PD Day

7 Jan Children back

17 – 21 Feb Half Term

4 Apr End of Term

### **Summer**

22 Apr PD Day

23 Apr Children back

26-30 May Half Term

23 July End of Term

## Plea from Mrs Scase

Are there any parents who are willing, on a rota basis, to clear away the leaves from the outside play area just by the back door on a Monday morning? If so, please speak to either myself or Mrs Jest.