



Helmingham Community Primary School



Headteacher – Mrs Bernie Cleland
Newsletter 3 – Nov/Dec 2011

Dear Parents and Carers,

Things in school are busy as always with preparation for the Christmas performance well underway. The children have taken part in football, netball and unihoc tournaments, winning the football and coming second in the unihoc. All the following children have achieved their bronze certificates by earning 50 house points; Abbie Webb, Gruff Harries, Bea King, Flossie Booker, Lilianna Mayhew, Daisy Felton, Fern Berry, William Raven, Annabel Thompson, Woody Hilton, Tom Pearce, Sam Ferrier, Scarlet King. Our 4R's certificate has been awarded to Ellie Jaques, Bea King, Gethin Harries, Alex Shore, Francesca Webb and Zak Hilton. I hope you have received these certificates at home!

On a less positive note we have picked up on many children swearing in school. We have spoken to the children about the inappropriateness of this and will be making a phone call home to parents if we hear this happening. We also invited our community police officers in to school to talk with years 4, 5 and 6 about this and about behaviour in and out of school.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as is possible at the Christmas performances. Please make sure you return your request for tickets.

Have a great Christmas and a happy new year.

Bernie Cleland

School Improvement

A new safeguarding policy and anti bullying policy were approved at the last governors meeting. These are available in school and we will be sending out a summary of our anti bullying policy before the end of term.

We are now revising our homework policy and we be asking for your input on this later in the term



Governors News

The recent governing body meeting was packed full of policies to review (Safeguarding/Succession-planning and Anti-bullying) and various documents to examine and ask questions about. The headteacher's report highlighted some fantastic achievements for the school: excellent results in the sports tournaments this term as well as really good attainment results - the percentage of pupils achieving Level 5 at the end of Year 6 was above the national average and both Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 results have improved from the previous year. We also looked at the School Development Plan which highlights the school's priorities for the coming year. Particular focus will be placed on ensuring that pupils continue to make two levels progress between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 in both maths and writing.

The vacancy for a new community governor is almost done and dusted and governors will be enjoying Christmas lunch with the children on the last day of term as well as attending the school's Christmas production. Early in the new year we will be joining the School Council's meeting so that they can quiz us about what we do - and we can ask them the same question!

As always, if you have any questions about the governing body, please contact Mary Graham on mary@yellowbelly.co.uk

Charity



On the 'come as you please' day in October we raised £60.15 for the chosen charity of the RSPCA. Our day of spots raised in excess of £100 for Children in Need.

Thank you and well done to everyone.



Class News

Sun Class have been to Debenham High School to bake carrot cakes from a world war 2 recipe. They also enjoyed making poppies as part of their work on remembrance. The visit from the policeman was fun but a bit scary. In maths we have enjoyed playing games. Year 6 had a good morning at Debenham High School doing a group activity in geography and a science lesson. *Izzy, Hannah and Isabel*

Moon Class have made and iced biscuits as a countdown to Christmas. They have made their own Mondrian style pictures. They have been thinking about what is most and least important. They are enjoying having Mrs Salmon back and like getting house points and the 4R's certificates. They say the traffic lights are working better now. *Charlie and Polly*

Stars Class have made paper plate octopus puppets. They have enjoyed working with the farm and cars. Year 2 are settled quickly in to class and working hard on their morning work. They enjoyed doing their celebration assembly, showing parents what has been going on in class. They like getting house points. *Maisie and Gethin*



Dates for your diary.....

Autumn 2011

Thursday 8 th December	CYM to do an assembly
Monday 12 th December	Dress Rehearsal (2pm)
Tuesday 13 th December	Christmas performance (2pm)
Wednesday 14 th December	Christmas performance (6pm)
Friday 16 th December	Christmas dinner
Friday 16 th December	End of term

Spring 2012

Tuesday 3 rd January	Staff in school
Wednesday 4 th January	Children in school
Monday 13 th - Friday 17 th February	Half term
Wednesday 29 th February	Scholastic book fair
Friday 30 th March	End of Term

Summer 2012

Monday 16 th April	Staff in school
Tuesday 17 th April	Children in school
Monday 14 th May	Year 6 SAT week
Monday 4 th June - Friday 8 th June	Half term
Friday 20 th July	End of term for children
Monday 23 rd July	Staff in school

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.

Message from the Office

Can you please make sure all dinner money is paid by Monday 12 for all meals up to the end of term.
Thank you

Reminders

Healthy Schools Please support us as a healthy school by providing your child with fruit or vegetables for a break time snack. We do provide this for KS1 children as part of government provision. Please - no chocolate or crisps for snacks. The children need to ensure that their break time snack is not left in their lunch box.

Water - There is evidence to show that keeping hydrated by drinking water affects the ability to learn. The children may bring a bottle of water in to school to keep in the classroom. This bottle should be named and is the child's responsibility.

PE Kit - Please ensure your child has trainers for outside PE. These will support their feet better than plimsolls.

Dogs - Please ensure that you, or anyone else collecting your child, do not bring dogs on to the school premises.

