

Helmingham Community Primary School

Headteacher – Mrs Bernie Cleland

Newsletter 4 – January 2012

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a new and exciting year. We hope you had a great Christmas and a happy new year.

At the end of last term we had Baris, Ellie George, Caitlin, Joshua Oxborrow, Hugh, Francesca and Tilly all receiving their bronze certificates. Abbie Webb also attained her silver certificate.

Hugh and Joe Styles also received a 4R's certificate.

Bernie Cleland

Friends of Helmingham School News

A huge thank you to everyone who helped us to raise so much money for the school gazebo fund last year. The total is creeping up, but we still have our work cut out to reach our target by July 2012. Check out our fund 'thermometer' in school for the latest total.

We hope you will support our forthcoming fundraising events. An old jewellery and mobile phone collection is happening this month - we raised £200 from a previous event and hope to beat that this time. There are plans for another 'Cash for Schools' clothing, textiles and books/DVD collection in late spring and we will also be holding the regular Cake Stall on the last day of term so watch out for information - all donations gratefully appreciated. And Pudding Night returns on **23rd February** - calories for cash is a good combination

There will be other fundraising events too, which we hope you and your family will support. And, if anyone has any suggestions for activities, then pop a note in the Friends Box at School in the office.

Also, if you can lend a hand then please come and join in the fun! Our meetings are low key, informal and open to all: parents, grandparents, family members and carers. You'd all be very welcome. Speak to one of the committee mums - Maria, Charlotte, Jane or Tania - or leave your name at the school office and we will get in touch.

School Improvement

As you will know we are revising our homework policy. It would be great to have your input by completing the attached questionnaire and returning it to school by Friday 27th January.

The plans for our new classroom and outside space have been well received and are now at the formal planning stage. I will keep you posted with any developments.

Governors meetings this term are on 2nd February and 19th March.

TV offer!

We have a TV available that plays video. It has the capacity to work as a TV. It is free to a good home. Let us know if you would like it. *First come first served!*



Football

Unfortunately we are currently unable to let the children play football at break times. This is due to the restricted space we have on our hard court area and the field being too wet to use. This is following health and safety advice.



Riding for the Disabled

The collection at the end of the Christmas performances raised £68.22 for Riding for the Disabled. Thank you.

Class News

Sun Class this term are covering the theme of 'Rivers'. There is a trip being planned to support their learning so watch out for further details. In art they are doing water colours and in music they are learning about rounds.

Moon Class has a theme based on 'Finding Nemo'. This will encompass many of the curriculum areas including magnets, habitats and variation in science. They will be exploring poetry and adventure stories. Watch out for news of a visit!

Stars Class is working on 'Change'. This will be a science based theme that will include hot and cold and materials.

School Council

The school council met with some of the governors on Thursday 5th January. Among the many things discussed were bike sheds, the curriculum, the role of the governors and clubs run by children. The school council will also be taking an assembly each half term to help keep everyone up to date with their discussions.



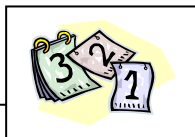
Dates for your diary.....

Spring 2012

Thursday 26 th January	Stars Celebration assembly (9.00)
Thursday 9 th February	Sun Celebration assembly (9.00)
Monday 13 th - Friday 17 th February	Half term
Thursday 23 rd February	Friends Pudding Night
Wednesday 29 th February	Scholastic book fair
Thursday 1 st march	Moon Celebration assembly (9.00)
Tuesday 13 th March	Parents evening (3.30-5.30)
Wednesday 14 th March	Parents evening (5.00-7.00)
Thursday 23 rd March	Stars Celebration assembly (9.00)
Friday 30 th March	End of Term

Summer 2012

Monday 16 th April	Staff in school
Tuesday 17 th April	Children in school
Monday 30 th April	Year 6 Residential
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.

Year 6 Residential

There will be another meeting for parents and pupils about the year 6 residential trip to Sizewell Hall later in the term. Please keep the payments up to date to ensure we meet the deadlines to enable us to go!

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.

Reading - All the children have dedicated reading time on Tuesday and Wednesday every week from 9.00 - 9.30am. It would be great to see as many parents as possible joining in these sessions and listening to their own child and others read. This does not need to be commitment every week or for the whole session.

Lunch Money - Please ensure all lunch bills are paid by the end of the month.