

# Helmingham Community Primary School

Headteacher – Mrs Bernie Cleland  
Newsletter 1 – September 2012

Dear Parents and Carers,

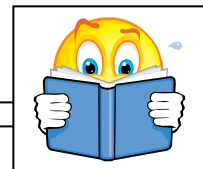
Welcome to a new school year. Amelia, Hazel, Oliver, Samuel, Isabella, Rowan, Hannah and Joshua have joined us in Stars class. Kathryn has joined Moon class and Ewan in Sun class.

Thank you for your co-operation with the restrictions on the car park as a result of a water pipe problem. There will be further work and occasions where it is not possible to enter school via the back gate or use the car park. As far as is possible I will let you know in advance and will always update the front page of the website.

We have now implemented a new homework policy. As part of the policy we would like parents to sign their child's homework to show they have seen it. This is to show you are aware of the homework set. Staff will also sign the work when they have seen it. The homework will not always be a written task but will be supporting the work in school.

Please take your child home promptly, by 3.30. No-one should be on the school premises after teaching staff have left.

Bernie Cleland



## School Improvement

At the start of term all teaching staff and teaching assistants took part in some training to improve how they work together.

This term we will be working with the other schools in our pyramid to develop our monitoring and evaluation process. The governors have arranged visits to school focusing on behaviour, provision for our more able and teaching writing.

We continue to wait for builders to arrive but the new school extension project is making slow progress!

## Reading

### **Reading diaries**

The children will be receiving new reading diaries with some guidance for both you and your child. In the next couple of weeks a sticker with targets for your child to work on will be added to the front. This will show you what your child needs to focus on to get to the next stage in their reading. These will be assessed by the class teacher and ticked off as they are achieved.

Please continue to read with your child whatever their age!

### **Author visit**

Tom Palmer will be in school on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> September and will be working with all classes. He will also have some of his books in school should anyone wish to purchase them.

### **Parent support**

We will be continuing with our reading sessions on Tuesday and Wednesday at 9.00am. We really appreciate you staying to read with the children. We realise it is not always possible to come in for the sessions and hope that those of you who can, will read with a number of children.

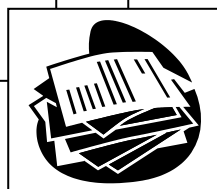
## **Bills**

Lunch bills will shortly be sent out for those who wish to pay half-termly. If you wish your child to have occasional meals, then please pay for a block of 10 meals (£21.00) and we will advise you when credit is running low.

Any other payments must be made on MONDAYS, regardless of the day of the meal to be taken and cash should come in a named sealed envelope.

Credit will not be allowed. For further details on free school meals please see

[www.csduk.com](http://www.csduk.com) & search free school meals.



## Class News

We will be sending home our usual topic webs showing you what the children will be covering but the main themes and changes are:-

Stars - This term the main topic will be 'Castles'.

Moon - The topic in this class is 'There and Back again'. This class are also using a new approach to teaching spelling. It will use a more interactive approach to teaching and focus on spelling patterns and rules. The children will not do weekly spelling tests but will be assessed each term on the patterns and rules they have covered. To support this Mrs Salmon will be sending a home a list of words that use the patterns and rules she will be teaching. Please support you child with learning these, maybe a few at a time.

Sun - The main topic this term is 'Exploration'

PE days

Stars class - Monday and Wednesday

Moon class - Tuesday and Friday

Sun class - Tuesday (swimming) and Friday.



### Dates for your diary.....

#### Autumn 2011

Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	Staff in school
Tues 4 <sup>th</sup> September	Staff in school
Wed 5 <sup>th</sup> September	Children return
Mon 10 <sup>th</sup> September	Reading week
Tues 11 <sup>th</sup> September	Swimming starts
Wed 12 <sup>th</sup> September	Tom Palmer visit
Thurs 27 <sup>th</sup> September	Governors meeting
Wed 3 <sup>rd</sup> October	Moon class to Ipswich Transport Museum
Thurs 4 <sup>th</sup> October	Sun class celebration assembly
Tues 9 <sup>th</sup> October	Parents evening (3.30-5.30)
Wed 10 <sup>th</sup> October	Parents evening (5.00-7.30)
Wed 10 <sup>th</sup> /17 <sup>th</sup> /24 <sup>th</sup> October	Dentist visit for Moon and Sun
Thur 18 <sup>th</sup> October	Moon class celebration assembly
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> Oct - Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> Nov	Half term
Thur 15 <sup>th</sup> November	Stars class celebration assembly
Tues 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas performance (6pm)
Wed 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas performance (2pm)
Fri 21 <sup>st</sup> December	End of term

#### Spring term 2013

Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> Jan	PD day (Staff only)
Tues 8 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Children in school
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> - Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	Half term
28 <sup>th</sup> Mar	End of term

#### Summer 2013

Mon 15 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Staff and children in school
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> May-Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> May	Half term
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup> July	End of term for children
Mon 22 <sup>nd</sup> / Tues 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	PD days (Staff only)

### Reminders

**Lost property.** A pale pink cardigan (from H&M, aged 5-6) and 1 white trainer (superfit brand) were left at the disco on the last day of term. If these belong to you we have them in the school office.

**Snacks and drinks.** The children can have snacks of fruit and vegetables at break time and are welcome to bring a bottle of water into school to have through out the day. This can be refilled at the water fountain.

**P.E.** is a requirement of the National Curriculum. We advise that if your child is not well enough to do P.E. then they are not well enough to be in school, unless, of course, they have a physical injury. Please ensure that your child has his/her full kit in school on P.E. days. It is important that children have appropriate clothes and footwear for outdoor P. E. *Please remove your child's earrings on P.E. days for health and safety reasons.* Also, long hair should be tied back *every day* at school.

**Clothes.** Please ensure all your child's clothes are named, including footwear. Also check that your child has brought home the correct clothes and return any that do not belong to them.

