



Headteacher's Introduction

It has been another very busy and very festive week once again in school. We have enjoyed our delicious Christmas lunch today, whilst raising money for Save the Children by wearing Christmas jumpers. The visit of Animated Objects was a real treat and all 5 of the bubble performances of The Reluctant Dragon and The Frog Prince were fantastic and thoroughly enjoyed by all the children.

We have once again loved all of your efforts with the 14 Days of a Hempland Christmas – thank you for taking part and sharing your Christmassy activities. Remember to tweet us @hemplandprimary next week too.

Mr Haynes & Mrs Innes

Next Week

You may have seen news reports about schools closing to children next Friday and taking it as a training day. I can confirm that **we will be open as planned every day next week**. The DfE made this announcement on 8th December and we decided immediately that we wouldn't even consider such a move – it would be incredibly disruptive to you and your children and not helpful for staff either. The suggestion that schools could close to children a day early and organise online training for staff at such short notice wasn't really a good one, as organising training takes much longer than that! School term dates are planned months if not years in advance and shouldn't be changed at a moment's notice. **We are looking forward to seeing all of the children right up to the end of the day on Friday.**

Christmas Break Covid Notifications

With the Christmas holiday fast approaching we thought it important to set out what needs to be done in case of a positive Covid-19 case while school is closed. We have added a document to the website with more details about this. You can see this here:

Staffing News

We have now recruited to cover Mrs Caul's maternity leave and are pleased to let you know that we have appointed Mrs Laura Chesters to the post. She is an experienced Key Stage 1 teacher and has taught at a school in South Yorkshire and also more recently at Acomb Primary and Copmanthorpe Primary, both in Year 1. We are really pleased to welcome Mrs Chesters to Hempland and know that she will make a super addition to the team. Mrs Caul will still be in school at the start of term, to help ensure the transition is as smooth as possible.

Miss Scott is hopefully returning to school on Monday. It will be wonderful to see her back in school and we know all of the children will be very pleased to see her.

Team Points Winners

As we have reached the end of term it is that time where we can announce the team point winners.

In Early Years and Key Stage One the winning team is Green. As a reward they will get a non-uniform day next Friday, 18th December. Key Stage Two will continue counting team points for a bit longer as they have only recently had a prize for this.



After School Club

The club will close at 5pm on Friday 18th December. All children must be collected by this time. Thank you.

Playtime Snacks

All children are encouraged to have a healthy snack during morning playtime. Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 have access to a wide variety of free fruit or vegetable snacks each morning playtime as part of a national scheme. Parents are welcome to send in their own snack if this is preferred.

All children in Key Stage 2 are encouraged to bring in their own healthy snack should they wish to do so.

Suggested snacks would be fruit, vegetables, rice cakes, brioche, malt loaf, pancakes. **Please remember no nuts or products containing nuts** (eg some cereal bars).

Social Media

With more and more of our young people accessing the online world, it is important to understand and be aware of the legal restrictions in place for social media apps and websites. Many children and young people create accounts without their parent/guardian's permission and can be at risk without the proper safeguards in place. Here is a list of the most popular social networks and sites that children and young people access

It's good to know...



Facebook (minimum age 13) – lets users create their own profiles, share status updates, pictures, videos and chat with other users, and also has a messenger app.



Instagram (minimum age 13) – allows users to alter photos, upload them to Instagram and share them to other social networking sites. Photos and videos can be sent directly to specific users.



Snapchat (minimum age 13) – a photo-sharing app where users can send photos or videos to their friends. These will display on screen for up to ten seconds before being deleted, although it is possible to take screenshots of messages and download other apps designed to capture and save Snapchat content.



TikTok (minimum age 13) - TikTok users can make their own short videos on the mobile app, and often like to have music accompany their videos. The users have creative control over the videos. Other TikTok users can 'react' to videos they see by filming their responses alongside the original video; or 'duet' by making a video alongside another video.



Twitter (minimum age 13) – a social network that lets users send and read 'tweets', messages limited to 280 characters.



Tumblr (minimum age 16) – a social networking site where users can post blogs and follow other people's blogs. Some of the content on this site contains sexual or pornographic images.



WhatsApp (minimum age 16) – free-of-charge, real-time messaging. Users can share images and videos, take part in 'group chats' and share locations. As it's based on knowing the user's phone number, you can only message users if you already know their telephone number.



YouTube (minimum age 13) – allows users to watch, create and comment on videos. The dislike button can create insecurities with content posted even if comments are turned off for the video.

For more useful information regarding these sites and apps including how to add restrictions and safety features check out <https://parentzone.org.uk>



Christmas 2020

Events from this week....

Christmas Jumper Day

So far we have managed to raise **£444** for Save The Children. Thank you for your generous donations. Our JustGiving page is still available should you wish to make a donation.

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/hempland-primary1>

Foodbank Collection

Thank you again for your generous donations for York Foodbank. We are amazed at your generosity once again.



BSL Christmas Songs

The children have been very busy today signing two popular Christmas songs. We will be able to share this special recording with you next week.

Events for next week....

Christmas Parties

MONDAY 14TH DECEMBER – YEAR 4

TUESDAY 15TH DECEMBER – YEAR 1 AND YEAR 3

WEDNESDAY 16TH DECEMBER – YEAR 2 AND YEAR 6

THURSDAY 17TH DECEMBER – EARLY YEARS AND YEAR 5

Children can come to school dressed in their party wear on the day of their party.



Early Years Nativity

Early Years parents will receive a Tapestry notification soon, sharing the nativity that we have put together with help from Animated Objects theatre company.



Hempland Primary News



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