

21 December 2018

Mrs Fenner and all the staff would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

A very big thank you from all the staff for presents received this Christmas. The boxes of biscuits and chocolates in the staffroom have kept staff going during our busy Christmas festivities. Many thanks from everyone!

Merry Christmas



Class Assemblies

Class Assemblies will take place in the Spring Term. Parents are invited to attend the assembly of the class in which their children are taking part. All assemblies will start at 9am in the School Hall.

Class 5	Friday 22 March
Class 4	Friday 15 March
Class 3	Friday 8 March
Class 2	Friday 29 March
Class 1	Friday 5 April

Spring Term Sport & Activity Clubs

There will be no clubs in the first week of the Spring Term. Information will be issued in the New Year with a list of Spring Term activities.

Miss McDonald, our PE Coordinator, has also arranged additional sporting opportunities through our involvement with the North Herts Schools Sports Partnership. Watch out for more information in newsletters in New Year.

Spring Term 2019

We look forward to welcoming pupils back to school on Tuesday 8 January 2019. Monday 7 January is an INSET Day and school will be closed for pupils.

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

Parent Information Meetings

The times and dates of Parent Information sessions for the Spring Term are set out below. These sessions provide parents with information about the expectations for the class, share some of the teaching strategies that will be used and explain how you can help develop these further at home. The sessions will be held in the respective classrooms.

Wrens	Class 1 - 3pm	Thursday 17 January
Robins	Class 2 - 3pm	Wednesday 16 January
Swifts	Class 3 - 3pm	Tuesday 15 January
Kestrels	Class 4 - 3pm	Friday 18 January
Owls	Class 5 - 3pm	Monday 14 January



Bags2School Collection

Bags2School is a company which specialises in quality second hand clothing which can be re-used. The PTA have regularly arranged collections and receive a donation to their funds based on the total weight of the collection.

Collections for next year have been scheduled for the following dates:

Thursday 24 January 2019

Thursday 25 April 2019

Blue collection bags will be distributed at the beginning of January but please also feel free to use black bin liners. If you are sorting out your wardrobes and cupboards over the holidays, please remember these dates and donate any unwanted clothes to this collection.

Items which can be collected include adult and children's clothing (but **not** uniform), paired shoes, hats, belts, handbags, ties and soft toys. Please note – NO bedding, curtains, towels, household linen or bric-a-brac will be accepted.

School Council Charity Collections

A big thank you to everyone who contributed to the retiring collections after this year's Christmas Concerts. The wonderful amount of £510 was raised which will be shared between Hitchin Homeless Shelter, Cancer Research and Unicef.



CANCER
RESEARCH
UK



Primary Admissions 2019

The application process for Primary admissions for children born between 1st September 2014 and 31st August 2015 opened on Monday 5 November 2018.

The closing date deadline is 15 January 2019.

Online applications can be made on www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions.

Christmas Jumper Day

School Council raised £65 at our Christmas Jumper Day. Thank you for supporting this event.

Thank you also to Mrs Pearce and Mrs Smith who prepared a wonderful Christmas Lunch for staff and pupils to enjoy. They always work really hard in the kitchen and our Christmas Lunch is one of the busiest days of the year.

Staff CPD (Continual Professional Development)

During the Autumn Term 2018 staff attended training as listed below. We hope by publishing this information parents are aware of how we continually strive to ensure our staff remain up to date with new initiatives and developments in the education sector and to meet the needs of our individual pupils.

National Professional Qualification for Headship
National Professional Qualification for Senior Leadership
New Head's Induction
First Aid
English Subject Leader cluster meeting
Maths Subject Leader cluster meeting
Science Subject Leader cluster meeting
School Business Manager Briefing
Phase 2-4 Phonics
Epi-Pen training
Autism Education Trust – Tier 3 training
IR35 Awareness Workshop
Moderating Early Years Outcomes
Sustainable Schools Workshop
Clerk to the Governors training
Supporting Children with SEND for Teaching Assistants
Headteacher Seminar
Essential Maths planning in Upper Key Stage 2
Safeguarding Level 1
Early Years Subject Leader seminar
Years 3 and 4 Moderation
SEND Conference
SEND Briefing
Clerk to the Governors Network meeting
Essential Foundations for Counting
Maths Mastery
Pastoral Leads Conference



Spring Term Topics

Curriculum maps and timetables for each class will be distributed in the first week of term but we thought you might like to know in advance the topics each class will be studying in the Spring Term. This may help the children if they wish to carry out any research over the holidays.

Wrens & Robins
Swifts



The Big Wide World (comparing the UK and Australia
Around the World



Kestrels & Owls

Crime & Punishment

CRIME & PUNISHMENT

Spring Term Dates 2019

Monday 7 January	INSET Day – school closed for pupils
Tuesday 8 January	Spring Term begins
Wednesday 9 January	Class 3 swimming starts
Monday 14 January	Owls Parent Information Meeting 3pm
Tuesday 15 January	Primary School Admissions application deadline Year 5 & 6 First Aid with Herts Fire & Rescue Team Swifts Parent Information Meeting 3pm
Wednesday 16 January	Robins Parent Information Meeting 3pm
Thursday 17 January	Wrens Parent Information Meeting 3pm
Friday 18 January	Kestrels Parent Information Meeting 3pm
Wednesday 23 January	Kestrels Science Workshop
Thursday 24 January	Bags2School collection Y6 SATS Parent Information Evening 6
Monday 28 January	Writing Parent Information Evening (at Hexton School)
Wednesday 13 February	Working It Out Together – SEN – 2pm
Monday 18 to Friday 22 February	Half Term holiday – school closed
Tuesday 26 February	Parent Consultation Meetings – 5pm – 8pm
Wednesday 27 February	Class 2 swimming starts
Thursday 28 February	Year 6 Knex Challenge Parent Consultation Meetings – 3.30pm – 6.00pm
4 – 8 March	Level 1 and Level 2 Cycle Training
Thursday 7 March	World Book Day KS2 Netball competition
Friday 8 March	Class 3 Assembly – 9am Author visit – whole school
Friday 15 March	Class 4 Assembly – 9am
Friday 22 March	Class 5 Assembly – 9am
Friday 29 March	Class 2 Assembly – 9am
Wednesday 3 April	Year 3 & 4 Performance – 2pm
Thursday 4 April	Year 3 & 4 Performance – 6.30pm
Friday 5 April	Class 1 Assembly End of term

Summer Term Dates 2019

Tuesday 23 April	First day of Summer Term
Wednesday 24 April	Class 1 swimming starts
Thursday 25 April	Bags2School collection
Monday 6 May	Bank Holiday – school closed
Monday 13 to Friday 17 May	Year 6 SATS Week
Friday 24 May	Inset Day – school closed
Monday 27 to Friday 31 st May	Half Term holiday – school closed
Saturday 8 June	Pirtonfest
Monday 10 to Friday 14 June	Year 1 Phonics Testing
Thursday 13 June	Rural Athletics – change of date
Friday 14 June	Class photographs
Monday 24 to Friday 28 June	Year 6 Residential to the Isle of Wight - change of date
Monday 8 to Friday 12 July	Transition Week
Monday 8 July	Year 5 & 6 Performance 2pm
Tuesday 9 July	Year 5 & 6 Performance 6.30pm
Wednesday 10 July	Sports Afternoon
Thursday 11 July	Secondary Transfer Day (to be confirmed)
Friday 12 July	Reports to Parents
Monday 15 July	Open Session for Parents re Reports – 3.30 – 5pm
Wednesday 17 July	Reserve Sports Afternoon
Wednesday 24 July	Leavers' Assembly – 9am End of term

Term Dates 2018-2019

Spring Term 2019

Monday 7th January – Friday 5th April 2019

Half Term: Monday 18th February – Friday 22nd February 2019

INSET Day: Monday.7th January 2019

Summer Term 2019

Tuesday 23rd April – Wednesday 24th July 2019

Half Term: Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May 2019

Bank Holiday: Monday 6th May 2019

INSET Day: Friday 24th May 2019

School Term Dates for 2019-20 can also be found on the following link:

<http://www.hertsdirect.org/services/edlearn/schlfe/termdates/>