



# Hammond Academy

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[www.hammondacademy.org.uk](http://www.hammondacademy.org.uk)

Issue: 120



@Hammond\_Academy

Date: 15th December 2017

## Attendance

Well done to **Y2 Onyx** who are this week's winners with **97.8%** attendance.

**Target: 100%**

## Forthcoming Dates:

- 18th Dec, 9:15 : Re-scheduled Reception and Y1 Christmas Performance
- 18th Dec, 2.45 pm: Y3 Christmas Performance
- 19th Dec: Christmas Jumper Day
- **19th Dec: End of term (school closes at 1pm—no After School Club)**
- 3rd Jan 2018, 08:45 am: Start of Spring Term 2018

## Class Update: Year 1 Pearl

This week in Maths we have been looking at subtracting and trying to take multiples of 10 from a

number. In English we have been writing lists.

We have continued to make our Victorian bedrooms and rehearse for our Christmas play.



Plus we had an amazing Christmas dinner on Wednesday!

## Perseverance

**On the last day of term (19th Dec), there will be no After School Club.**

School closes at 1pm so please ensure your child is collected promptly at this time. Thank you.

Dear Parents and Carers



Well what a way to almost end the term! Although the snow is great fun, and an experience I enjoyed with my own children, for a school site as large as ours, it is a massive logistical operation. When I take a decision to close a school site, it is truly the last resort.

Unfortunately the snow was just too much for the limited man power on Monday which meant the site and access to it was just too unsafe, but our site team did an amazing job to get us open on Tuesday and keeping us open this week. A huge thank you to all of you as well for your patience and the optional pick up and start times.

Thank you as well for your flexibility this week regarding the performances. I know it has meant some performances have had to move, but it would be a shame to have to cancel them. The children really enjoy performing to their grown ups! This week saw the performances of the Nursery, and Year 2 Christmas show and the Year 4 music celebration. The singing, dancing and reading was incredible and the smiles on the children's faces showed how important events like this are in a primary school. A massive thank you to all of the parents who came out to see their children perform and to all the staff who were involved with the rehearsals. It really was clear to see how much hard work (and possibly blood, sweat and tears!) went into the performances. I know we still have two performances left which have been rescheduled - they will be worth the wait and thank you all in advance for changing your plans at short notice.

Our Christmas lunch was a huge success. Thanks goes to the kitchen who surpass themselves every year with the effort they put into the day; it's not easy getting all of those meals ready. A massive thanks also to the MSA and staff team which meant the day was a happy, joyous event for all. Lastly to Chef Graham from the Trust who came in to join in with the festive cheer!

Keeping up the festive theme, yesterday the children enjoyed a traditional festive panto. We feel it is really important for children to experience traditional Christmas events at this time of the year. The sounds of laughter filled the school and the children had an awesome time - I think the staff did as well!

I would like to take the opportunity in thanking the Friends of Hammond (FOH) for organising a delightful Christmas Fayre last weekend. It was a lovely event and I was delighted to see the community come together to support the school. As I've mentioned before, the work of the FOH is often unsung, despite them organising and holding events throughout the year which ultimately benefit all of the children in the school and raise a good amount of money. It's also worth mentioning that they do this voluntarily and really are desperate for more helpers to discuss, plan and run events.

So as one year draws to a close and another begins, it is always good to review the journey we have been on this term. We have made good progress towards our school priority of reading and it is wonderful to see so many children reading frequently at home and making excellent use of our library. Our attainment and progress in writing continues to improve through out Talk for Writing Project and the children's use of vocabulary is more evident in their writing. We will continue to focus on handwriting next term.

So how are we making this progress? First and foremost it is a hard working dedicated team; whether this be as Class Teacher, Teaching Assistant, Office Staff/Premises staff, MSAs or Cleaners keeping our school in the best condition. Also to our wonderful engaged and well behaved children. We are one team, aiming to provide the best educational experience possible for your children. Now there may be times when you disagree with something we have done or haven't done, there may be times when we make mistakes, but one thing you can guarantee is that we always make decisions with the children at the centre of them. I am proud of the school we are and the huge team I lead. I hope you are too. That just leaves me on behalf of our Hammond Team to wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

**Denise Kennedy, Principal**



Christmas Fair raffle prize winners have been notified via email, however some prizes still need to be collected from the office:-

Hollie, Y3A Elisei, Reception Coral Megan, Y4 Jasper Lilly, Y4 Quartz

## Friday After School Club, Spring

**Term** is almost full. Book your space now on Gateway.

## Reception Stay & Play

25th January 2018, 2.45 pm—3.30 pm, Classrooms



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## IMPORTANT DEADLINES

### Apply for Reception (Sept 2018) by 15th Jan 2018

Nursery Parents/Carers: If you have not already applied, please bear in mind the above deadline. Thank you.

### Nursery September 2018 Intake Open Days

Thu 25th Jan—1.30pm, Tue 6th Feb—1.30pm Thu 22nd Feb - 1.30 pm

Please contact the school office to book.

**Our Nursery Admission Form will be available on our website shortly. Deadline to apply for a September 2018 Nursery place:**

**16th March 2018**

**Further information to follow on our website.**



### RE....can you help?

We are looking for parents/carers/family members to come in and speak to the children about their religion for RE lessons.

RE week is scheduled for week commencing 19<sup>th</sup> Feb 2018. This would be an ideal time for you to share your knowledge and experiences. Please contact the office if you are able to help. Thank you.

**Respect**

### Sports Club:....this term and next

We apologise for the club cancellations this week due to the poor weather conditions. As mentioned in last week's newsletter, the Spring Term sports clubs have now been released and most are full. These clubs will commence on Monday 8th January. If you have booked and paid for the club, your place is secure. However, an email to confirm will be sent prior to 8th January.

**Game On** will be running a Multi Sports Club on a Tuesday afternoon as of Tuesday 23rd January until 27th March 2018. This club will be available to children in Reception, Y1 and Y2. A letter/consent form has been emailed today, or can be collected from the office.

### Nursery Stay and Play: January 2018

#### **Ruby**

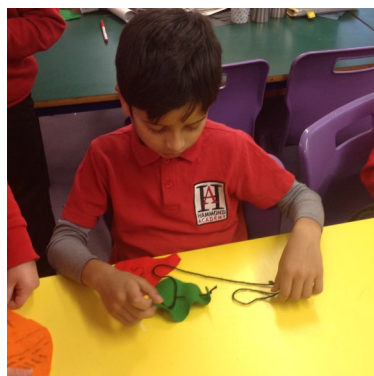
15<sup>th</sup> January 9-9:30 am: Blue Group - Mrs Meacock

16<sup>th</sup> January 9-9:30 am : Red Group and

Green Group - Mrs Chuimi and Mrs Carberry

#### **OPAL**

17th January 2:50 -3:20 pm—Red Group and Green Group who attend whole day can choose which session they want to come to.



**Year 2** have been busy on their DT project, we can't wait to see the finished products.



**Teamwork**

Miss Matthews

### Year 1

'12 penguins tweeting' arts and crafts.

Miss Fernandes



## Families First Portal

Families First Portal is a website which can help you find:

- Information, advice and guidance on local and national services for families, parents or carers
- Childcare options and much more
- Many of these services are free for families to access

Visit the website to find out what is available for you and your family

[www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/familiesfirst](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/familiesfirst)

