



Hammond Academy

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@Hammond Academy

Issue: 136



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Attendance

Well done to **Y4 Jasper** who are this week's winners with **100%** attendance.

Target: 100%

Forthcoming Dates:

- 18th June: Health & Safety Week
- 19th June: Y5 Ancient Greek Workshop
- 20th June, 3pm: Y4 Citrine Class Assembly
- 21st June: Summer Disco
- 25th-29th June: Y6 residential to Butlins, Skegness
- 25th June: Nursery Open Session (new parents)
- 26th June: Reception Open Session (new parents)
- 27th June, 3pm: Y2 Emerald Music Performance for Parents (in class)
- 28th June, 2:45 pm: Reception Stay & Play
- 29th June: Nursery Rhyme Time
- 3rd July: Reception trip to Whipsnade Zoo
- 5th July, 3pm: Y1 Pearl Music Performance (class)
- 10th July, 3pm: Reception Coral Assembly (Hall)
- 10th July, 3pm: Nursery Music Assembly (canopy)

Dear Parents and Carers

Wow what a week we have had! First of all I want to say a massive well done to our Year 1 Children and team for the Phonics Screening this week. They all did so positively with their special tests and enjoyed it! Mrs Godbold and Mrs Sutherland, our Phonics leaders, were so pleased with the children and how hard they worked. I think the children enjoyed the experience and loved their special certificates as well as their fruit and biscuit at the end! "I wish every day was Phonics screening!" was a comment I heard from several children – they really do make me smile. We can't release the phonics screening percentage pass rate as of yet as the official pass mark has not been released by the government but I am incredibly proud of all the children who took the test. The children at this school are always prepared so well and we have such strong phonics teaching at this school.

It's also been a busy week for Year 2, children and teachers. On Tuesday Mrs Matthews, Miss Morby and myself spent the entire day moderating the KS1 assessments with the Local Authority. I am pleased that our judgements were very accurate and the moderators were impressed with the reading books that they saw in year 2. This is a credit to the improved teaching of reading across the school this year linked to the school plan. Yesterday was the trip for year 2 which celebrated all the hard work Year 2 have done this term.

Today you should have all received the teaching allocations for next academic year 2018-19. As you will see, a few teachers are leaving but I am excited by the new teachers who will be joining Hammond in September. You will notice that Miss Simpson, Mr Ramsey and Miss Tinoco are leaving. Miss Simpson is going travelling, Mr Ramsey is relocating and Miss Tinoco is returning to Spain. We wish them well. Regrettably, Mr Mitchell and his team (Mr Skeggs and Mr Street) will also be leaving us in September. Educational funding is at an all time low currently and the Trust have had to make some difficult decisions regarding staffing. Unfortunately Music was an area that has had to be looked at. The children will still receive music teaching by their class teacher who will be in receipt of professional development next academic year. Individual instrument lessons will still continue. Personally I would like to thank Mr Mitchell and his team for developing the music provision at Hammond.

Before I close just a quick polite reminder, again please can I mention that some children are being left on the playground far too early unsupervised in the morning. The earliest time they should be left is 8.35am please. Any children left before this time will be taken to breakfast club and you may be charged. We need to ensure that our children are safe and supervised. Also please ensure that children do not climb on the equipment before and after school. Thank you all for your support.

With football fever well underway, I hope you manage to either enjoy the World Cup this weekend or escape outside! I myself am very much looking forward to watching the matches and I have sweepstake team to be cheering on!

Kind regards, **Denise Kennedy Principal**

We are looking for a **parent and community governor** to support our school. If you are interested or know anybody who is, please contact **Carrie Bennett** (cbennett@aspireacademies.org.uk) at Aspire for further information. Please apply by **Friday 22nd June**.

Reception Coral Class Update



We returned to school to find our butterflies had emerged from their chrysalis. We released them in the playground and children said their goodbyes after caring for them last half term. They thoroughly enjoyed our topic 'Growing and change'. We have started a new topic this week about 'Africa' and the children have been learning actions to the story Handa's Surprise by Eileen Browne. We have been learning new songs about African animals, exploring African drums and preparing for our trip to Whipsnade zoo. Coral class have enjoyed recent literacy sessions on 'Helicopter stories' where children let their 'imagination fly'. They use their creativity and act out their own stories with the class.



As a school we raised **£337.30** for **Sports Relief!** Well done to all who dressed up and donated to this worthwhile cause. *Let's aim to raise even more next year!*

Year 2 Trip to South End, Thursday 14th June

On Thursday the whole of Year 2 went to Southend Sea Life Centre. Whilst we were there we saw many different types of sea creatures. They ranged from tiny sea horses to huge black tipped reef sharks. Below is what we enjoyed the most!



'I really liked the Giant African Tortoise, he was 150 years old'
Luca (Diamond)

'The fish tunnel was amazing, I could just walk through and stare at the fish. It was like being underwater' Faith (Diamond)

'Really liked being with Summers mum and having lots of other mums helping us' Aimee (Diamond)

'The jellyfish were fantastic because they were purple. The sharks were amazing because they looked quite small but actually were quite scary!'
Damian (Emerald)

'I enjoyed looking at the sharks because they were scary and huge!'
Natalia (Emerald)

'Watching the meerkat—they are so lazy' Morgan (Onyx)

'Watching the sharks because they were right above our heads'
Anya (Onyx)

We would like to thank all the parent helpers who came with us on the trip, we hope you also had an enjoyable day!

SUMMER DISCO
THURSDAY 21ST JUNE
NURSERY & RECEPTION
3.45PM - 4.30PM

TICKETS £3 WHICH INCLUDES UNLIMITED SQUASH WATER AND A BAG OF SWEETS OR CRISPS. PLEASE SEND MONEY IN INSIDE A NAMED ENVELOPE AND HAND TO THE TEACHERS IN THE MORNING OF THE DISCO.

YEARS 1, 2 & 3 **YEARS 4, 5 & 6**
4.45PM - 5.45PM **6.00 - 7.00PM**

TICKETS FOR YRS 1-6 ARE £2 THIS CAN BE PAID ON THE DOOR. SNACKS AND DRINKS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE, FOR WHICH A SUITABLE AMOUNT OF MONEY CAN BE SENT IN WITH YOUR CHILD.

PLEASE NOTE, PARENTS WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO STAY ON SITE. PLEASE RETURN AT THE ALLOTTED TIME TO PICK UP YOUR CHILD.



Parking Update

Further to our visit from Mike Penning MP earlier this month, Hertfordshire County Council have been advised that 50 yards of double yellow lines outside the Academy would greatly improve safety pedestrian and driver safety. We will update you in due course.

Y5 Parents: South West Hertfordshire Schools Consortium Admissions Testing will be closing at 6pm on Friday 22nd June 2018. Late registration will not be permitted. The test registration website is: www.swhertschools.org.uk.

Summer Reading Challenge

Mischief Makers is inspired by the much-loved iconic children's title Beano, which celebrates its 80th anniversary this year. This year Dennis, Gnasher and friends will be helping children explore a map of Beanotown to find the mysterious buried treasure and become the ultimate mischief makers.

Research shows that children's reading can 'dip' during the long holidays and this can cause children to lose confidence when they return back to school. The Summer Reading Challenge encourages children to get into libraries and helps them keep up their reading skills. It is the UK's biggest promotion of reading for children – last year, over 21,500 Hertfordshire children took part – and it's free.

Children are challenged to read six library books or e-books of their choice during the holidays. For every two books they read, they are rewarded with two stickers. When they have completed the challenge, they will receive a wristband and are invited to a presentation ceremony where they will be given their certificate and medal. In addition, participants will have the opportunity to win tickets to an exclusive author event. The Summer Reading Challenge materials are suitable for visually impaired children.

Are you able to volunteer?

Discovery Centre, Y3:
2nd July

Forest Schools—in
Reception/Y1 until the
end of term (Mon &
Wed)

If you can help, please contact the office. A Hammond DBS and safeguard training is required. Thank you.

★ Star of the Week

Presented today: Nursery Ruby: Charlie & Zayna Opal: Zulaikha & Moksha
Reception Coral: Vino & William Reception Sunstone: Sofia

To be presented on Monday 18th June: Y1 Pearl: Jeremy

Y2 Diamond: Samara Emerald: Chloe Onyx: Sasha

Y3 Moonstone: Freddie Sapphire: Emily S & Madeleine

PLEASE NOTE:

Boosters for Y2 finish on Wed 27th June.

No sports clubs (AM & PM) will run week commencing 25th June. Construction, Game On, Choir and Dance will run as usual during that week.

No football training on Friday 22nd June.

School Attendance Information for Parents/Carers

It is through attendance that pupils maximise their full potential, enhancing their life chances for the future. Missing school means missing out on learning and this can have an impact on a child's development and attainment. There is a strong statistical link between attendance and attainment.

The law states that children of statutory school age who are on roll at a school or academy must attend regularly and punctually. Regular attendance is important, because it is the best way ensuring children make the most of the educational opportunities available to them.

Parents and Carers have a legal duty to ensure their children attend school regularly and punctually. Failure to ensure a child's regular attendance at the school where they are registered is a criminal offence which carries a fine of up to £1000 per parent per child (Section 444(1)) or in more serious cases (aggravated offence), a fine of up to £2500 per parent per child and/or up to 3 months imprisonment (Section 444 (A)).

Maximising School Attendance

- Children need to go to school regularly and punctually to make the most of their educational opportunities and parents/carers have a vital role in making that happen.
- Our attendance target is 95% and above. If you are having trouble getting your child to go to school please contact us. we will discuss the attendance issues with you and work together to put a plan in place.
- School offers meeting and phone calls to discuss attendance issues.
- Develop consistent evening and morning routines with your child.
- Regularly talk to your child about their school day.
- Please try to book medical appointments afterschool and booked holidays out of term time.
- Please call the absence line if your child is unwell and unable to attend school.
- Pupils need to arrive at school on time —the school day starts at 8.45am

Descriptor	Threshold Attendance	Actual Attendance	Whole Days Absent	Learning Hours Lost	
Excellent	100%	190 days	0	0	
	99%	188 days	2	10	
Good	98%	186 days	4	20	
	97%	184 days	6	30	
	96%	182.5 days	7.5	37.5	
Satisfactory	95%	180.5 days	9.5	47.5	
	Cause for Concern	90%	171 days	19	95
89%		169 days	21	105	
88%		167 days	23	115	
87%		165 days	25	125	
86%		163 days	27	135	
Unsatisfactory	Serious Cause for Concern	85%	161.5 days	28.5	142.5
		84%	159.5 days	30.5	152.5
83%		158 days	32	160	
82%		156 days	34	170	
81%		154 days	36	180	
Critical	80%	152 days	38	190	

Penalty Notice Process

School operate the Penalty Notice process for 15 or more unauthorised sessions of absences in the current or previous term. On the 1st February 2016 Hertfordshire County Council changed the Penalty Notice from 21 to 15 sessions of unauthorised absence in the current or previous term. Please note a sessions is half a day of unauthorised absence. The Penalty Notice requires you to pay a fine of £60 within 21 days. If this fine is not paid within the time limit the penalty rises to £120 which must be paid within 28 days. (E.g. two parents with two children could incur a total cost of £480). If liable for prosecution for this offence. Penalty Notices are administered by the local Authority and they have the responsibility for issuing them to parents and carers.

Requests for absences during term time

Amendments have been made to the 2006 regulations in the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013.

The amendments make clear that Head teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. As a parent/guardian you are strongly urged to avoid booking holidays during term time.

If your child is absent from school because of a holiday which has not been agreed this will be classified as an unauthorised absence and this may lead to a Penalty Notice.

By taking family holidays during the designated holiday periods, you will be supporting your child's full school attendance, learning and development. There are 13 weeks of the year to take holidays out of term time.