

Hannah Ball School

Weekly Newsletter

23rd September 2022



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The long weekend gave some of us a chance to stop and reflect, something that doesn't happen often in our hectic lives. The Queen's funeral was an impressive mix of pageant and mourning and a lovely celebration of the Queen's life. Many of you will have marked this occasion in different ways and I do hope that you all had a chance to spend some valuable family time together.

Thank-you to everyone who attended our meet the teacher events this week. It was lovely to be able to chat with some of you after. The information slides will be shared with you early next week.

One of the main messages that the teachers shared with you all was the importance of being on time for school each day. Being punctual encourages your children to develop positive habits. We do expect your children to be in school by 0855. Lessons will start promptly at this time. We still have some families arriving 5 or even ten minutes late each morning. Even though this doesn't sound much, it adds up. 5 minutes late each day is 25 minutes over a week, 975 minutes or 16 and a half hours over an academic year. 10 minutes adds up to 32 and a half hours over the course of a year - which is a full week's learning!

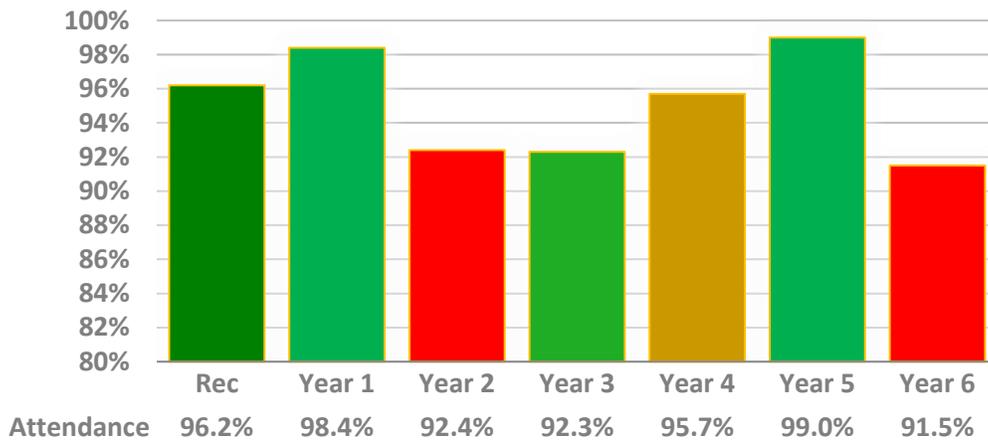
Apart from the valuable learning time your own child is missing, other children are affected by your lateness too. The teacher has to stop her lesson. There is disruption - your lateness has created a distraction. Time is wasted as the teacher often has to repeat the learning, repeat her instructions, take your child's lunch order, collect in their planner, and ask them to put their coat away. As you can see the implications of being just 5 minutes late are wide reaching. Please be on time. What kind of example are you setting to your child by bringing them to school late?

We all do appreciate the vast majority of you that do turn up on time every day. We also must thank-you for being sensible when arriving to school to drop off and pick up your children. Many of you are parking down by the green and walking up with your children. That means that you are taking care and keeping everyone safe.

Have a lovely weekend,
Mr. Hingley



Attendance & House Points...





Star of the Week

Reception

Noah for trying really hard to get to school on time and having a smiley face on arrival. Keep up the good work Noah!

Year 1

Patrick for showing great resilience when editing his work, always asking for help when needed and always showing a great attitude towards learning.

Year 2

Nafisa -she wrote an amazing story map in English and remembered key parts of the class story map, and made it her own. She also included beautiful illustrations alongside her story map. Well done Nafisa!

Year 3

Mustafa is a friendly and welcoming member of year 3. He is also incredibly helpful and he consistently demonstrates the Hannah Ball values of kindness and respect. Also he produces outstanding work across his subjects. We are incredibly proud of him.

Year 4

Affan for working hard on his handwriting - he is beginning to find ways that will help him to make his handwriting neater and more legible.

Year 5

Freddie - for his excellent use of 1st person when writing a diary entry this week, he creatively added in some extra detail to personalise it.

Year 6

Zara for always exhibiting Hannah Ball values and for being an excellent role model. We'll miss you!

MESSAGES FROM THE TEACHERS & STUDENTS...

Reception

Reception pupils have had a busy week learning their new sounds and their harder to read and spell words. They have enjoyed taking a reading book home and sharing this book with their family. Please continue to share these at home and sign their planners. The planetarium came to visit Hannah Ball and the children were thrilled to learn about space. Your children will be receiving a plastic wallet containing their harder to read and spell words in. Please look after these and keep them in their book bags so that we can add to them next week. Have a great weekend!

Year 1

Year 1 pupils have had another fantastic week of learning. They are all managing the transition from Reception to Year 1 very well keeping up with the high expectations we have set for them-what a resilient class! In English the pupils have continued to develop sentence construction and use of adjectives to describe characters and settings. On Thursday, we had the Wonder dome Planetarium visiting and the children had an amazing fly through the Milky Way (or the solar system), looking closely at all the planets. They took a closer look at planet Earth and explored what makes our planet so special. They also looked at the stars in the night sky, learning how to recognise constellations and stories associated with them. Pupils have all been set 2 pieces of homework this week-a Spelling and Maths tasks so please check their school bags and do support them in doing this work which is due back on Wednesday. Also continue to read with your children. Thank you for your support continued and have a great weekend.

Year 2

We have had a busy week in Year 2! In English this week we have made our own story maps, based around the text we have been reading 'You Choose', used adjectives to describe a setting and written our own setting descriptions. In Maths, we have been learning to flexibly partition numbers to 100. The children tried really hard with this new concept. In Science this week, we looked at the suitability of different materials to make objects. We enjoyed discussing the most suitable materials to make a spoon out of. Finally, in D&T, the children planned out a house that they were going to make, and then enjoyed building them using a range of different materials. Well done Year 2 on a great week!

Year 3

This week in year 3 we have been busy learning about sun safety in science. The children created posters about the different ways that you can stay safe in the sun. Additionally, year 3 have also worked really using adjectives to describe characters in our class text Romulus and Remus. Keep up the good work and super effort!

Year 4

How quick this week has flown by! Year 4 have been working hard on their English unit by exploring the characters and setting from our text. We 'hot-seated' the character of Moses from 'The Prince of Egypt' to explore his emotions and feelings. The children came up with some impressive open questions to try and get as much information as they could from the character. In Maths we have been learning about number lines up to 10,000. In art we have looked at the technique of 'tessellation' as another form of art. Be sure to ask your child what tessellation is. We will be using this technique as well as collage in the coming weeks to create the Ancient Egyptian Bastet Cat. Well done for all you hard work this week year 4!

Year 5

This week, Year 5 have had the wonderfully immersive experience of the Wonder dome planetarium, where they were amazed by the size of stars even bigger than our sun. We learned about the enormity of the universe and about the different space missions that have happened in history. We are excited to watch the moon rocket launch on Tuesday, hoping that it will finally go ahead. The children asked some really challenging questions to our guest, some that he couldn't answer! In our lesson time, we have learnt about how long planets take to orbit and which direction they rotate on their axis. In DT, we evaluated some moon buggies, preparing to design our own in the coming weeks.

Year 6

Year 6 have had a busy week this week as they have been completing their baseline assessments. Ms Harris and I have been very impressed with their resilient and mature attitudes towards the assessments which they should be very proud of. To continue their work on the 'Hero Twins' myth in English, year 6 have been looking at how to use relative clauses to extend their writing and how to write an effective character description. In science, they have been learning how our eyes work to help us see - we have many budding scientists who had thoughtful questions and went away wanting to learn more! In history this week, year 6 created independent double page spreads to show what they have learned through their own research about the ancient Mayan Gods. Well done year 6 for all of your hard work this week

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2022 Dates

Date	Event	Who?
October 2022		
Monday 17 th October	Forest School Chiltern Rangers (More details to follow)	Selected children from Y3, Y4 and Y5
Friday 21 st October	Last day of half term (Normal finish time)	Whole school
Monday 31 st October	Start of new half term School Opens	Whole school
December 2022		
Tuesday 20 th December	Last day of term (Normal finish time)	Whole school

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2023 Dates

Date	Event	Who?
January 2023		
Weds 4 th January	INSET Day – School Closed	Whole School
Thurs 5 th January	Start of Spring Term – School Opens	Whole School
February 2023		
Friday 10 th February	End of half term (Normal finish time)	Whole School
Monday 20 th February	Start of half term – School Opens	Whole School
March 2023		
Friday 31 st March	End of Spring Term (Normal finish time)	Whole School
April 2023		
Monday 17 th April	INSET DAY – School closed	Whole School
Tuesday 18 th April	Start of Summer term – School Opens	Whole School
May 2023		
Monday 8 th May – Thursday 11 th May	SATS WEEK	Year 6
Friday 26 th May	End of half term (Normal finish time)	Whole School
June 2023		
Monday 5 th June	INSET DAY – School Closed	Whole School
Tuesday 6 th June	Start of half term – School Opens	Whole School
July 2023		
Tuesday 4 th July	Transition day	Whole School
Wednesday 5 th July	Transition day	Whole School
Friday 21 st July	End of Summer Term (Timings tbc)	Whole School
September 2023		
Monday 4 th September	Start of Autumn Term (tbc)	Whole School