

# HANNAH BALL SCHOOL

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER 24TH FEBRUARY 2023



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Headeacher: Mr N Hingley

## Message from Mr Hingley

Dear parents,

Strike action has been called by one Union. The following dates for action will affect Buckinghamshire schools:

- Wednesday 1 February 2023: all eligible members in England and Wales.
- Wednesday 1 March 2023: all eligible members in the following English regions:  
East -Midlands, West Midlands, Eastern.
- Wednesday 15 March 2023: all eligible members in England and Wales.
- Thursday 16 March 2023: all eligible members in England and Wales.

We will endeavour to keep the school open but if we can't we will prioritise like we did in lockdown. I will share further information on Monday 23rd January.

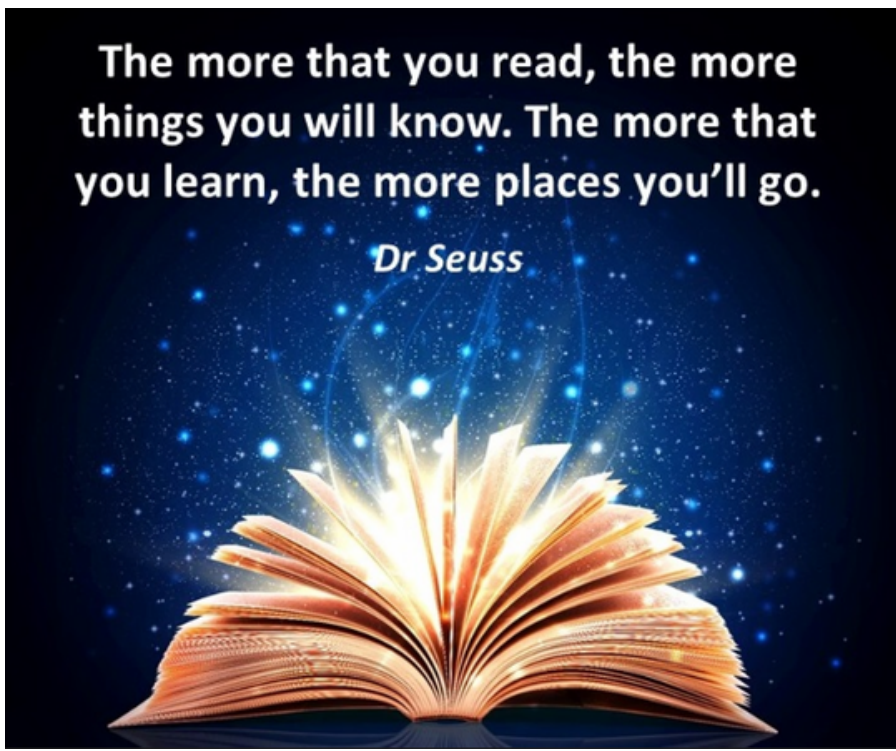
Thank-you for your continued support.

I have been pleased to see how much reading has been going on in school this week. Our pupils are provided with regular opportunities to read in school, which includes guided reading, comprehension tasks and whole class teaching of comprehension, one to one reading and also the use of our lovely library. Did you know that we now have over 6,000 books in our library?

I love the following quote from Dr. Seuss.

The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go.

*Dr Seuss*



Reading for pleasure is something that we are focussing on in school. What a way to bond with your children, no matter what their age. Why not take some time out of your busy schedules over the weekend and read with your children, or even read yourself. You are your child's first (and most important!) teacher, so it really does start at home. What book are you reading? What is your child reading?

The love of reading is one of the greatest gifts a parent can give a child.



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Year two look like they are having a fabulous time with their learning. I am quite jealous that they are enjoying one of my favourite books, 'Jim and the Beanstalk' by Raymond Briggs and are studying the artwork of Georgia O'Keeffe. What wonderful opportunities we are providing for your children!

Well done also to Year 4 for their attendance this week (above 96%) and also to Year 2, who weren't far behind them!

## Attendance – information for parents

In the event that your child is unwell, we ask that you contact the school to let us know. To notify us of your child's absence, please use the email address:

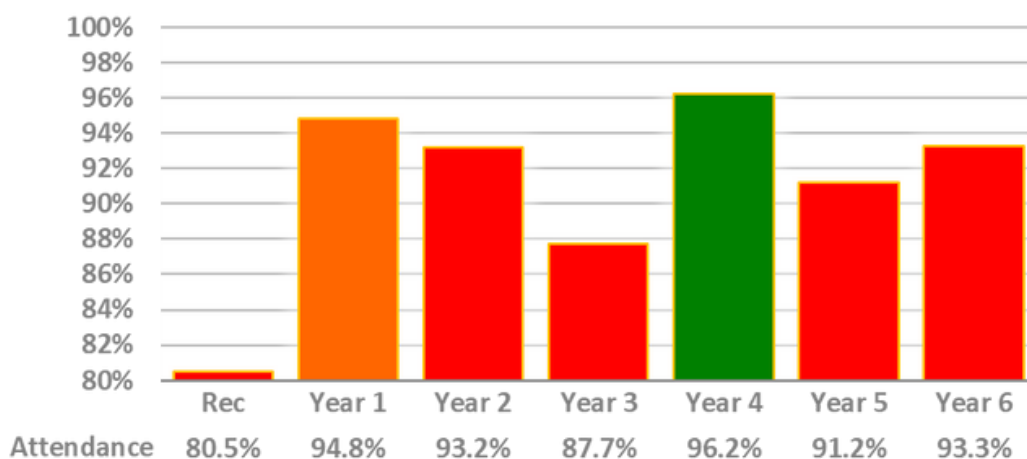
[office@hannahball.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:office@hannahball.bucks.sch.uk)

or phone the school office on 01494 522476 giving your child's name and class and the reason for absence.

This email address is monitored by Mrs Sullivan who deals with daily attendance matters.

Thank you.

# This weeks attendance



# Mathletics

**CERTIFICATES WILL GO TO THE FOLLOWING PUPILS WHO HAVE  
SCORED OVER 1000 POINTS THIS WEEK! WELL DONE!**

**Y1**

**David  
Sofia**

**Y2**

**Aleeza  
Anas  
Hajrah**

**Y3**

**Abu Bakr  
Mustafa  
Sasha**

**Y4**

**Anaum  
Sethun**

**Y5**

**Aaron  
Aleema**

**Y6**

**Amana  
Cassie  
De'Shawn  
Haydn  
Israa  
Madiha  
Maria  
Muhammad  
Shazain  
Rania  
Sarah**

**AND A SPECIAL CONGRATULATIONS TO MADIHA WHO HAS EARNED A SILVER CERTIFICATE!  
SHE HAS SCORED 1000 POINTS EACH WEEK FOR 5 CONSECUTIVE WEEKS. WELL DONE!**



**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE ONE CAN TRUST FOODBANK!**

Here's a list of the most urgently required items  
for families and individuals in need of food support.

**Tinned fish**  
**Tinned tomatoes**  
**Tinned vegetables**  
**Tinned potatoes**  
**Tinned pulses**  
**Pasta sauces**  
**Cooking sauces**

**Tinned meat meals**  
**Tinned ham**  
**Tinned corned beef**  
**Shampoo**  
**Toothbrushes**  
**UHT milk**  
**Size 6&7 nappies** (no smaller sizes  
needed)

**SORRY WE CAN'T ACCEPT:**  
**Alcohol, homemade food, opened packets, out of date food**

# Star of the Week



## RECEPTION

Abdullah for settling in well into our classroom and adjusting to our rules and routines.

## YEAR ONE

Isma has settled back into class really well this week and has been participating and working hard in all carpet sessions and independently at her table.  
Well done Isma - we are very proud.

## YEAR TWO

Yasmine for settling in really well to the class and completing a brilliant piece of writing.

## YEAR THREE

Mustafa - He is always ready to learn and wants to help as much as possible. He is friendly with his classmates and respectful towards his teachers. We are lucky to have Mustafa in our class.

## YEAR FIVE

Asharah, For writing an excellent balanced argument.

## YEAR FOUR

Nawal - for always being helpful around the class and going above and beyond without being asked.

## YEAR SIX

Haydn for his excellent writing this week. His story includes all of the features we have been looking at and was very entertaining!

## MESSAGE FROM THE TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

### RECEPTION

This week in Reception we have been learning about Pancake Day! We talked about why some people have pancake day and what the meaning is behind it. We also talked about all the yummy things we were going to put on our pancakes. We have also started to learn about our new topic this half term " Do cows drink milk?" , where we will be looking at the animals that live on the farm and we have also got some exciting classroom guests arriving this half term. Please continue to read with your child everyday. There were new observations of all your child's learning on Tapestry sent home before the holidays so please make sure you check it. Have a good weekend.

### YEAR ONE

Year 1 have had a lovely week this week and have settled back into class really well after the half term.

This week we have been reading the book "Farmer Duck" and from it we are learning how important it is to help each other.

In Maths we've worked on doubling which has been fun, we learnt a new skill in PE which was how to bowl and in Science we have been talking about the season changing from Winter to Spring and what might change in the day.

## YEAR TWO

The children in Year 2 have made a fantastic start to the half term. They have started a new text in English called 'Jim and the Beanstalk' and created their own story maps and sequenced the story using pictures. In Maths, the children continued with their topic, 'Multiplication and Division' by learning how to use the multiplication symbol and how to write their own multiplication number sentences. In Science we started a new topic all about plants. The children learnt about what plants need to grow then they did observational drawings of different seeds and bulbs. Finally in Topic, we have been looking at the artist Georgia O'Keefe and her detailed paintings of flowers. The children then completed their own sketches of flowers using Georgia O'Keefe's style of close up observational drawings. We looked at different ways to use our pencils to create effects when we are drawing. Well done on a great week Year 2!

## YEAR THREE

Year 3 have been working hard this week. In science we have been learning about rocks and did a really interesting experiment testing the hardness, durability, waterproof properties, and whether the rocks will be damaged by acid ( we used vinegar). We have also been learning all about the Stone Age in history and the children have also enjoyed guided reading, spelling lessons and handwriting as well as getting to know Miss Stickland in their first week together. Well done year 3!



## YEAR FOUR

Year 4 had a great start after a restful half term. We have started our new Topic on 'Burp, Bottoms and Bile' in which we will be covering lots of new knowledge around how the body works.

The children have been exploring an interactive model of the digestive system in class and are enjoying pulling it apart and putting it back together. In Maths, we have continued our work on length and perimeter and have been learning all about rectilinear shapes and how to calculate the length of the missing side.

## YEAR FIVE

It has been a very busy week of writing in Year 5 and your children have been hard at work publishing their balanced arguments. Their topic was about home schooling and they prepared their opinions, for and against leading up to their hot write. It has been interesting to read their points of view and how they have justified their reasons.

Our next topic is: Tudors and we have just started reading a book by Berlie Doherty called Treason. This will link seamlessly with our trip to The Tower of London next month. We are also looking forward to learning about the life of King Henry the VIII, his many wives and children and their life stories.

Just a note - Many thanks to parents for signing and sending in your children's permission slips.

Swimming: PLEASE NOTE!

Next week your children will be having a water safety session. They need to bring in their swimming costumes as usual and have a pair of pyjamas packed as a requirement for this lesson.

Homework:

Spellings, Mathletics, Handwriting Practice and optional: Scratch

Once again can I please remind parents to sign planners and hear your child read at least twice a week for 10 minutes.

Mrs Guy and Miss Dear

## YEAR SIX

This week in year 6, we have been writing our own endings to 'Darwin's Dragons' focusing on speech and creating atmosphere. The stories have been a pleasure to read and I can't wait for the final published versions to go up on display! In maths, we have been continuing our work on Algebra, looking at how to form equations from a word problem and how to solve 1 and 2 step equations. In history, we have introduced our topic 'The Victorians' where we have started by putting the Victorian time period into historical context through comparing it to the other historical time periods we have learnt about since year 3.

In science, year 6 have started their new unit, 'living things and their habitats' where we have been looking at the different ways we can group animals depending on their various characteristics. In PSHCE, year 6 started their new topic 'Healthy Me' by taking on the role of an Agony Aunt where they responded to letters. They really enjoyed giving advice to children facing various scenarios regarding their health and well-being. Well done year 6 for all of your hard work this week!

# ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

## Why is it Important to be Punctual?

Being on time for school is so important. Lost minutes amount to lost learning. Also, being late means your child has an unsettled start to their day.  
you will need to sign your child in to the late book at the office if they are late.



**DID YOU KNOW?** If you are 15 minutes late each day you will have missed a full 2 weeks of school in one year?

# ATTENDANCE

## WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

### ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

Children are required by law to attend school 190 days per year. The Government states that every pupil's attendance should be at least 95%.

How do YOU measure up?

Attendance	Days	Weeks	Lessons
	Absent	Absent	Missed
95%	9 Days	2 Weeks	50 Lessons
90%	19 Days	4 Weeks	100 Lessons
85%	29 Days	6 Weeks	150 Lessons
80%	38 Days	8 Weeks	200 Lessons
75%	48 Days	10 Weeks	250 Lessons
70%	57 Days	11.5 Weeks	290 Lessons
65%	67 Days	13.5 Weeks	340 Lessons

89% & Below  
Drastic effect on academic achievement

95% - 90%  
Cause for concern

100% - 96%  
Excellent



# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Date	Event	Who?
February 2023		
Tuesday 28th February	Pre-loved Uniform Sale -School Hall 3pm	All
March 2023		
Friday 17th March	Tower of London Trip	Year 5
Monday 27th March	Odds Farm Trip	Reception
Fri 31st March	End of Spring Term (Normal finish time)	Whole School
April 2023		
Mon 17th April	INSET DAY – School closed	Whole School
Tues 18th April	Start of Summer term – School Opens	Whole School
May 2023		
Monday 1st May	May Bank Holiday	Whole School
Monday 8th May	Bank Holiday for the King's Coronation	Whole School
Mon 8th – Thur 11th May	SATS WEEK	Year 6
Tuesday 23rd May	Tempest Photography – Class Photos	Whole School
Fri 26th May	End of half term (Normal finish time)	Whole School
June 2023		
Mon 5th June	INSET DAY – School Closed	Whole School
Thursday 22nd June	Trip to The Wimbledon Theatre	
Tues 6th June	Start of half term – School Opens	Whole School
July 2023		
Tues 4th July	Transition day	Whole School
Wed 5th July	Transition day	Whole School
Fri 21st July	End of Summer Term (Timings tbc)	Whole School
September 2023		
Mon 4th September	Start of Autumn Term (tbc)	Whole School