



“
Your word is a lamp to guide
my feet and a light for my path.
”
(Psalm 119.105)

Newsletter 1

5th September 2019

This term's core value: Respect

Dear Parents and Carers

A big welcome to all our new families and a huge welcome back to those who were already with us. The children have all settled in really well, especially our new Rainbows. We hope they have enjoyed their first day at school.

School website

The year group pages have been updated on our website and there is a wealth of information about what your child will be learning this half term. Please have a look so that you are well prepared for when you ask your child what they have been doing at school and they reply 'nothing'! Learning Log tasks are also listed for the half term. Learning Logs do not start for Reception children until after Christmas. You can check the school diary on our website (colour coded for year groups) and our newsletters are also available under the newsletter tab.

www.haddenham-st-marys.bucks.sch.uk

WOW days - an explanation for new parents

As part of our topic based curriculum, we have 'WOW days'. These are exciting activities that introduce the new class topic. These could be an interesting visitor coming to school, a school visit or a creative day within school. Check your Year Group page for this term's 'WOW days'. Sunshine and Sky Classes are having their WOW days on Monday 9th September to introduce their new topics. Rainbow classes do not have a WOW day until next half term. The topic for Sunshine Classes is 'out and about'. The Sunshine team have lots of fun activities planned and the children will be outside for most of the day so please can they come to school wearing outdoor clothing (not uniform). Children in Sky Classes will be having a day of fun activities to introduce their 'there's no business like show business' topic (no dressing up needed on this occasion!).

Coming in to school

As you will have hopefully gathered by now, children line up with their class in the playground when the bell rings at 8.55am. Staff will be outside from approximately 8.50am for you to pass on any quick messages. If you need to speak to a member of staff for a more lengthy matter, please contact the school office to make an appointment. Please be assured that we have an 'open door' policy and we hope that you will feel extremely welcome in school at any time but, in terms of practicality and for the benefit of the children, long discussions with staff will need to be pre-arranged. If you arrive late to school please sign your child in at reception and wait for a member of staff to take your child to their class.



If you are in the school entrance hall please do not open the door to other parents (even if you know them). It is paramount that only members of staff should open the door to visitors to comply with safeguarding procedures.

Also in line with safeguarding procedures, we cannot have parents and children in classrooms after school unless a prearranged appointment has been made. We often have parents and children coming in to collect forgotten items but I'm afraid these will just have to wait until the next day.

Forgotten water bottles, hats, bookbags etc

Please do try to remember all equipment in the mornings. It can be disruptive if we are constantly taking forgotten items to classrooms.

Due to safeguarding procedures parents should not be in school unless they have signed in. Parents or children should not be in classrooms unless accompanied by a member of staff. This is due to GDPR regulations and again because of safeguarding procedures. Please help us to keep your children safe by respecting these arrangements.

Regular collection of children

If your child is collected on a regular basis by a childminder, relative or friend please let us know by email to the school office and we will add them to our list of regular collectors. This means you do not need to let us know each time your child is collected by them. Similarly, we are happy for you to nominate an 'any time collector' for your child to allow your child to be collected on an ad hoc basis by someone other than yourself.

Family collective worship in Church

Family services are held in St Mary's church on the first Monday of every month at 9:15am. These are really lovely services based on our core values and the themes that we are learning about in collective worship within school. The first service this term is to be held on Monday, 9th September at 9:15am, everyone is welcome so please do join us if you can.

Meet the teacher evening

We will be holding a "meet the teacher" evening and open forum on Monday 16th September starting at 6:00pm pm. Teachers will hold two sessions in their classrooms, one at 6:00pm - 6:30pm and then a repeat of the previous session from 7:00pm -7:30pm; those of you with children in different classes can therefore attend sessions for both of their classes. The teachers will talk about the year ahead and answer any questions that you may have. From 6:30pm until 7:00pm I will talk about the year ahead for the school as a whole and answer any questions. Representatives from the Governors and PTA will also be there.

Photographs

Our school photographer, Veronica Stewart, will be in school on Wednesday 18th September to take individual photographs of all the children. (If the weather is bad this will be rescheduled to Wednesday 25th September). Please send your child in their smartest uniform on that day.

MacMillan coffee morning

We will be hosting a MacMillan Coffee Morning for all parents and carers (especially new ones) on Friday 27th September from 9:00am to 10:30am in the hall. Please come along if you can, everyone is very welcome.

Stanley

We sponsor a child in Haiti through the charity 'Compassion'. His name is Stanley and he is twelve years old. We ask each child to bring in 10p on a Tuesday. '10p Tuesday' pays for Stanley's sponsorship throughout the year. Children enjoy posting the 10p into the tin each week - please look out for the tins

in the playground. We also receive regular letters from Stanley which are shared with the children. The school council also holds fundraising events for Stanley throughout the year.

Midday supervisor recruitment

We have many vacancies for Midday Supervisors. If you would like to join our happy team please collect an application form from the school office.

PTA - calling all new recruits!!!!

We have a very active PTA. If you feel that you could offer any of your time for events or would like to join the PTA, please let us know. We are currently busy organising our fireworks display for Saturday 26th October. Please put the date in your diary, it is a lovely family event and we need lots of helpers too. Please see the separate email which the PTA will be sending out shortly.

If you would like to contact our PTA directly you can email them at: hsmpta1@gmail.com

Christian values and ethos group

The Christian Values and Ethos Group meet a couple of times a term. We are a group of staff, parents, governors and church representatives who work together to find ways of promoting the values of the school to children. You do not have to be a 'regular church goer' to join this group; it is all about working together as a school community. If you feel that you would like to be a part of the Christian Values Group please let us know. I'll be in touch with the date of the first meeting very soon.

School travel plan

The school travel plan work hard to ensure that our children are safe and as environmentally friendly as possible when travelling to school. They organise many events and road safety training for our children. They usually meet once each half term. If you feel that you would like to be a part of this team, please let us know. Mrs Richardson (Deputy Head) leads the team.

As part of the school travel plan we also encourage children to walk, scooter or cycle to school. More information and a 'Go for Gold' walk to school card will be sent to all new children in the next week.

Please also ensure that children (including younger siblings) do not ride bikes or scooters in the school playground or through the Churchyard. If your child wishes to ride a bike or scooter to school, please come and get a permit from the school office.

Library team

We are looking for volunteers to help with the school library team. If you are able to help please let us know.

After school clubs

After school clubs will start from the week commencing Monday 16th September. Information about clubs available this term and booking forms will be sent by email.

ParentPay

Reception children and children new to school this year will be bringing a letter home today with information about our e-payment system which is used to pay for school trips, after school clubs, Happy Hedgehogs etc. Please check your child's bookbag for your letter which will contain information about how to activate your account. You may notice that some items show as a payment item on your account (eg after school clubs), please only make payment if you would like your child to join the club.

Forest School

Forest school is an exciting part of our curriculum and we are very proud to have specially trained Mrs Roads to lead it. Every class in the school will have a half term's worth of Forest school. With budgets being extremely tight, this year we are asking for a £5 donation for the year to cover hot chocolate and other resources. This will show as a payment item on your ParentPay account from next week. The first classes to have their sessions this half term will be Sunshine 1 on Wednesday mornings and Sunshine 2 on Wednesday afternoons. Please send children in outdoor clothing on their Forest School day.

Collaboration project

The Year 1 classes from Thomas Hickman School in Aylesbury will be joining our Year 1 classes in Forest School this half term as part of a collaboration project and for Thomas Hickman to learn about Forest School. We look forward to welcoming them.

Uniform old and new

If you have any uniform that your child has grown out of please send it in to school for our nearly new uniform shop. Our approved uniform supplier is the The Print Lab (56 Edison Road, Aylesbury). <http://www.the-print-lab.co.uk/>

Pupil premium funding

Pupil Premium is a Government scheme that provides funding to schools of between £935 to £1,320 per pupil whose parent(s) receive one of the qualifying benefits. The funding is paid to school and is spent directly on the individual child. It can be used for support in school, for afterschool clubs, before and after school care, school trips and uniform so please check the letter sent with this newsletter to see if you are eligible and sign up straight away so that your child will benefit from this.

Looking forward to a great new school year!

Best wishes



Mrs Karen Collett
Headteacher

Haddenham St Mary's Church of England School Calendar

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Buckinghamshire Term Dates 2019 - 2020		
Autumn Term 1 2019	Wednesday 4 September	Friday 25 October
Autumn Term 2 2019	Monday 4 November	Thursday 19 December
Spring Term 1 2020	Tuesday 7 January	Friday 14 February
Spring Term 2 2020	Monday 24 February	Friday 3 April
Summer Term 1 2020	Monday 20 April	Friday 22 May
Summer Term 2 2020	Monday 1 June	Tuesday 21 July

Haddenham St Mary's INSET Days 2019 - 2020		
Monday 2 September	Tuesday 3 September	Monday 6 January
Friday 22 May	Friday 3 July	

Calendar of Events: Autumn 2019	
Monday 9 th September	9:15am Collective Worship in Church - all welcome
Monday 9 th September	Sunshine and Sky WOW Day
Wednesday 11 th September	Sunshine Classes start Forest School
Monday 16 th September	6:00pm - 7:30pm Meet The Teacher Evening
Wednesday 18 th September	Individual Photographs with School Photographer Veronica Stewart
Friday 27 th September	9:00-10:30am Macmillan Coffee Morning, all welcome
Monday 7 th October	9:15am Collective Worship in Church - all welcome
Tuesday 22 nd October	7:00pm Full Governing Body Meeting
Monday 28 th Oct - Friday 1 st Nov	Half Term
Saturday 26 th October	Village Firework Event at HSM
Monday 4 th November	9:15am Collective Worship in Church - all welcome
Monday 2 nd December	9:15am Collective Worship in Church - all welcome