



Husborne Crawley Lower School
School Lane, Husborne Crawley, Beds. MK43 0UZ
Head Teacher: Mrs S. Isaacs B.Sc.(Hons) NPQH

Tel: 01525 280232
Email: office@hclowerschool.co.uk
www.hclowerschool.co.uk

Finding Everyone's Full Potential

February 2017 Newsletter

HEAD'S UPDATE

What a busy half-term of learning we have had! As well as the exciting Learning Journeys the children have enjoyed sporting events, singing, dance, learning outside, caring for our animals and gardening. We had a fabulous visit from a huge, colourful Chinese Dragon, as part of our celebrations for the Chinese New Year.

Parents' evenings will be happening in the second week back, please make sure you sign up for a time slot, the sign-up sheets will be available during the first week of the new half term. Several parents commented on the questionnaire that they wished the time allocated for the consultation was longer than 10 minutes. To fit in all the appointments I am afraid we do need to limit the time slots. We focus on the progress your child has made in their learning, and their future targets. If you would like a longer appointment to discuss other issues do please ask your child's teacher to arrange this for a different, mutually convenient time. Teachers do try and be on the playground every day for informal chats, please do take this opportunity to speak to them informally. We have had some very positive feedback on the new collection arrangements for our Nursery and Reception children, and the daily feedback on learning which is now made available to parents. *Mrs Isaacs*

SCHOOL OFFICE NEWS

Over the next few weeks you will meet Mrs Karen Bloodworth who will be working with Mrs Bland and learning the ropes of office assistant and receptionist. We will be sorry to lose Mrs Bland, but working here over the past year has given her the confidence to return to full-time employment in her field of marketing, following a short re-training period. We have a carefully planned handover to ensure the office works as smoothly as always. I am sure you will welcome Mrs Bloodworth to our Husborne Crawley family. As yet we don't have a leaving date for Mrs Bland but it will be towards the end of the Spring Term.

MUSIC AT HCLS We are keen for as many children as possible at our school to play a musical instrument. Staff know that this has a hugely beneficial effect on children's learning. Now is a good time for children to think about what they would like to play, ready for the next academic year (Autumn 2017) especially those children who will be moving into Year 2, 3 or 4.

PUPIL PREMIUM FUNDING

This is a tricky time for many of us and it can be hard to make ends meet. If you are in financial difficulty it may be that you are entitled to this funding. Please speak to Mrs Bland or Mrs Hood if you would like further information.

PARENT QUESTIONNAIRES

Thank you for your comments; all questionnaires will be read and Mrs Kirsten Ash, School Governor, is going to collate all the responses. Your feedback will help us make our school better for everyone. The requests to try and sort out the car-parking problems have been noted; thank you to parents for your ideas on how this could be improved. The views of the parents who attended the recent parent forum with Governors have also been taken into account. Thank you so much to everyone who attended and gave their views.

SAINSBURY'S ACTIVE KIDS VOUCHERS We are collecting once again. Please do ask friends to help us, & post the vouchers in the box by the school office, thank you! Last years' vouchers gave us lots of lovely new sports equipment for the children. We need a volunteer to help us count and order, please!



PTFA Thank you for planning a fabulous film night for us all! We are looking forward to Friday's film, pizza and popcorn!

LOTS OF USEFUL INFORMATION!

INTERNET SAFETY WEEK: HECTOR THE PROTECTOR

Hector is a small and friendly dolphin helping to keep your children safe online. This is a very useful website to teach your child about using computers and online safety https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/5_7/hectorsworld/ Look out for the Hector's World safety button at <http://hectorsworld.netsafe.org.nz/teachers/hectors-world-safety-button>

GOVERNORS AT OUR SCHOOL

Thank you to Mrs Taylor and Ms Tabary who have volunteered to become parent Governors. Current Governors and their roles are listed on the school website, under the 'about us' tab. Names and photos of our Governors are on the 'family tree' in the front entrance hall.

GYMNASTICS

The children who attended the Gymnastics competitions this week had a fabulous and fun filled time. They were a real pleasure to take out of school, well-behaved and willing to have a go at everything that was on offer, including parallel bars, tumbling mat, beams and trampoline. We achieved sixth place out of eighteen schools in the KS1 competition with a superb floor routine. The Class 2 children impressed the judges with some adventurous vaulting!

WORLD BOOK WEEK AND WORLD BOOK DAY <http://www.worldbookday.com>

We are planning a week of activities from Monday 6th March celebrating books and reading. The official World Book Day is actually 2nd March. We have already received the £1 book vouchers which will be given out to the children, and they may be used towards purchases at the Usborne Book Fair. Do you have a favourite book or poem in your own first language that you could share with the children, during the week? Please speak to your child's teacher, then just pop in and read to the children **at any time** during this week. Dads would be very welcome too! On Friday 10th we are having a dress up day, it would be brilliant if the children could dress up as a character associated with a favourite story of theirs. Do please speak to your child's teacher if you would like some ideas. We have an Usborne Book Fair in school on **Tuesday 7th**; a representative from Usborne books will be reading to the children, books will be on sale, and we will send catalogues home before this, for parents to look at.

TASTY TUCK

Children in Year 4 run our Tuck Shop every Monday at playtime. They are responsible for the ordering of stock, selling, and counting the takings each week. Children may bring 50p to school in a small named purse or envelope (change will be given if children don't have the correct amount). In accordance with our 'Healthy Eating' policy we only sell snacks with no added sugar or salt; examples are banana chips, popcorn, spicy noodles, garlic sticks, cranberry apricot and raisin mix, and Tex Mex. Our fresh fruit is still on offer every day (including Mondays) and all children are entitled to a piece of fruit each day. We also serve milk at playtimes.

CAR PARKING

If you are fit and able to walk a short way please consider parking in the Reading Room or at the 'Rec' end of the Pub car park if at all possible; this will allow families with young babies, or those who find walking a short way difficult, to use the car park adjacent to our school. Please ensure you pull in slowly and carefully, keeping to the left in case vehicles are trying to leave; please don't block the after school club parking spot in the afternoon, or the disabled space at any time. Please let grandparents and childminders know. Thank you for your help in keeping our children safe.

CHINESE NEW YEAR – THE YEAR OF THE ROOSTER

We had an interesting afternoon; we learnt about some traditional Chinese customs, and enjoyed writing, making lanterns, masks and food; as well as finding out about the Chinese Zodiac animals.

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2016 – 2017

The plan is available on the school website. Many thanks to everyone who has taken the time to complete the Ofsted 'parent view' questionnaire. The link is here, and if you haven't already done so we would be so grateful for your 'online' views. <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/parent-view-results/survey/result/6749/1>

LANYARD AMNESTY! If you have one of our red visitor lanyards, please return it to the school office!

Dates for your diary

February

10th Parents to Achievement Assembly
9:10am
10th PTFA Film Club 3:20 – 5:15pm
13th - 17th Half term holiday
20th All return to school
20th Full Governing Body meeting 7pm
21st Year 4 sports leader training

28th Parent Consultation 6pm – 8pm all classes

March

1st Parent consultation 1:30pm – 3:30pm for Class 1 and Class 2

March

2nd Parent consultation 2:00pm – 3:00pm for Foundation Stage Class only
2nd History Club visit to the Bedford Records office
3rd 'Being safe around dogs' a talk from Mrs Neve Davis
6th World Book Week
7th Year 1 and 2 Sports Hall Athletics team to competition
7th Usborne Book Fair and sale after school 3:30 – 5pm
10th dress up as favourite book character.
12th Mothering Sunday Service – TBC
17th Parents invited to assembly

March

20th Mrs Clancy, Fulbrook Headteacher, to assembly
22nd Class 2 Fabulous Finish, trip to Verulamium
24th Class 1 Fabulous Finish trip to Bedford museum and castle
24th Comic Relief Day
24th Bingo Night PTFA fundraiser
29th Year 4 to PGL adventure holiday
31st Adventurers return
April
4th Last day of Spring Term
18th Staff training Day
19th Children return to school for Summer Term