



GREAT HOCKHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY

NEWSLETTER – Friday 29th November 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Attendance

Weekly Attendance	Week Ending 8/11/24	Week Ending 15/11/24	Week Ending 22/11/24	Week Ending 29/11/24
Rabbit Class	96.5%	84.4%	90.2%	89%
Owl Class	99%	100%	100%	96.8%
Deer Class	98.3%	95.7%	98%	98%
Hedgehog Class	91.3%	94%	90%	95.3%

Music Enrichment Day

The children have had a wonderful day filled with music! Thank you to our Friends Committee who paid for our brilliant drummer, Steve Bewes, who ran workshops with each class. Every child had the opportunity to play some kind of drum and then perform as a whole class. They were so enthusiastic and really enjoyed their session with Steve. During the day classes also listened to music and played music using a range of percussion instruments.

Writing Café

Thank you to all of the parents who attended our writing cafes - we hope it has helped you in understanding how we teach writing in school and how you could support your child when they are completing a writing task. I know the children really enjoyed having you in their classroom and were really proud of the writing they produced.

KS1 Football Tournament

We had the exciting opportunity to take 8 footballers from Year 1 and Year 2 to a football tournament at the Colney Training Ground of Norwich City Football Club. There were 12 teams from different schools all over Norfolk and the boys played mini matches against a whole range of them. This was the first time the boys had played together as a team and the progress they made during the tournament was fantastic. They gained confidence, began passing to each other, tackling the opposition and scoring lots of goals. A huge well done to Ellis, Cammy, Alfie, Elijah, William, Elliott, Charlie and Ryder – we were really proud of how you all tried your hardest and worked well together as a team.

Wonderful Writing

In our independent writing session, Hedgehog class were asked to describe a cold and frosty scene using their experiences of the chilly weather that week. We had so many wonderful descriptions and wanted to share one with you all.

Mrs Ambrose

As the pale winter sun dips behind the horizon, the icy breath of the night weaves through the air, whispering secrets to the trees, whose branches stretch out like frozen fingers grasping at the stary night sky.

The air itself feels alive, sharp and crisp – each breath visible as it leaves mouths, like ghostly whispers drifting away. On the ground, blades of grass stand stiff and proud, their green cloaks now shimmering white, as though dressed for a grand ball. Icy trees covered in frost glistened as frozen fractals shatter on the ground.

By Jack F Year 5

Special Visitors to Owl Class

As part of Owl class's learning about Florence Nightingale, they were very excited to receive a visit from a Paramedic and a Surgeon! In preparation for their visit, the children thought of some key and interesting questions which they wanted to know the answers to. It was amazing to hear about how different their roles and responsibilities were, compared to those medical professionals in the 1800s. The children even got to go in an ambulance!



Parent Forum

This term's Parent Forum will be at 9am on Thursday 12th December. Each session we will focus on a different area of the curriculum. This time it will be part of our History curriculum, so if you would like to see what a History lesson is like, please come along. Miss House will lead you through a lesson that Deer class have taken part in earlier this term. Please email Mrs Pavey in the school office to let her know that you can attend. Many thanks.

Sugar for Shelter

We would like to support the homeless, needy and vulnerable in Norfolk again this year by donating sugar to our local shelters at Christmas Time. Lots is used in shelters and food kitchens as it is a fast energy boost for the homeless. So if you could donate a bag of sugar, it will really make a difference to someone this Christmas. Please drop them off to a box in our foyer by the school office any morning next week: from 2nd December – 6th December at 9am, when they will be collected. Thank you for your support.

Christmas at Great Hockham

Christmas will begin in Great Hockham this year when we have our Christmas Tree Dressing Assembly on Monday 9th December. Every child has the opportunity to add a decoration to our Christmas tree and we sing Christmasy songs. Rev Vanessa will also be joining us to tell the Nativity story. This is also the day that our Christmas Post Box arrives, so if your child would like to send Christmas cards, please check they have the recipient's name on the front along with their class name. They can be posted between 9th December until 20th December.

Rabbit and Owl class will be performing a Nativity, but this year it will be in the Village Hall, so hopefully all parents and carers will have a good view and be able to hear every word – please see separate letter with further details.

We will be cooking our own Christmas dinner again this year, with all classes having a different responsibility from mixing the stuffing or the Yorkshire batter mix to cutting out the Christmas shaped biscuits, all organised and cooked by Mrs Garrod. We will have our Christmas dinner on Tuesday 17th December and we will be inviting the children to wear Christmas jumpers with their regular uniform on this day.

Children can wear their own Christmasy clothes on Thursday 19th December ready for Hockham's Got Talent and the Christmas Fayre that is being organised by our Friend's committee after school on that day. Thank you for your donations of different bottles last week. Children can wear their own clothes again on Friday 6th December in exchange for a sweet or chocolate treat. Please drop your donations off in the playground on your way into school. Thank you.

Finally we will finish the Autumn term with a Whole School Christmas Celebration in Holy Trinity Church, where all classes will sing some songs and share some poems. The choir will also perform in Church. This will be at 2.15pm and children can be collected directly from the Church if parents or carers can attend.



Tissues

Request: If anyone could donate some boxes of tissues to our school, they would be really appreciated. The classes go through so many boxes each week during these cold winter months. Please drop them off to the school office. Many thanks.

Dates for your Diary

December

Monday 2nd December – Friday 6th December: Sugar collection

Friday 6th December: Own clothes in exchange for a chocolate or sweet treat

Monday 9th December: Homework due in

Monday 9th December: Christmas Post Box Arrives

Tuesday 10th December @ 8.40- 8.55: Hedgehog Homework Celebration

Tuesday 10th December: Choir to visit Coronation House Care Home

Wednesday 11th December @ 8.40-8.55: Rabbit Homework Celebration

Wednesday 11th December: Owl and Deer class Norwich Museums Trip

Thursday 12th December @ 8.40-8.55: Owl Homework Celebration

Thursday 12th December @ 9am: Parent Forum

Friday 13th December @ 8.40-8.55: Deer Homework Celebration

Friday 13th December: EYFS/ KS1 Nativity

Tuesday 17th December: Cooking own Christmas Dinner – wear Christmas jumpers with uniform

Thursday 19th December: Hockham's Got Talent - Children to wear Christmassy Clothes

Thursday 19th December @ 3.30pm: Friend's Christmas Fayre

Friday 20th December: Last day of the Autumn Term

Friday 20th December @ 2.15pm: Whole School Christmas Celebration at Holy Trinity Church

January

Tuesday 7th January 2025: First day of the Spring term

Have a lovely weekend, stay warm and safe in this cold wintery weather.

Best Wishes

Lisa Hazard

Mrs L Hazard – Headteacher.