

## Dates for the diary

### May

#### Monday 3rd

Bank Holiday –school closed

#### Thursday 6<sup>th</sup>

Whole Class Photographs

#### Friday 21<sup>st</sup>

Friends of Hamstel - Raffle Draw

#### Monday 31<sup>st</sup> –Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June

Half-Term Break

### June

#### Friday 18th

INSET Day –school closed May

#### Sunday 20<sup>th</sup>

Father's Day

### July

#### Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> & Friday 9<sup>th</sup>

Gemma's Farm visit

## Nursery Places – Sept 2021

Does your child turn 3 before Sept 2021? Our Nursery is now taking applications for places to start from September 2021. Please contact the school office for more information or to get an application pack. 30 hour and 15 hour funded places available.

Our initial deadline is today, Friday 30<sup>th</sup> April, however we may have some places for late applications after this date. Applications will be dealt with on an individual case basis after Friday's deadline.

## Today's Celebration Assembly

This week's focus value has been 'Effort & Resilience'. Classes that received the most dojo's for each year group are:-

Reception Year

**Kingfisher Class**

Year 1

**Newt Class**

Year 2

**Otter Class**



**We must keep on protecting each other.**

**HANDS** **FACE** **SPACE**

STAY ALERT • CONTROL THE VIRUS • SAVE LIVES

Today's celebration assembly on 'Effort & Resilience' tied in really well with our school joining in with The Captain Tom 100 Challenge, a gentleman who showed no matter a person's age or ability their efforts and resilience can make a real difference to the lives and well-being of others. Classes each celebrated in their own way and we hope that the activities they have taken part in today and the focus this week has led to some interesting chats at home. So far your generous donations have raised over £90.00!!

We understand that the local roadworks may be making parking difficult for those driving their children to school, if you live close enough please consider walking (it's one way to get your step count up!). However when parking please be considerate to those living and using the streets locally. We have received concerned comments from residents and parents regarding inconsiderate parking over drive-ways or on double yellow lines. Where children need to cross roads between parked cars, please keep a close watch out for your child and if driving keep to a low speed. Thank you.

We wish you all a lovely extended weekend, please remember to continue to follow the Government guidance regarding the pandemic. If your child or other member of the household begin to show symptoms please do let us know by emailing the school office

## Sneak peek at our week

### Year N - Nursery

We have had a great week in Nursery this week! We have been reading the story 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'. The children have learned all about different foods and discussed whether they are healthy or unhealthy. We now understand why the caterpillar has such a stomach-ache! We have also been learning new sounds this term. So far we have learned: m, a and this week s. The children have been exploring words with these sounds, and had a go at air-writing them!

In Maths we have been learning to count and recognise numbers. We have been so busy – but had great fun!

**REMINDER: Please remember to bring your books back every Thursday so the children can go home with a new book on Friday.**

### Year R - Reception

This week in Reception we have been learning about Minibeasts. We have read the story 'Mad about Minibeasts' in class which the children have loved. In Literacy we have identified a number of Minibeasts and have been thinking of factual sentences and having an adjective in our sentence. In Maths we have been learning our number bonds to ten in lots of different ways.

We have had so much fun during outdoor learning this week, we went on a Minibeast hunt and found out lots of facts about them. Our Caterpillars are continuing to grow, we have loved looking at them each morning.

**REMINDER: Please practise your handwriting at home if possible we have been learning e and f this week.**

## Outdoor Learning

### Monday 3<sup>rd</sup>

Bank Holiday

### Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup>

Squirrel

### Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup>

Hedgehog

### Thursday 6<sup>th</sup>

Otter & Fox

### Friday 7<sup>th</sup>

Badger

## Year 1

Year 1 have been busy finding out all about Samuel Pepys and putting themselves into his shoes to write a diary entry back in time. In Maths the children have been looking at fractions of shapes by finding half and quarters of different shapes. We have learnt that the fractions need to be equal parts. In Art we have been looking at the Fire of London art work by Rita Greer and exploring the colours of fire and then re-creating our own art work.

This week the Year 1 classes have enjoyed a visit from Essex County Fire and Rescue service. They spoke about The Great Fire of London, which is the Year 1 topic this half term, and showed us all about what happened during this time. The Year 1 children loved this visit and they even got to look at the fireman's uniform and take part in activities to work together as a team.

## Year 2

Year 2 have thoroughly enjoyed learning about the Rainforest animals this week, which included the jaguar and the toucan. The children found out lots of interesting facts and have been using these facts to write their non-chronological reports. In Maths we have continued to develop our skills in subtractions and renaming when we don't have enough 'ones' to take away from. We have also explored using an atlas to find where the Amazon Rainforest is in the world and looked at some of the physical and human features of this area.

**Next week:** Outdoor Learning takes place for Year 2 next week.

**Fox Class:** as school is closed for the Bank Holiday on Monday Fox Class will have some outdoor learning time NEXT THURSDAY.

**THURSDAY 6<sup>th</sup> Otter & Fox Classes:** Please can children come to school in full uniform for the Class Photo and a pair of wellies or other suitable outdoor shoes to change into. Thankyou.

## Arriving Late to School

We are finding that the number of children being brought to school late is increasing. As we currently have an extended arrival time up to 9am this should not be happening unless there are very exceptional reasons. Parents/carers will be asked the reason for lateness when they bring their child to the office and a note made on the attendance record for their child. Being late to school after 9am means that the class teacher will have already started the first lesson of the day and have covered the days' activities with the children, setting the scene for the day. This can cause disruption to the rest of the class and to the child's settling in.

Please make every effort to be on time in the morning, thank you.

## Reporting Absences

If your child will not be in school please let the school office know by 9am on the first day of their absence, with a detailed reason. We will follow up all absences where the reason is not specific. Your child will be bringing home a leaflet on Attendance today – Please check their Book Wallet, thank you.

## Friend of Hamstel Schools Super Prize Raffle

Please see the flyer attached with this newsletter for full details. You will need your ParentPay account activated to buy tickets



**JOIN MILLIONS OF PARENTS  
ON PARENTPAY**

Have you activated your account? If not a reminder of your log in details can be obtained by contacting the school office. Don't miss out on important information and using ParentPay to pay for clubs and other items. All letters sent home can also be viewed on our school website [www.hamstelinfants.co.uk](http://www.hamstelinfants.co.uk)

## Dinner menu

### Tuesday

R - Beef Meatballs with  
mashed Potato & Gravy  
G - Squash & Lentil curry with  
Steamed Rice  
P - Jacket Potato with cheese  
or Salmon Mayonnaise  
Chinese Cabbage  
Strawberry Cheesecake

### Wednesday

R - Roast Chicken Fillets with  
Roast Potatoes & Gravy  
G - Vegan Cornish pasty with  
Roast Potatoes  
P - Pasta with Roast Tomato &  
Pepper Sauce  
Green cabbage & carrots  
Chocolate Sponge &  
Chocolate sauce

### Thursday

R - Cumberland sausages with  
Mash & Gravy  
G - Lentil & Vegetable Lasagne  
with Garlic Bread  
P - Jacket Potato with baked  
beans or cheese  
Green Beans & Cauliflower  
Fruit Burst Jelly

### Friday

R - Fish Fingers & Chips  
G - Vegetarian Finger bap with  
Homemade Ketchup & Side  
Salad  
P - Pasta with Tomato Sauce  
Baked Beans & Sweetcorn  
Chocolate & Orange cookie

Freshly baked bread is available  
every day.