## Huxley CE Primary School Newsletter

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13.01.23

### Happy New Year...

Dear Parents,

First full week back completed and it is like we've never been away. The children have settled in so wonderfully and are raring to go! Once again there is a real 'buzz' to the school and it has been great seeing the children getting stuck into their new topics and units of work.

Thank you to those who managed to come to the coffee morning this week. It was a really good opportunity to share with you the developments over the past year and some updates and new things happening within school. Please remember to look at the curriculum pages on our website and Showbie for more in depth overviews and planning that we use.

There will be no Showbie spotlight in the newsletter this week as I will give you more time to upload items as you have only been back for 5-8days. Well done to those who have started to put a few things on however, these will be included in next week's spotlight. I know one little boy in particular has really been demonstrating our new worship theme of **perseverance** within his mathematics at home and he has kept trying even when it became challenging towards the end. Well done! On Showbie you will also find more communication with regards to DT and ART projects coming up and photos of what the children are getting up to in class too so do keep an eye on this or sign up for the notifications- if you are unsure of how to do this please contact us. We also have another coffee morning on 26th January which is about Showbie and a celebration of what is on there or support in how to use it. I hope to see some of you there.

Come Learn with Me days- We have already had CLWM for English and mathematics so as a team we thought it would be nice to do a science one this time. You will have received the emails yesterday to let you know about these (dates in the side diary too) For those of you who haven't been to one of these before, it is a chance for you to come and learn with your child- see what day to day life in our classrooms is like and how we teach certain subjects. Previous feedback from parents has been that it was very informative but also fun to work with their children in class. Due to it being science we have made these afternoon sessions this time (please note times). We have put them on different days so that parents with children in both classes can attend both sessions should they wish to. Please note this does mean a slight timetable change for our rolling rotation timetable for this particular week for Oaks (reminder- timetables can be found on our website and Showbie). We hope you can join us.

Come **Read** with Me- I will be holding a Come Read with Me session after school. These are new sessions. I would like to invite parents to come with blankets, teddies, pillows and come and sit in the hall to read with your child but then to listen to me read a story- this is just purely Reading for Pleasure! I will be doing an Acorns session on 31st January and Oaks on 8th February. This is straight after school in the hall. There will be hot chocolate too. Please can you email the office to let me know if you are attending to help with organization of this event. Many thanks.

P.T.O

# With God's love we can fly



#### **DIARY DATES 2022**

24<sup>th</sup> January 2pm Acorns Come Learn With me- Science

25<sup>th</sup> January 2.15pm- Oaks Come Learn With me- Science

26<sup>th</sup>- Coffee morning- Showbie and 'show-off'

31st January- Come Read with me-Acorns after school in the hall

8<sup>th</sup> February- Come Read with me -Oaks after school in the hall

w/c 6<sup>th</sup> February- Rags2Riches collection (see below)

14<sup>th</sup> February- Huxley's Got Talent

\*These may later change, or new dates may be added-see messages or emails for updates.

#### Year 6 moment

A lovely moment from one of our Year 6 pupils, Max, who asked me to share this celebration in the newsletter. He realised that it was a year ago that he visited Huxley and then started with us and he said 'it changed his life' Bless him.

Care in the Community project- Week commencing 6<sup>th</sup> February – Rags to Riches Collection. If you are anything like me, the new year is a time to get organized and have a clear out at home. I have three bags of clothes already -just from the boys rooms. Therefore, I have organised a Rags2Riches collection which means that not only will these clothes help those in need (at present they are collecting for Ukrainian families) but also it benefits the schools we can raise a little bit of money as well (40p per kg) please see poster below.

#### Well done!

**Improvement seen in attendance year on year comparison**- Just to let you know that we have seen an improvement in our year on year attendance data- below is the data from end of Autumn (Christmas) 2021 and this year's data. Well done on improving your attendance- much better- still some work to do- but keep it up!

End of Autumn term 21 FT 96.75% (government set target of 95%) Flexi 71.26% End of Autumn term 22 FT 96.9% ↑ increase of 0.15% Flexi 87.52% ↑ increase of 16.26%

#### **Additional days**

Just a reminder to book in five days before if you want your child to attend any additional days. We have had an increase in children in on a Friday and a Monday which has been lovely. Please note-those children who are now on 4 day flexi, you do not need to give advance notice as we have marked you in as a regular four days now.

#### Thank you!

A huge thank you to Joseph who represented Huxley at St Peters over Christmas. We all watched a recording of his reading in the hall. We are very proud of you Joseph. He will be receiving a special BLUE Huxley High Five Badge for representing the school. Well done Joseph.

#### **Huxley's Got Talent**

I mentioned this in my welcome back letter last week but if your child would like to be part of Huxley's Got Talent it is on 14<sup>th</sup> February after school. Please let the office know if your child is taking part.

#### Reading

For those children who have moved through RWI phonics scheme they are now on our new levelled library books. These are matched to their current reading ages. Every child has taken a colour banded book this week for their home reading. Please use their reading records to record their reading. They continue to take a read for pleasure book but the colour banded book will be explained further in an accompanying letter next week. Children on RWI remain reading the corresponding book bag books. Please remember these are for reading with fluency and practising the sounds they have been working on in phonics. They will also take a read for pleasure book which is chosen by your child from the library and the aim of this is for them to read it and share it with you as much as possible.

#### Wellies/spare shoes etc

Sorry that I sound like a broken record with this one but I want the children to remain playing outdoors on the field and in the woods but they must be dressed appropriately. They need to make sure they have a coat and wellies or spare shoes and ideally have spare clothes in their bag just in case. Well done to Mitchell and Joseph in Acorns this week who I saw independently go and get our waterproofs out of the outdoor box and put those on- very sensible boys! We only have waterproofs for our little ones so older children are more than welcome to bring those in if they want too. Some of the children have brought football boots in too- this is fine too as long as they take them off at the door as they would with their wellies.

If a child has not got the right footwear we have sectioned off part of the playground for them but they won't be able to go on the field at present. It really is extremely wet and muddy- lots of fun in the right clothing but slippery and dangerous if not.

#### Parent feedback

We are completely overwhelmed by the parental response to our questionnaire. We have had 15 responses and I wanted to thank you for your kind comments and positive feedback. Please see some of the comments below (with one to make you giggle!)-

We are very very happy and grateful for this school and all of the fantastic teachers!:) Because it is child led and totally inclusive. Children are taught in such a perfect way. They are happy, supported and that makes learning so much easier. Children shouldn't have pressures or feel anxious about education. Huxley's approach should be across the board in all educational settings.

Very welcoming nonjudgemental approach. Open to everything whilst maintaining very high values and morals. A safe environment

Have a wonderful weekend,

Mrs Gourley

Huxley has achieved more in 4 months for our child than his previous school achieved in 4 years. The dedication and care of all staff is truly remarkable. For the first time in years I am comfortable when I drop my child o

Huxley is a wonderful school full of peace and love but also full of deep thinking, questioning and learning. Paradoxically if you were to become a boarding school and offer seven days a week then our child would be ecstatic - yes we're extremely happy at Huxley.

