

THE HAMLET HERALD



'Outstanding learning, within a glittering curriculum, where everyone matters'

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HEADTEACHER'S NOTE

A very Happy New Year to you all, and a warm welcome back to the start of the spring term, 2024. I hope that all of our families had an enjoyable and restorative Christmas break.

I started the week with my assembly to the children, detailing how there is much to look forward to in the weeks ahead. I always think that the spring term is a particularly important one: we can hit the ground running, with both children and staff beginning to see the impact of all their hard work and efforts. There will be plenty of opportunities as we move through the term for you to come in celebrate your child's achievements.

We are so pleased and so proud when we're able to support a charity; local, national or international. We always educate the children about the charity and why we are collecting, ensuring we explain where the money goes, how it's spent etc... The certificate from Brixton and Norwood Foodbank below, clearly shows how generous our school community is. You might also like to know that since we started the Macmillan Coffee mornings, quite a few years ago, we've raised over £10,300 for MacMillan Cancer Support. Just incredible!

Finally, I would like to introduce you to a new face in the school office for this term: Mrs Malgorzata Calmita. I know that you will join me in making Malgorzata feel very welcome.



DOODLEVISION

The top three classes with the highest % in 'the green zone' this week are:

- First place** (12 points): **3KS** **56%**
- Second place** (11 points): **6TS** **42%**
- Third place** (10 points): **3RS** **40%**



Please keep on Doodling everyone...!

TTRS winner this week is...4M!

KEY DATES

Monday 15th January

Closing date for Y3 admissions for September 2024

Thursday 18th January

Y4/5/6 choir members Young Voices Concert at O2

Please see your separate communication this week with all of the final details for this special event

PTA NEWS

A very happy new year from the PTA Team.

Remember those wonderful 'Festive Photos' taken of your children before Christmas by our very special parent photographer extraordinaire?! A grand total of **£1,200** was raised for the school!! A huge thank you to all of our parents for allowing your children to be part of this initiative and for your very generous donations. The team behind the scenes worked very hard putting this together and in making it a fun activity for the children too. All credit to you all for your efforts!

Our next fundraiser: The PTA will be running a bar at the **Art Exhibition on 31st January**. So come along and grab a drink, while enjoying your child's creations in this extraordinary show of Hamlet talent. All funds go to the school.

Watch this space for the next PTA committee meeting date, which will be at **end of January**. We are planning to vote in our incoming PTA chairs and co-treasurer, alongside event planning for the year ahead. Dates will also be circulated via the class WhatsApp groups.

WEEKLY HOUSE POINTS

Topaz Water	Ruby Fire	Garnet Earth	Sapphire Air
106	135	125	112

COMMUNITY SENIOR LETTERS

Thank you to all our families and children who gave their time to create something for our Community Senior Letters project in the run-up to Christmas. This is the second time we have partnered with Castlebar Care Home and Charlton Park Care Home for this project. We are hoping to make this a more regular feature of the school year: look out for some more information about how you can help just before the Easter holidays.

The letters, puzzles, cards and artwork submitted were generous and joyful and we hope the residents had their hearts warmed over the festive period by our Hamleteers' thoughtful efforts.



FINAL CALL FOR PRIMARY ADMISSIONS

A final reminder for those of you with siblings currently in Y2. Please do not forget to submit your online application by Monday 15th January 2024. Applications for Southwark residents should be submitted online via the Southwark website: <https://www.southwark.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-admissions>

If you live in a different borough, you apply via their admissions website.

Please do not hesitate to ask us if you need any support with this process.

ONLINE SAFETY

We are mindful that some of our lucky Hamleteers have delightedly torn the wrapping off various internet-enabled devices over the festive season, and probably couldn't wait to start their exciting journeys into previously undiscovered corners of the online universe...!

As such, with phones and other devices offering an increasing number of ways to pass the time, it can prove difficult for children to set them aside. As grown-ups, we therefore need to manage the boundaries and our rules/expectations that we implement in our own homes. The 'Managing Screen Time' guide on the next page, provided by National Online Safety is a great tool for providing you with some simple but effective tips, while suggesting alternative activities, that are far less reliant on technology.

GARDENING CLUB DONATIONS!

We have an exceptionally keen gardening club at school who are determined to bring about our best spring harvest yet. But we need your help! We are seeking donations of the following items:

gardening gloves (adult ones are fine - even better!)
shovels
trowels
pots (all sizes, plastic and otherwise)
rakes
secateurs
wheelbarrows
pitch forks
compost bins
canes
shears

If you have any of these at home which you no longer use we would be most grateful to receive them!

Please email Miss Oddie directly, who will co-ordinate our gardening club donation response. Thank you in advance.
woddie.210@lgflmail.org

OUR LEARNING GRIDS/SPELLING LETTERS

We would like to draw your attention to the new year group 'Our Learning Grids' which have now been disseminated to you both as a hard copy and electronically. If you haven't seen yours, please check the book bag! The grids are also always available on the website.

The grids are a good starting point for you to have an overview of the areas of learning and specific topics being covered in class for each half-term. They provide you with additional home learning/family activities that may be of use/interest which you can access as you wish. They are also a good place to find links for useful websites, and a further reference point for key dates, specific to your child's year group.

Our half-termly spelling letters were also emailed out to you along with the Our Learning Grid (end of last term). These provide you with a week by week break down of the spelling rules/patterns/sounds the children are learning. Some time each week reviewing these spellings as part of your child's homework routine can really benefit and support the learning the children are doing in class. These are also available on the website, via the Communications page.

PARENT PAY: SPRING TERM MUSIC FEES

A reminder that music lesson fees for this term are now showing in your Parent Pay accounts. You have an option of paying the termly fee in one go, or by paying in instalments, convenient to you. The first instalment is now due.

Thank you in advance for prompt payments.

Top Tips for... MANAGING SCREEN TIME

According to the latest stats, people aged between 8 and 17 spend four hours on digital devices during an average day. Obviously, a new year is ideal for fresh starts and renewed efforts – so lots of families are trying to cut down their combined screen time right now, creating more moments to connect with each other and relying less on gadgets to have fun. Our top tips on reducing screen time are for everyone, so you can get your whole family involved in turning over a new leaf this year!

GET OUT AND ABOUT

If the weather's decent, spend some time in the garden or go for a walk. Even a stroll to the local shop would do: the main thing is getting some fresh air and a break from your screen.

TRY A TIMED TRIAL

When you're taking a screen break to do a different activity or a chore, turn it into a game by setting yourself a timer. Can you complete your task before the alarm goes off?

GO DIGITAL DETOX

Challenge yourself and your family to take time off from screens, finding other things to do. You could start off with half a day, then build up to a full day or even an entire weekend.

LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Let your family see you successfully managing your own screen time. You'll be showing them the way, and it might stop some of those grumbles when you do want to go online.

AGREE TECH-FREE ZONES

Nominate some spots at home where devices aren't allowed. Anywhere your family gathers together, like at the table or in the living room, could become a 'no phone zone'.

HOLD A SCREEN TIME AMNESTY

As a family, agree specific windows when it's OK to use devices. This should help everyone to balance time on phones or gaming with enjoying quality moments together.

BE MINDFUL OF TIME

Stay aware of how long you've been on your device for. Controlling how much time you spend in potentially stressful areas of the internet – like social media platforms – can also boost your wellbeing.

'PARK' PHONES OVERNIGHT

Set up an overnight charging station for everyone's devices – preferably away from bedrooms. That means less temptation for late-night scrolling.

SWITCH ON DND

Research shows that micro-distractions like message alerts and push notifications can chip away at our concentration levels. Put devices on 'do not disturb' until you're less busy.

TAKE A FAMILY TECH BREAK

Set aside certain times when the whole family puts their gadgets away and enjoys an activity together: playing a board game, going for a walk or just having a chat.

SOCIALISE WITHOUT SCREENS

When you're with friends, try not to automatically involve phones, TVs or other tech. Having company can be loads more fun if your attention isn't being split.

WIND DOWN PROPERLY

Try staying off phones, consoles, tablets and so on just before you go to sleep. Reading or just getting comfy in bed for a while can give you a much more restful night.

Meet Our Expert

Minds Ahead design and deliver the UK's only specialist postgraduate mental health qualifications. They also provide training and support to education organisations and local authorities – empowering school leaders and staff with the knowledge and tools to shape their settings into inclusive communities where the mental health of pupils and personnel is prioritised.



DEVICE BOX

The National College



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday

Key Dates for Spring Term 2024

Y3 -
 Y4 -
 Y5 -
 Y6 -
 Whole School -

+

Key Dates	Events	Further Details
08.01.24	Spring term starts for children	Normal School time 8:45-8:55am
08.01.24	* After School Clubs Resume*	Contact office for further details
12.01.24	Final Prospective Parent Tour for Y3 Admission September 2024	09:00-10:00 (booking via school office)
15.01.24	Closing date Primary Admissions (Y3 & Reception) September 2024	Deadline 23:59
18.01.24	Young Voices Concert – Y4/5/6 Choir members (regular)	The O2 Arena (ticketed event)
22.01.24	Y5 Wonderdome Workshop	Turney Hall, morning
24.01.24	5B Class Assembly	Grown-ups welcome, Turney Hall, 09:10
30.01.24	Y6 visit to Centre of the Cell	All day, off-site
31.01.24	4GR Class Assembly	Grown-ups welcome, Turney Hall, 09:10
31.01.24	Dulwich Hamlet Art Exhibition	17:00-19:30
01.02.24	Dulwich Hamlet Art Exhibition	08:30-09:00
06.02.24	Safer Internet Day	Related activities throughout the week
07.02.24	Y6 Parent and Carer Café: focus on Y6 SATs	Facilitated by the Y6 Team 08:45-09:30 Burbage
07.02.24	5N Class Assembly	Grown-ups welcome, Turney Hall, 09:10
08.02.24	PTA Valentines Cake Sale	Please bring in your sweet treat donations. Village playground, 15:25
09.02.24	Y6 Mexicolore Workshop	Turney Hall, morning
12.02.24 HALF TERM HOLIDAY 16.02.24		
21.02.24	Height and Weight Checks for Y6	National Child Measurement Programme
21.02.24	Parent & Carer Café: focus on Maths	08:45-09:30 Burbage
23.02.24	PTA Quiz Night	Turney Hall – details to follow
26.02.24	Parent & Carer Café: focus on ABRSM Music Exams	08:45-09:30 Burbage
27.02.24	Y6 visit to Jamyang London Buddhist Centre tbc	Part day, off-site
28.02.24	4G Class Assembly	Grown-ups welcome, Turney Hall, 09:10
w/c 04.03.24	DHJS World Book Day Celebrations	Details in due course
05/03/24	Parent & Carer Café: focus on SEND	08:45-09:30 Burbage
05/03/24	Y4 Portals to the Past Anglo Saxons & Vikings Workshops	All day, on-site
06.03.24	5A Class Assembly	Grown-ups welcome, Turney Hall, 09:10
08.03.24	PTA Mother's Day Cake Sale	Please bring in your sweet treat donations. Village playground, 15:25
13.03.24	4M Class Assembly	Grown-ups welcome, Turney Hall, 09:10
15.03.24	DHJS does Red Nose Day	Details in due course
18.03.24	Y6 Annual Reports Part 1	Via email – English & Maths comments with next steps
w/c 18.03.24	Y6 Parent & Carer Progress Meetings	Various times, online
19.03.24	Open Classroom – all year groups	15:25-16:15
20.03.24	Y3 visit to Buster Farm	All day, off-site
20.03.24	Y4 Parent and Carer Taster Lunch	Details to follow
21.03.24	Open Classroom – all year groups	08:25-08:45
27.03.24	Y4 visit to Battle Abbey	All day, off-site
28.03.24	Y3/4/5 Annual Reports Part 1	Via email – English & Maths comments with next steps
28.03.24	DHJS Easter Egg Competition	Details to follow
28.03.24	Last Day of Spring Term	Normal finish time, 15:25
29.03.24 EASTER HOLS 12.04.24		
15.04.24	Summer term starts NO INSET DAY	Normal start time 08:45-08:55

Further events may be added – we will inform parents and carers at the earliest possible opportunity.

[WEEKLY MENU]



Week 3

Week Commencing: Mon 15th Jan - Mon 5th Feb - Mon 4th Mar - Mon 25th Mar



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main Dish of the Day	Butchers Sausage & Crushed Potato with Gravy (CE, G, MK, SO, SU)	Sweet & Sour Chicken (CE)	Roast Chicken & Gravy	Beef Lasagne (E*, G, MK)	Fish Fingers & Chips (F, G)
Vegetarian Dish of the Day	Veggie Sausage & Crushed Potato with Gravy (G, MK)	Vegetable Chow Mein (CE*, E, G, MU*, SO)	Roasted Vegetable Filo Parcel & Tomato Sauce (CE, G)	Mac & Cheese (G, MK)	Margherita & Chips (G, MK)
Vegetable Choice	Seasonal Greens	Steamed Rice & Stir Fried Greens	Rustic Roast Potatoes & Seasonal Vegetables	Green Salad or Coleslaw (E, MU)	Beans or Peas
Dessert of the Day	Forest Fruit Traybake (E, G, MK*)	Fruit Jelly	Apple Crumble & Custard (G, MK)	Fruity Flapjack (G)	Double Chocolate Chip Cookie (E, G, MK, SO)
Jacket Potato Bar	See Board for Details	See Board for Details	See Board for Details	See Board for Details	See Board for Details
Cold Selection	Salad Bar Homemade Bread (E*, G, MK, SO) Fresh Fruit	Salad Bar Homemade Bread (E*, G, MK, SO) Fresh Fruit	Salad Bar Homemade Bread (E*, G, MK, SO) Fresh Fruit	Salad Bar Homemade Bread (E*, G, MK, SO) Fresh Fruit	Salad Bar Homemade Bread (E*, G, MK, SO) Fresh Fruit

Allergens:

CE = Celery, CR = Crustacean, E = Eggs, F = Fish, G = Cereals Containing Gluten, L = Lupin, MK = Milk, MO = Molluscs, MU = Mustard, N = Nuts, P = Peanuts, SO = Soya, SU = Sulphur, SE = Sesame Seeds

Dulwich Hamlet
Junior School



