



# Hassocks Infant School

## NEWSLETTER NO. 1 - September 2023



Dear Families,

We have enjoyed a fantastic start to the new school year, despite the very hot conditions at the start of term! It has been wonderful to see how well all of the children have settled in to their new classes. We are also delighted to welcome our new Reception families in to the school. Our new Reception classes have enjoyed learning new routines, making new friends and have enjoyed a very positive start to their time at Hassocks Infant School.

We have a busy term ahead of us, so please do check the diary dates which have been sent via ParentMail. A copy of these will also be posted on the school website.

Adrian Bates-Holland, Headteacher

### Autumn Term Parent Consultation Meetings

This year, we will continue to hold our termly parent consultation meetings online. These meetings will take place between 3.20 and 6.30 on:

- Wednesday 1st November and Thursday 2nd November

With 30 children in each class, it is a big challenge to get through all of the parents. The online meetings really help the staff to get through all of the appointments, ensuring that everybody has an equal amount of time and nobody is left waiting if appointments overrun. Details and a link to sign up for an appointment will be sent through ParentMail later on in the term.

Before each meeting, we will also be holding a termly open afternoon for parents between 3pm and 4pm. These open afternoons are an opportunity to visit your child's classroom, to see all of their learning and to speak to the class teacher informally. These open afternoons will replace Find Out Friday.



### Reception Newspaper photos

The reception children will be taking part in the Mid-Sussex Times 'First Class Feature' during the week commencing **Monday 30th October**.

This will only include photos of children that have given permission.

Please let the office know if you have not consented but want to be included, and also if you want to reverse your consent.

### Punctuality
























At the end of last term, we were seeing an increasing number of children arriving late for school. Our classroom doors open at 8.50am and all children need to be in their classes, ready to start their day at 9am.













Arriving late has a significant impact on the child and the rest of their class and this can be very disruptive, with children missing out on key learning. We would be grateful if all families can prioritise getting children in to school by 9am each morning.

## Meet the Team

It has been fantastic to see so many of you at the recent "Meet the Teacher" meetings. Hopefully these provided an informal opportunity to meet some of the staff team. Here are details of the staff working in each class this year.

There are also times when classes will be covered by another teacher during the week, Each of our teachers has half a day out of class for planning, preparation and assessment (PPA). Year 1 and Year 2 have PPA time on Wednesday and Reception is Thursday. Our newly qualified teachers and leaders also have an additional ½ day per week when they are out of class.

Class		Teacher(s)	Teaching Assistant	Learning Support Assistant	Midday Meals Supervisor
Reception	Willow Class	 Miss Hannah Mitchell	 Mrs Jules Beale	 Mrs Natalja Turner	 Miss Nicky Cobbett & Mrs Jules Beale
	Beech Class	 Miss Martinoli	 Mrs Rachel Dean		 Miss Gillian King
	Cherry Class	 Miss Francesca Barrett	 Miss Nicky Cobbett		 Mrs Rachel Dean
Year 1	Ash Class	 Mr Jan Duszek	 Mrs Samantha Holden		 Mrs Samantha Holden
	Chestnut Class	 Mrs Mary Hutchinson	 Mrs Lauren Green	 Mrs Anita Stribling  Miss Priscilla Dressel	 Ms Paola Heath-Bazzano
	Apple Class	 Mr Alex Everett  Mrs Claire Daniel	 Mrs Tracey Roxburgh		 Mrs Susie Boylan-Coare  Miss Melissa Hammond

Class		Teacher(s)	Teaching Assistant	Learning Support Assistant	Midday Meals Supervisor
Year 2	Elm Class	 Miss Drewe Wilson	 Mrs Ann Dodd		 Mrs Ann Dodd
	Holly Class	 Mrs Maureen Brown  Mrs Vicky Soan	 Mrs Rose Schumann		 Mrs Rose Schumann
	Oak Class	 Miss Sophie Riley	 Mrs Debbie Joyce	 Miss Priscilla Dressel	 Mrs Emily Thompson  Miss Priscilla Dressel

### PPA Cover Staff

 Mrs Maureen Brown	 Mrs Vicky Soan	 Mr Alex Everett	 Mrs Claire Daniel	 Mrs Kamilya Stedman	 Mrs Sara Nash	 Mrs Simone Clark	 Mrs Debbie Joyce
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### Job Vacancy

At the end of last term, we sadly said goodbye to Ant Pitt, our Premises Manager who has a new and exciting role at Downlands School. We are now recruiting for a new Premises Manager.

The role is 25 hours per week but we can offer some flexibility on hours and working times for the right candidate.

Details can be found on the West Sussex County Council website:

<https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/jobs/school-jobs/>. Search for "Hassocks" to find our advert. Alternatively, do contact the school office for further information and an application form.

### Medicines and Illness

**Please be reminded that we can only hold prescribed medication in school. This needs to be in the original packaging with the prescription label.**

**Please can medicines be brought into the office, where paperwork will need to be completed. Please do not leave any medication, sun cream, hand cream or lip balms in book bags or with your child. Thank you.**

**The NHS has useful guidance for parents about when to keep children off school:**

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

## Parenting Support:

The children have all settled into the new academic year superbly and are a credit to you. We hope you have managed to settle into the new term and have embraced the alarm clock too! As we all know some mornings can be a little more challenging than others and some evenings when children are exhausted can be difficult too.

Here is a link to a helpful positive parenting leaflet that has a few pointers and suggestions to keep things up-beat. [Positive Parenting information from the NSPCC](#)

Please remember we are always here to help if you need it, our safeguarding leads in school are Mrs Stedman, Mr Bates and Mrs Nash.

## Collection Arrangements

**Please do keep the office informed about collection arrangements, either telephone or email the office before 3pm if it is not your regular contact/s picking up from school that day.**

**We hold a list of those adults with permission to collect your child so please do keep us updated with these details & changes. Thank you.**

**Please see below a letter which the NHS have asked to be forwarded to all parents & carers:**

Brighton and Sussex   
University Hospitals  
NHS Trust

Dear Parents,

One of the pupils attending your child's school is receiving medical treatment and is immunocompromised. This puts the pupil at serious risk if exposed to chicken pox, measles or shingles.

The best way to protect a pupil from measles is for all children to be immunised against measles. Please discuss measles immunisation with you GP if your child is not already vaccinated. If you suspect your child has measles please contact the school immediately.

The pupil is also at risk from chicken pox and would need to be given treatment should a contact with the disease occur. Please let the school know immediately if you suspect that your child has chicken pox.

It is also very important that you let the school know if anyone in your household has shingles.

Your own child is not at any risk whatsoever from this situation. However, the health and well-being of this pupil may be at serious risk. We depend on the co-operation of all parents and hope to rely on your help.

Many thanks.