



Hassocks Infant School

NEWSLETTER NO. 3 - November 2025



To all of our families,

It has been fantastic to see so many of you recently at the Parent Consultation evenings. I hope that you found these sessions informative, as well as enjoying the opportunity to share all of your child's learning throughout a busy term. We've enjoyed a wonderful Autumn term and have achieved so much. Over the past half term, the children have particularly enjoyed:

Visits to Reception from the emergency services

Our whole school diwali celebration

A Year 2 inter-school sports competition – we were delighted that our team of children were such wonderful sports people and also won the trophy!

Christmas is now rapidly approaching and our diaries are full of exciting, festive activities. Over the next few weeks, we have Christmas performances for Reception and Year 2, a visiting pantomime, Christmas parties, Light Up Hassocks, a whole school festive sing-a-long, plus many other exciting events. There are lots of key dates to remember – we do hope that the attached diary is helpful.

This term, we have seen some changes to our staffing team. I would like to extend a warm welcome to the following members of staff:

Mrs Lauren Parrott – Learning Support Assistant in Year 1

Mrs Hannah Coop – Learning Support Assistant in Year 1

Mrs Emma Shrouder – Learning Support Assistant in Year 1

Mrs Emily Thompson – Mrs Thompson is our Emotional Literacy Support Assistant (ELSA).

She has extended her hours and is now supporting Reception on Thursdays and Fridays, in addition to her ELSA role

At the end of this term, we will also be saying goodbye to Mr Everett. We wish Mr Everett lots of success in his new career as a social worker. Mrs Lizzie Deacon will be sharing responsibility for Apple Class from January onwards. Her working days will be Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Our full staffing structure is always available on our school website and can be found here: <https://www.hassocks.w-sussex.sch.uk/page/?title=Meet+the+Team&pid=47>.

Adrian Bates-Holland, Head Teacher



“Thanks so very much for supporting Hassocks Goes Gold this year with your non-uniform day.

I’m delighted to let you know that the grand total you raised for the CCLG was an amazing £366.75!! Thank you so much!”

Rachel Bartlett Bundy

Sharing more thank you messages.....

Dear pupils and staff,

Donation of food

Thank you very much for your generous harvest donations to the Burgess Hill Community Food Bank.

The Foodbank provides food to individuals and families in this area who find themselves in crisis and depends entirely on volunteers and donations for its operation.

Your assistance will help the foodbank to continue with its valuable work.

You can find further information about our work on our website www.burgesshillfoodbank.org.uk

Thank you again for your donation.

On behalf of the Burgess Hill Community Foodbank



CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

Awarded to

HASSOCKS INFANT SCHOOL

for their generous donation of

£81.50

from sales of photographs by



With grateful thanks

Signed: *Gill Burgess*

Title: Relationship Manager

Date: November 2025

Car Parking—Important Please Read

The school office has received a number of complaints regarding inconsiderate and dangerous parking at drop off and pick up times. Please take notice of road markings in Chancellors Park, Downs View Road and the surrounding areas. The end of Chancellors Park has double yellow lines and should *never* be parked on at drop-off, pick-up or any other time.

If you do need to drive to school please allow enough time to use the public car parks in the village and walk to school. Thank you.

SEN Update- Makaton

We are very excited to be having whole school Makaton training run by staff from Woodlands Mead School. We will be sharing this with the children and developing a key bank of signing vocabulary to be used across the school. We will be sharing more with you shortly but do ask your children to teach you some of the signs they have been learning in school.



You can see lots of these in action on www.singinghands.co.uk or www.makaton.org.

Mrs Green (SENCo)

Snacks, Lunches and Food in School

Just a polite reminder about the school's position on snacks, lunches and birthday treats:

- All year groups are provided with a fresh piece of fruit or vegetable each day as part of the Free Fruit for Schools Scheme. There is also always spare fruit available if a child does not like the choice of the day. Snack time is a great opportunity for children to try different fruits and vegetables with their peers around them. **Children should not be bringing their own snacks into school.**
- Water bottles should be brought into class so the children can stay hydrated throughout the day - plain, unflavoured water in a named reusable bottle please.
- Birthdays and celebrations: please do not send children into school with sweets or cakes for birthdays.
- Packed lunches should also be healthy so please no sweets, chocolate or fizzy drinks. For further information and ideas for healthy packed lunches please see the NHS website [here](#)
- We are a nut free school. This is to safeguard children with severe allergies. Please see the attached letter, at the end of this newsletter, that contains guidance on avoiding nuts in lunches, which also includes avoiding pesto and hummus.

Requesting Absence

Please could we ask that you give as much notice as possible should you plan for your child to be absent from school. An absence request form is available from our [website](#) or alternatively paper copies can be collected from the office.

Please remember that children should only be absent in exceptional circumstances. Do please note that this form is not required for medical appointments.

News from PE

Following the generous donations and sponsorship from the Great Athletes event earlier this year, equipment has arrived



Reception Update

The children in Reception loved having visits from people that help our local community. They had a visit from the Burgess Hill fire service, who talked about fire safety and showed us the equipment on their fire engine. We also had a visit from some Police officers, who showed us how a drone can be used and even let us try on some of their uniform!

Later on in the term, we also had a visit from a postman and a veterinary nurse. We learnt all about their jobs and asked lots of questions.

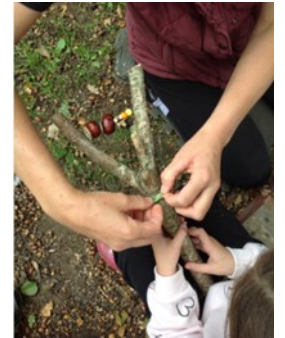


Oak Class Forest School Update

What a fantastic 6 weeks Oak Class have had at forest school! The children have learned so many hands-on skills including drilling, sawing, mallet use, den building, knife use, cooking and fire building (to name but a few!)

Their creativity has been outstanding, the children have demonstrated incredible team work, resilience, determination and importantly their love for the outdoors and nature has grown every week.

It has been an absolute pleasure to be part of the forest school journey with these children, and we are excited to welcome Holly Class next half term! Well done to everyone.... "Cuckoo!"



"I can't do that it looks scary!" "I did it!"
"Was it scary?" ... "No!"



"I love forest school!
I don't want it to end!"



"I'm not sure what we are going to do now forest school has finished. He has absolutely loved it every week! Parent



Friends of Hassocks Infant School

FoHIS Wreath making - just a few spaces left on Monday 1st December.

<https://pta-events.co.uk/fohisevents/>

We need volunteers for Light Up Hassocks, please see link below to sign up and help out 30 min slots.

<https://signup.com/go/LGSErrj>

Thanks so much

FoHIS (Friends of Hassocks Infant School)

Registered Charity Number: 1116921

fohisgroup@gmail.com



Donations for Playtime Role Play Resources

We are refreshing our playground resources and hoping that you may be able to help!

We desperately need some second-hand clothing to use in our role play areas to support the children's creative play. We are also on the look out for any toys in good condition that are no longer required that can be used during lunchtime play, specifically the following:

- Dressing up clothes
- Hats
- Hand bags
- Small cars and trucks
- Small world toys i.e. playmobile, animal figures etc
- Dolls - smaller ones such as Barbie and larger dolls
- Dolls house furniture



If you have any of the above, please drop them into the school office.
Many thanks.



Headteacher: Adrian Bates-Holland

Hassocks Infant School

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Dear Parents/Carers,

People who suffer from nut allergies can develop a severe, potentially life-threatening allergic reaction. If someone has a nut allergy it is not just eating nuts that can cause a severe reaction, just having contact with someone who has had nuts or a product containing nuts can trigger anaphylactic shock (which can cause breathing and swallowing difficulties). First aid staff in the school are trained to use the Epi-pens (an injection of adrenalin) which is required immediately if this happens.

We cannot have nuts in school in any form. Please can we ask that you have no nut products in lunch boxes or brought into school as treats. This includes:

- Peanut butter sandwiches
- Chocolate spreads
- Cereal bars
- Some granola bars
- Cakes that contain nuts
- Biscuits / Cookies that contain nuts
- Peanut butter cakes
- Some Asian food, including satay
- Sauces that contain nuts
- Products containing Tahini such as Hummus
- Products containing Pine Nuts such as Pesto



This list is not exhaustive, so please check the packaging of products closely. We appreciate that this is an additional thing to check but we are sure that you recognise the importance of checking. We do have to insist we are a nut free school. I know if this was your child you would expect that we all help, especially as it is a life-threatening condition.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak to a member of staff.

Yours Faithfully,

Adrian Bates-Holland
Headteacher

* Explore * Respect * Flourish