

Dear parents and carers,

Thank you for a wonderful start to the term! The children have settled and are making sure that every learning minute counts. It can be a tricky time of year for children with lots of changes. Please let us know if you need any support or are seeing any changes in your child's behaviour at home.

At the end of the month, Mrs Harman-Box will go on maternity leave and Mrs Webb will return. We wish Mrs Harman-Box the best of luck.

The children have been very creative in offering suggestions for names!

Best wishes, Mrs Harman-Box & Mrs Webb



Nationally, many children are being reported to have less developed speech. Whilst we may think of these concerns as being more obvious in smaller children, it's important that we all find time to have meaningful conversations with children.



These will help to develop your child's vocabulary, alongside their confidence in articulating their own thoughts. This can, in itself, help develop emotional resilience.

If you have concerns about your child's speech development, please do not hesitate to get in touch with Mrs Embleton-Horner, our SENDCo.



Reading can feel like a chore for children who find this a difficult skill. However, it is the foundation of all the learning that they will do. Reading levels at primary school are directly linked to outcomes at GCSE and beyond.

We want to support your child's reading whilst also understanding that this may be a tricky part of your day. One way to support this is to use Sora.

This app allows access to a huge number of books so your child is guaranteed to find something that captures their interest. They can change the size of the font, the colour of the background and even, for some books, listen to audio versions.

All of these can help remove barriers to reading. We invite you to explore this.

If you do not know your child's log-in information, please ask your child's class teacher.

Please note that, if your child wants to cycle or scoot to school, we encourage this. However, they must ensure they are wearing a helmet and cannot cycle or scoot on school grounds.

Please come to the school office to get a cycling/scooting permit. These will be signed by Mrs Harman-Box.

This year, we will operate a three strikes system to ensure that child are safe. Thank you for your continued support.

### Key Dates

#### October

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup>: Poetry Day

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup>: Year 6 Chessington trip

W/C 6th: National Library Week and Aldershot Library trip

Friday 10th: Fijian Day

Friday 17th: Harvest Assembly (food donations welcome)

Friday 17th: House event: Cross country

W/C 20<sup>th</sup>: IEP drop-ins for parents (invite only)

Thursday 23rd: Last day before half-term

Friday 24th October - INSET day—no pupils in school

November

Monday 3rd: INSET day—no pupils in school

Tuesday 4th: First day back at school



# **OCTOBER**

Мо	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



We are very proud that attendance during September was 98.5% which means that your children have been accessing fast-paced and adapted learning which allows them to make accelerated progress.

We know that the start of the year can be a difficult time of change for children so we thank you for your continued support in ensuring that children attend regularly and on time.

Our Harvest donations this year will go to the Grub Hub. If you need to access this service for your family, please attend:

Community Grub Hub 2a Windsor Way Aldershot **GU11 1JG** 

community

This amazing resource is open every Tuesday between 10am and 4pm.

If you are in a position to do so, we ask for donations of dried goods which are shelf-stable. In addition, toiletries, particularly for women, are always gratefully received.

We thank you in advance for any support that you may be able to provide.



### Online Safety

Many popular online games that children enjoy are advertised as free to play. However, they often include optional ingame purchases that can quickly add up. These might offer new levels,



character upgrades, outfits (known as "skins"), or ways to speed up gameplay.

While most games do provide free alternatives—such as waiting for a timer to run out—children may feel pressure to make purchases in order to keep up with their friends or stay competitive. These purchases can be made using real money, and some games also collect value through players' time, attention, or personal data.

As a parent, staying informed about the games your child is playing can help you better understand the financial and privacy risks involved. Regular conversations about in-game spending and setting appropriate boundaries can go a long way in promoting healthy gaming habits. For more information, please visit the following website: <a href="https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/by-activity/online-money-management-guide/in-game-spending/">https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/by-activity/online-money-management-guide/in-game-spending/</a>





## Join Hampshire Parent Carer Network as a Representative!

#### What is the purpose of a forum?

Parent Carer Forums are an organised group of parents and carers from a local area, with children and young people aged 0-25 with a disability or any additional needs including mental Health.

Their aim is to work in a solution focused way to make sure that services in their area meet the needs of children with disabilities and their families.

Forums provide the opportunity to tell the Local Authority, Health and other services, what life is really like based on real lived experiences.

Using in-person get-togethers, surveys and online support we work to gather views - Together we are enabling voices to be heard.

#### Legislation and why we do what we do



#### The role of parent representatives

- To help inform decision, makers about the experiences of parent carers
- To ensure that parents' views are fed into decisions about children's services at a strategic level.
- · Aim to reach a common understanding between professionals and parents about how effective local services are for children with disabilities.
- · The hope is the combined information and perspectives can result in joint planning and co production opportunities that can help lead to more effective services.

#### What it may involve to be a parent rep:

- Attend meetings or events which relate to your specific topic, with another member of Hampshire Parent Carer Network, if possible

- Respond to requests for our input, where they relate specifically to your topic
  Helping out generally when Hampshire Parent Carer Network are running an

#### Hampshire Parent Carer Network will

- · Support you in this role, with advice and practical help
- Pay your expenses for the work that you do, your mileage to attend meetings, parking and/or transport costs.
- · Provide training and personal development

#### Can you help?

In terms of time commitment, it's entirely dependent on what you are able to offer. We know many of you will be juggling caring responsibilities alongside other commitments. So even if it's one hour a month, that would make a difference. Participation training and support will be provided