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Headteacher: [Mr Kevin Moloney](#)



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope everyone has had an enjoyable and restful summer break, despite the unpredictable weather. I would like to welcome you and your children back to Hipsburn Primary for the new year. Once again, we are delighted to see how quickly children have settled into their new classes and we look forward to another successful year.

A very special welcome to new pupils and parents across the school and to our new reception and preschool children; I hope you will be very happy here.

We are a warm and welcoming school and both staff and governors work hard and are committed to the school and I will continue to work closely with them to ensure our children receive the best possible education.

#### Website:

As always, we keep the website up to date so please check the online calendar on a regular basis for all the latest events. Whilst we share information regularly changes can happen which are sometimes out of our control.

The website is regularly updated too with safeguarding information and please share any concerns or thoughts you may have around this subject. The website is a huge and very useful resource - each class has its own area where you can access photographs, news and general information as well as useful links. Please take some time to explore the site and if you have any questions, please get in touch.

#### Assemblies:

This term we will be having our Harvest Assemblies in school and we are looking forward to our class assemblies in due course. We will be sending you more information about dates and times so you are able to join us. As in recent years, we will once again be asking for your harvest donations to the Alnwick District Food Bank - you can drop donations off at any time in the box in the school's main entrance.

Our very special Leavers Assembly in July for Year 6 was highly memorable and we are thinking of our children who have moved on to Year 7.

Our parent/teacher meetings in October will be a chance for you to discuss your child's progress so far with their teacher. A form will be sent out a little nearer the time for you to book your appointments.

We look forward to working in partnership with you in the coming months.

**Enjoy the start of this academic year!**

**Kevin Moloney, Headteacher**

#### Some Upcoming Events

- ◆ Clubs this half term:  
Breakfast Club, Every Day, All Mondays, Trident Soccer, All Mondays, Hockey, Years 3-6 Mondays, Drama, Etal Tues/Weds Homework, All Tuesdays, Board Games, Years 1-2  
Weds, Guitar, Years 3-6  
Thursdays, NUF Football, Years 3-6  
Fridays, Lego, All
- ◆ Swimming Ford Wednesdays
- ◆ EYFS Reading Meeting  
Monday 23rd September, 5.00-6.00pm (online)
- ◆ Dukeshouse Wood Deposit  
Friday 4th October
- ◆ School Photographs  
Wednesday 9th October, individual and family groups
- ◆ Parent Meetings  
Monday 14th & Wednesday 16th October, 3.30-6.30pm
- ◆ Preschool Stay & Play  
Wednesday 16th October, 9.00-10.30am, all welcome
- ◆ Harvest Festival  
Tuesday 22nd & Wednesday 23rd October - 9.15-9.45am
- ◆ Break up for half term  
Friday 25th October at 3.15pm
- ◆ Back to school  
Monday 4th November  
Whole school flu immunisations

## Useful stuff



The weather should still be good for cycling and scooting to school this half term! Please dismount once you enter the school grounds and don't leave bikes and scooters on the school premises overnight - the grounds are not secure. Thank you.

## Pupil Information Forms

Look out for the yellow 24/25 forms going home during the first week of term. Please complete these and return to school as soon as possible so we can keep our records up to date.

We are a collection point for the Alnwick District Food Bank and you can drop off donations at any time. Simply pop items into the box in the front entrance porch at school. Thank you so much.

Please don't use the staff car park for dropping off and picking up or park in front of the school gates - there is plenty of parking in the football club car park just past the school. Thank you.

If your child needs any short-term medication, such as pain relief or antibiotics, please bring this to the office and fill out a form with all the details.

School opens at 8.45am for pupils (unless they are attending breakfast club at 8.15am). Registration is at 8.55am. If your child is going to be absent or late, please inform the school office by 9am - there is an option to leave a message when you ring or you can drop us an email at:

[admin@hipsburn.northumberland.sch.uk](mailto:admin@hipsburn.northumberland.sch.uk)



A reminder that we have a small number of pupils in school with severe nut allergies. Exposure to nuts and nut products can cause a rapid and serious reaction for these individuals.

We ask for your co-operation in not sending any nut product in to school, either as a snack or in packed lunches. Thank you.



ParentPay is our online payment system. Please activate your account if you have not done so already - remember you need to add each child if you have siblings in school. Payment items, such as lunches, clubs, swimming and lots more will appear in your account. We appreciate you keeping on top of payments as they become active.

A reminder that all pupils in reception through to year 2 receive universal free school meals. It can look a bit confusing on ParentPay as the meals are logged for our own recording purposes, but there is nothing to pay. Only children in preschool and years 3 and above pay for their lunches, unless you qualify in your own right for free school meals. If you have any problems or you've misplaced your log-in details, please contact the school office and we'll do our best to help! Thank you.



The PTA work hard to raise money for the benefit of the school and our children. All parents are very welcome to join the committee, any contribution of your time is gratefully received! If you are interested please contact the PTA secretary Anna Voyce at [annawood1@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:annawood1@hotmail.co.uk)

We have signed up to the ASDA 'Cashpot for Schools' initiative, helping to raise millions of pounds for primary schools across the UK.

To support Hipsburn Primary, all you have to do is opt-in through the Asda Rewards app, choose our school, shop and scan in store or shop online at Asda.com.

Between 2nd September and 30th November 2024 - every time you shop with Asda using your Asda Rewards app, Asda will donate 0.5% of the value of your shop to Hipsburn Primary. Also, every time somebody opts-in to support us, Asda will give an additional £1 to the school Cashpot.

Last year your support towards PTA events & fundraising raised £2,448 for school funds!

Some of the money raised went towards the following: Christmas Fair & Festivities; Easter Disco, Sports Day medals, Year 6 London Trip

We are currently discussing with the school how best to spend further funds and will update you with plans soon.

Keep an eye out for details of our exciting events for 2024/25!



## Leavers

It is always sad saying goodbye to our year 6 pupils – here they are sporting their leavers' hoodies and during their night out with year 6 pupils from other schools, which this year took place at Alnwick Rugby Club.

It is bittersweet as we will miss them but wish them all the very best as they embark on their secondary education.



London was an amazing experience for all of us, there were endless activities to do and there was no stop to the fun. After a long journey we headed straight to the river cruise where we got 5 years of luck, since we got a wave from someone on tower bridge (which many people mistake for London bridge). Then we hopped on the London Eye where we saw spectacular views, and after working up an appetite we walked straight to Pizza Express. The next morning we drove to Madame Tussauds where the wax figures posed for the camera. After lunch, we arrived at the Natural History Museum which was a first for Hipsburn but turned out to be really interesting. At the Sound Café, there was a mountain of food on everyone's plate. Mrs Doubtfire was an absolute treat (the fruit pastilles made it even better). On the final day, we went to the Harry Potter Studios Tour which was celebrating the 20th anniversary of The Prisoner of Azkaban's film being released. It was thrilling because we were standing in the very scenes the actors (Daniel Radcliffe, Emma Watson, Rupert Grint etc) performed the magic of Harry Potter. At the end of the tour was a maze of toys, sweets and magic, where most of us spent a lifetime deciding what to get with the money we saved! On the final leg, we all enjoyed our McDonald's before we got back on the bus to go home. **Verity and Oscar Year 6 (now year 7)**





## Breakfast fun



As well as having breakfast, pupils in our breakfast club also find time to do crafty stuff and make things!

The club runs every weekday during term time from 8.15-8.45am. The cost is £2 per session and you can drop in as and when you need to (try and give us a bit of notice for ordering supplies).



## EYFS news



We had a fantastic beach day last half term - our last one in reception class!

Once we were all set and ready to go we walked all the way to the rock pools. We checked some identification guides to see what we might find and talked about how to stay safe whilst exploring the rock pools. We then grabbed out buckets and nets and headed out. I wonder if you can tell your grown ups some of our discoveries? We saw lots of periwinkles and sea snails as well as some hermit crabs and shore crabs. We returned them to their rock pool homes before heading back to the beach to create our own rock pool models on the sand.

After this we headed to Hindmarsh Hall to give our hands a good wash ready for lunch. After lunch Bridie read Alfie's Out of Doors storybook which talked about find your own very special bonting (a pebble that fits perfectly in your hand). When we went back on the beach we searched for our own bontings.

We also made a necklace out of the limpet shells we collected and created sandscapes with our friends - there was a pirate ship, a rock pool, a police station, a castle and a magical fairy garden! They have such fantastic imaginations and explained their ideas in lots of detail!

We have had so much fun on our beach days together this year. Well done Alnwick Castle Class for representing our school so wonderfully in our local community.

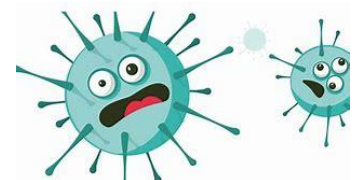


## Beat the flu

<https://www.northumbriaimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu>

The school code is: **NB122264**

If you haven't already done so, please remember to sign up and give your permission for your child to take part in the nasal flu vaccination programme. This will take place in school on **Monday 4th November** and is for all pupils in reception through to year 6. Please follow the link above right and use the school code shown. Thanks in advance.





When I grow up ...

Towards the end of the summer term, classes from preschool to Year 6 took part in lots of career-related learning opportunities. We were very lucky to have some wonderful visitors in school to talk to us about their careers; we have learned about roles in the NHS, RAF, farming, law and more. Trying on scrubs was a firm favourite - we were certainly feeling very inspired!



We were so proud of all the children at Sports Day but especially Reception, their first one with the whole school. Alnwick Castle Class did a brilliant job joining in with the Crew races and then using more of their sporting active skills to help them with their individual races too!

The points were collected (as well as the children collecting stickers for their efforts) for each Crew and overall Red North Crew won! They received their medals in celebration assembly. The children absolutely loved getting to watch the parents (and the teachers!) race too!

Well done everyone and thank you to our Year 6 Sports Leaders who helped run the event.

