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Headteacher: [Mr Kevin Moloney](#)



Dear Parents and Carers,

A very Happy New Year! Let's hope 2022 brings some normality to school life. The first week of term has gone well with the children settling back into our school routines. I would also like to extend a warm welcome to our new families who joined us at the very end of last term and to those who have joined us this week!

The start of the new year feels like a good opportunity to remind our parents (and share with our new parents) about Hipsburn's **Learning Behaviours**. These weave their way through the whole curriculum from our work at Beach Schools to assemblies and our playtimes. They are very much part of our lessons and a significant part of our values in school life. These are displayed in each of the classes and are referred to by all our teachers and teaching assistants.

The Learning Behaviours fall into 6 categories and these are:

**Resourcefulness**  
The resourceful learner is ready, willing and able to learn in different ways

**Resilience**  
The resilient learner sees the value in their mistakes and doesn't give up following a setback

**Reflectiveness**  
Reflective learners actively evaluate and improve their work. They also celebrate their own and others' achievements

**Relationships**  
Ready, willing and able to learn alone and with others

**Respect**  
Treat others as you would wish to be treated. It is ok to think differently and to change your opinion

**Risk-taking**  
Push yourself to try new things and ask 'What if?' and 'What shall we try now?'

Have a good half term!

Kevin Moloney  
Headteacher

## Some Upcoming Events

- ◆ Ford Class are swimming on Wednesdays
- ◆ Clubs this half term:  
Mondays, Cookery Ford  
Mondays, Trident Soccer Bamburgh  
Tues/Weds Homework, All Wednesdays, Guitar, Ford/Etal  
Thursdays, SATs Club, Year 6  
Fridays, Lego, All Fridays, Thunder, Etal
- ◆ London instalment due Friday, 21st January
- ◆ Kingswood instalment due Friday, 28th January
- ◆ Lego Challenge, Etal Team Wednesday 2nd February, Village Hotel, Silverlink
- ◆ Alwick Beach School Tuesday 8th February
- ◆ Bamburgh Beach School Tuesday 15th February
- ◆ Etal Beach School Thursday 17th February
- ◆ Break up for Half Term Friday 18th February
- ◆ Back to school Monday 28th February

Please keep checking the calendar on the school website for more events

### The great outdoors...

Here at Hipsburn we absolutely love our outdoor learning and beach days and sometimes, if we're lucky, we have great weather!



**Ford class** consolidated their learning about the Ancient Egyptians at Alnmouth beach in December. The children built villages and planned irrigation systems by the River Nile in the wet sand. There was great team work! They also created and acted out their own Christmas stories as the winter sun shone.



**Alnwick Castle Class** had another amazing beach day! After sharing the story of the Gruffalo we used tools and treasure, which we collected on the beach, to create our very own Gruffalo caves for them to live in. It was brilliant to see how each team created them in different ways - their imaginations are great! At 'The Gruffalo Woods' where we looked for an underground house, log pile house and a treetop house, we also helped to make some animal habitats using sticks and leaves. We also made some snow-families and Christmas trees using things we collected on the beach. We had lots of fun exploring the sand dunes and running up and down as fast as we could. We were very proud of Alnwick Castle Class, they represented our school beautifully and had such a fun day!



**Etal Castle Class** had a super beach day to start our Ancient Greece topic. We learned about some of the Greek myths and worked in groups to prepare performances to tell the stories and sculpted some amazing Ancient Greek cities on the beach. There was lots of teamwork and super knowledge being shared!







Festive fun...

Christmas seems a distant memory already, but we had great fun in the weeks leading up to the festive break. It was lovely to see so many children in their Christmas jumpers enjoying Christmas lunch and you helped us raise £30.00 for the charity Save the Children.



Storm Arwen caused so much damage to our trees here at school, but we made the most of all the greenery lying around and made wreaths!



Not quite dashing through the snow, but the Santa Dash kept everyone moving on the cold mornings.



A big thank you to everyone who bought tickets in our grand Christmas Hamper raffle - you raised £164.00 for the PTA. The hamper was won by our very own Mr Moloney!

Our thanks also to the PTA for providing Santa with festive books for all the children at school and in particular to Mrs Hunter for choosing the titles.







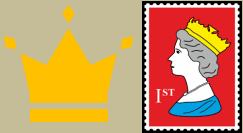
◀◀◀ We had such a good response to our request for harvest donations for the Alnwick District Food Bank last autumn - as you can see, the table was heaving! Your generosity means so much to the food bank who anticipate an increase in demand over the coming months, so please remember we collect all year round for them. The drop-off point is just inside the school's main entrance - thank you.

**Staff News...**

We are pleased to welcome a new Teaching Assistant here at Hipsburn. Iain Stewart will support our older children in Key Stage 2. He brings lots of experience to the role and we wish him well and know he'll be an asset to our small team. The children have already made him feel at home!



**Extra Bank Holiday!**  
Please note that school will be closed on Friday 27th May 2022. This is to allow staff to benefit from the extra bank holiday for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.



A big thank you from Pudsey for your generous donations to Children in Need - you raised £332.00 for this great cause - you're all officially amazing!

Here's Henry from Ford Castle Class receiving a prize for being an orienteering superstar on our Children in Need Day.

Our other worthy winners were:  
Joshua in Warkworth Castle Class (preschool)  
Ollie in Alnwick Castle Class  
Arty in Bamburgh Castle Class  
Charlie K in Etal Castle Class  
Well done to everyone who joined in and made the day such a success!



Please don't forget to check your ParentPay account on a regular basis and keep on top of payments to school.



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, 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. Thank you.

Did you know we have a school pledge for all pupils? Our Hipsburn Promise weaves its way through each day at Hipsburn. It is embedded into our policies and we refer to it during assembly times and at other appropriate times during the school day. It was created by both the children and staff.

Check it out on the school website:

[The Hipsburn Promise](#)



**Healthy snacks please!**

If you send a playtime snack for your child, please only send in a piece of fruit or veg - no processed snacks.  
Thank you.



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