

Hamsey Community Primary School

Newsletter



3rd March 2023

Term 4, Week 2



*A kind, creative
community where
learning is an
adventure.*

MR DEAN'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the first newsletter of Term 4. You may have noticed I have not been on the gate recently - unfortunately I had COVID, so was at home, but I am so pleased to be back at school now. The children seemed pleased to see me - it's always nice to be missed!

We have had a great few weeks, full of learning adventures as you will read on the class pages. We're really excited to be celebrating LGTB+ History Month, albeit a little late. I can't wait to see a school full of rainbows on Monday.

Next week we also have the Fire Brigade coming to visit to enhance our Danger Project experience. I'm sure the children (and staff) will have lots of questions to ask.

The children are really enjoying their extra weekly PE sessions - thank you for sending them in wearing appropriate clothing and footwear.

I'm looking forward to another fantastic term of adventures in our kind, caring community!

IMPORTANT DATES



MARCH 2023

- Mon 6th - Rainbow Dress Day
- Tues 7th - Gardening starts for Hedgehogs
- Weds 8th - Hamsey Online Safety
- Thurs 9th - Fire Brigade Visit
- Weds 15th - Teacher Strike Day 3
- Thurs 16th - Teacher Strike Day 4
- Fri 17th - Skipping Workshops
- Fri 17th - Red Nose Day
- Mon 27th - Parent/Carer Consultations 1
- Weds 29th - Parent/Carer Consultations 2
- Fri 31st - End of Term 4

ATTENDANCE & LOST MINUTES OF LEARNING

IN SCHOOL, ON TIME, EVERY DAY, LEARNING READY

Attendance:

We regularly monitor attendance and follow our attendance policy to ensure that attendance is always the highest priority. Please support us by ensuring your child is **in school, on time, every day, learning ready**. A polite reminder that the gate is open from 8:30-8:40am.

Lost Minutes of Learning:

Thank you to everyone for your continued efforts to get the children to school on time. It is really important that children are here on time so that they are ready and settled for the school day.

Our current school attendance: **91.22%**
Out school attendance target: **97%**



GARDENING

We are pleased to share with you that Marc will be back to run gardening sessions now that spring is on the way!

He will be working initially with **Hedgehogs** children, starting on Tuesday 7th March. Please send children in with appropriate, warm and waterproof clothing and footwear. Thank you.



MORNING SUPERVISION

We are always looking for ways to improve what we do at Hamsey. With this in mind, you may have seen we have made some tweaks to the morning routine.

There will now be two members of staff on duty - one on the usual gate entrance, and one on the entrance closest to the road. The children's safety is of the upmost importance, so we hope you will find these measures reassuring. You may also have noticed we are now wearing high-vis so that you and your children can immediately spot where we are if you need us.

SCHOOL DOG

Today has been Minnie's first day at Hamsey and she is exhausted! Her tail has been wagging non-stop as she has been slowly introduced to groups of children, who have been learning all about how to be safe around dogs. The children have all been really respectful and sensible around her - well done all. Minnie is ready to head home and put her paws up!

Minnie's Job Description:

- To be committed to professional development and future training classes.
- To support wellbeing for children and adults by providing companionship, quality nurture time and to be non-judgemental at all times.
- To support attendance for identified children by providing motivation to come to school.
- To give children the opportunity to learn skills of responsibility and caring for others.
- To promote high standards of reading by providing a listening ear and a purpose for reading, without judgement.
- To support children with pro-social behaviours and to encourage emotional literacy.
- To provide a purposeful context for learning (caring for animals and others, writing for purpose, animal-based projects).
- To work with identified children to provide companionship and nurture.



SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding of all our pupils is everyone's responsibility at Hamsey. All aspects of school life are carefully monitored to make sure that everyone in our community is safe. We talk about the PANTS rule with our children - please make sure you talk about it at home too.

Please continue to be vigilant about what your child is accessing online and who they are communicating with. There are lots of reports in the media of children being targeted online and also of children being unkind to each other. We work really hard in school to keep the online safety message at the front of children's minds.

If you have any concerns about a child, you can contact the single point of advice (SPOA) on 01323 464222.

Please do come and speak to me if you ever have any questions or concerns.



ONLINE SAFETY AWARENESS SESSIONS

We invite all parents and carers to join us for a Parents Online Safety Awareness Session on Wednesday 8th March at 2:15pm.

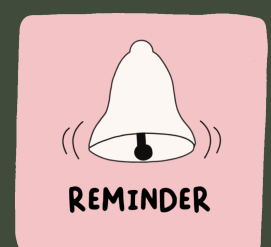
In this ever-changing world of technology, young people are overtaking adults in finding new social media sites that can confuse adults and make them feel a little apprehensive. The Online Safety Workshop will help to answer all those questions you have about your child's safety online. We will also look at a range of resources that are being used in schools and some that can help to support you and give you a better understanding of children's online lives.

Wednesday 8th March - 2:15pm - Hamsey

Parents and Carers are also welcome to attend the Online Safety Workshops at *any* of our Skylark schools:

8th March: 9:00am at Iford & Kingston School


21st March: 9.00 at Barcombe School; 2:15 at Plumpton School





CELEBRATION OF LEARNING

Our youngest writers at Hamsey have been working extremely hard on their independent writing, using their phonics skills to help them sound out words and form complete sentences. Below are just a few examples of this week's writing. I know the Hedgehogs team are very proud of the children's achievement, as are we all!


River


	Date 28/02/23 To label a penguin swimming LO-Spell words by identifying the sounds and then writing the sound with letter/s.
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ACTION



pen u i s can swim
fast.

	Date 28/02/23 To label a penguin swimming LO-Spell words by identifying the sounds and then writing the sound with letter/s.
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ACTION



the r
wings
er kick
flippers

Penguins can slide
on their tumms.

Benny

	LO-to label a picture of a penguins home. Spell words by identifying the sounds and then writing the sound with letter/s.
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NOTICING

Date :- 27/02/2023



Pick feathers kip them
warm and dri.

POETRY

Isaac and Tommy in Badgers Class wrote this beautiful poem together in their spare time, and have asked for it be shared with our school community. I'm sure you will all agree it is a wonderful description of what friendship means to them.

Our Friendship

Our friendship sometimes goes off track but we always sort it out
Our friendship is as strong as a diamond bar and is impossible to be broken
Our friendship soars like a seagull migration
Our friendship is as thick as a very deep forest
Our friendship will never be forgotten



HEDGEHOGS CLASS



Wow - what a great start to Term 4 ! We have been busy exploring the polar regions and have been learning about polar animals. This week we started looking at penguins in more depth, finding out how they live. Hedgehogs are really enjoying this topic and have been producing some fantastic creative work!

We have also been learning the names of the different continents. I'm sure many of you have heard them singing the song we have been performing in class.

We enjoyed celebrating pancake day and talking about our favourite toppings. Some photos below of the children experimenting in their role play area.



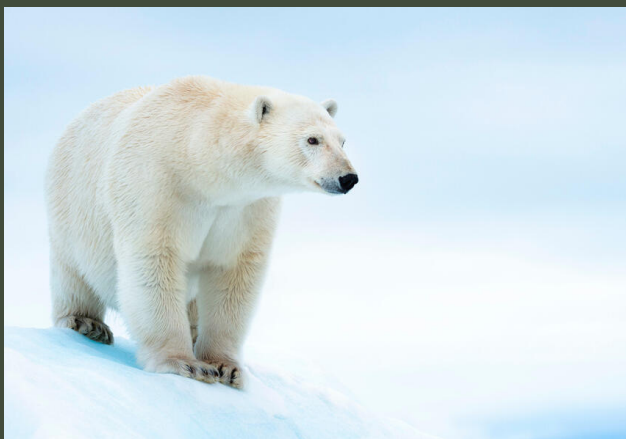
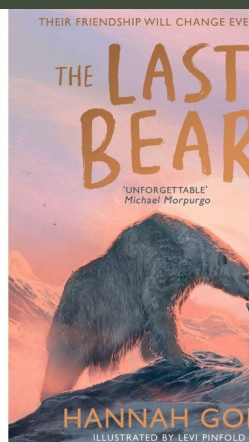
FOXES CLASS



This week, Foxes Class have started reading their new story - *The Last Bear* by Hannah Gold. The children have learned about the main character, April, who has gone to Bear Island for six months while her father completes his scientific research on a weather station.

We have been busy writing our own poems about polar bears and have even attempted to make them rhyme!

In science we have started our long-term observation project. We will be observing a tree each week to see what changes and signs of spring we can spot.



BADGERS CLASS



Badgers have had another exciting start to the term. Year 4 have enjoyed experimenting with tie dye and making dens in Forest School. We started reading our new class book 'The Last Bear' by Hannah Gold. We are so excited to find out what happens... The books were kindly purchased by the PTA.

We have also been to Cumnor House and worked hard to get our Bunsen burner licences. It was great fun making popcorn using the flames! Sadly, we are saying farewell to our wonderful Ms Orchard this week. We wish her every success in her next adventure and say a huge thank you for the fantastic times we have had together. What an exciting week to finish on – Forest School, Cumnor House and World Book Day! Every day is certainly an adventure at Hamsey!☺



OWLS CLASS

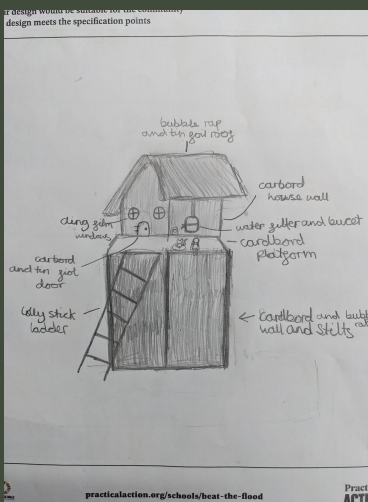
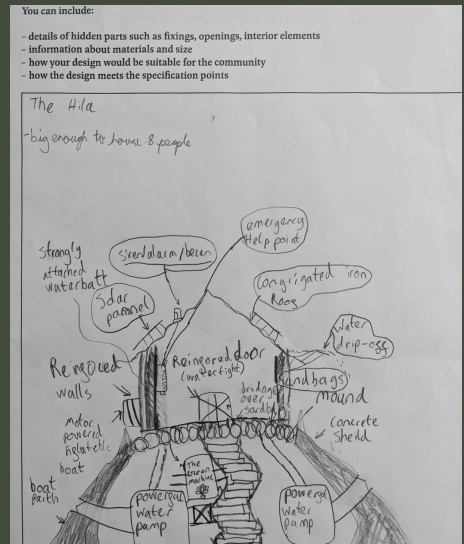
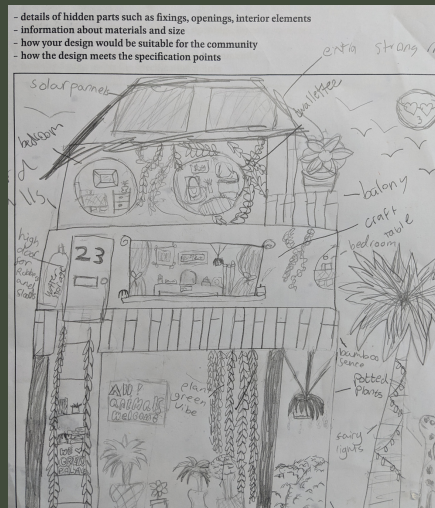


Beat the Flood!

This term, as part of our DT and Geography project work, the children in Owls were given an important assignment: to design a house that would withstand flooding. The children looked at the impact of flooding for different people in different parts of the world.

They discovered that, although the impact of flooding is devastating for anyone, in some countries people are feeling the severe impact of climate change to a much greater degree, especially in places where recovery is harder because people live in poverty. With this in mind, the children looked at which geographical features make some areas a higher flood risk. They then then set to task choosing materials and designing their houses.

Our Owls love practical school life and they enjoyed their afternoon building the houses. Lots of lovely teamwork was observed. Then we got the watering can out and tested the designs!



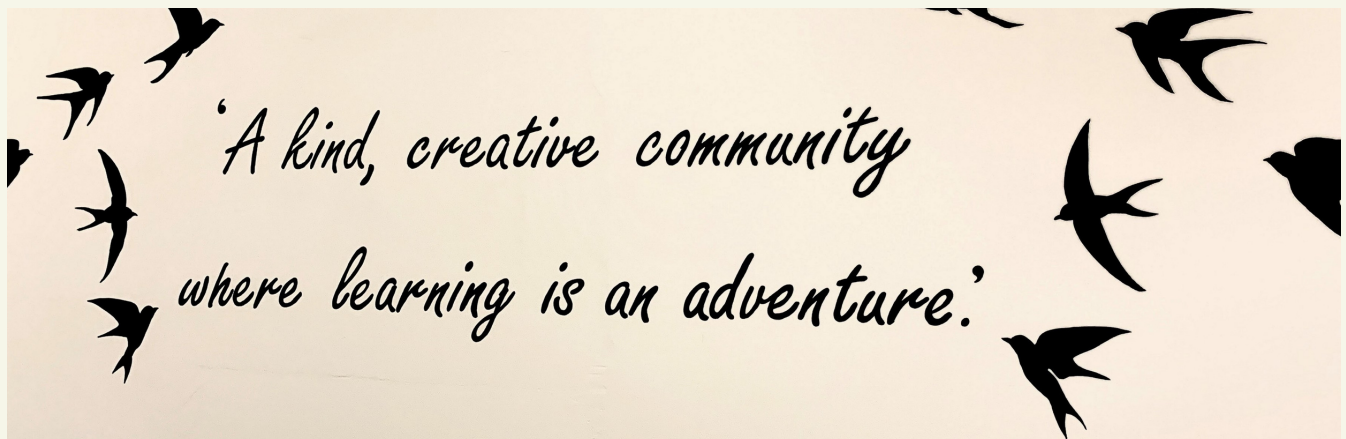
CALLING CLASS REPS!

So far we have only had a few people come forward to volunteer their services. I would really like to have at least one parent/carer from each class. Two would be even better!

Mr James and I would really like meet with you this term. Communication is key!

Please do speak to the me or the school office if you are interested (or know someone who might be).

Thank you.



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