

NEWSLETTER



Friday 17th March

I would like to begin by thanking the pupils and parents who persevered and completed their school work via Google Classroom and Tapestry last Friday. Teachers worked hard to ensure all children had access to their curriculum despite the snow.

It is never an easy when deciding whether school should stay open or close in such conditions, we have to ensure that we have enough staff at school in time to meet ratios and keep all children safe. Many of our staff live over 40 minutes from school and have in the past put themselves at risk attempting to get to school. Indeed, on Thursday, several members of staff abandoned cars and walked to school with one teacher walking over five miles. However, as dedicated as we are, we could not have met ratios in time to start the school day. Please accept our apologies for any inconvenience caused.

Can I please ask all parents to check children's log in details, as we have had several queries. Children are set homework on Century, Google classroom and Tapestry and this should be completed weekly. Pupils have been reminded of how to log in securely, but should you experience any problems, please notify the school office.

On the 31st March, Hurst Hill are hosting our very own mini market fund raiser for charities nominated by the school councillors across Hales Valley Trust. KS2 children have completed application forms to run mini market stalls and apply their Skills Builder knowledge. All pupils across school will have their very own time slot to visit the mini market stalls for goodies and games. The deadline for applications is 3pm Monday 20th March, so have a chat with your children to ensure they don't miss it.

Just a quick reminder that we have a few places left for afternoon sessions in Nursery. We also have 15 and 30 hour spaces available for the September intake. Please collect your forms from the school office.

Next week is parents' evening and our wonderful PTA will be selling hot drinks and pre-loved school uniforms. Reflexions will also be joining us and of course the book fair will be on display. This year we are trialling processing card payments for the book fair which should make the whole process easier for all parties :)

I would like to wish you all a super weekend.

Mrs Johnson
Head of School

Attendance

**Attendance at school is mandatory. Whole school attendance should be at least 96%.
The 100% winner this week is Max in year 1. The winning class is Mrs Westwood's class.**

The Department of Education has made it clear that schools must be stricter when dealing with families whose children are persistently absent or late for school. A child's absence from school can only be authorised in exceptional circumstances, for example, if they are too poorly to attend or if they have a medical appointment that cannot be made outside school hours. If your child is persistently absent or regularly late for school, whatever the circumstances, a referral may be made to Dudley Education Investigation Service, and this could result in a fine.

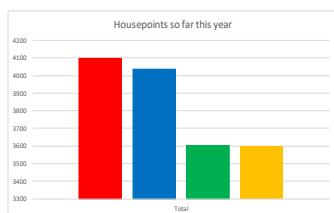
If you are having difficulty getting your child to school, or to school on time, please contact the school office so we can offer some support. Please note that school will not authorise holidays during the school term and that our policy is to refer such absences of 5 school days or more to Dudley Education Investigation Service who may issue a fine. If your child is too ill to come to school then you should **contact the school office before 9.30am**, either by telephoning 01384 818845 (option 1) or using the absence reporting feature on ParentMail. Do not use our social media pages to report absences. Please remember that school can administer medication in certain circumstances



HONESTY-POSITIVE ATTITUDE-RESPECT-RESILIENCE-CARING

HONESTY

We use house-points at Hurst Hill to reward pupils for following our school rules and values.



This week our house point totals are:
Ruby – 370
Diamond – 209
Emerald – 302
Sapphire–199

Well done to this week's winners– Rubies

RESILIENCE

Our skill builders award winners this week are

Lucy, Karena, Lily-Mae, Kian, Jax and Imani

CARING

Safeguarding is at the heart of everything we do at Hurst Hill

We care deeply about the well being and safety of all our children both in school and out. However we all have a responsibility for the welfare of our children.

If something concerns you about the welfare of a child within school then please contact the class teacher in the first instance who will refer to the Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs) within school. These are: Mrs Johnson, Mrs Potts, Mrs Weaver and Mrs Morgan. Alternatively, you can always pop in and chat to DSL directly

If you have concerns, which are not school based, then you can call the children's services referral and advice service on 0300 555 0050 during office hours (9am - 5pm). (option 4)
Out of office hours, then please contact the Emergency Duty Team on 0300 555 8574 .

If you have immediate concerns about the safety of a child, then please call 999 and state that there is child is at risk of immediate harm.

Alternatively you can call ChildLine on 0800 1111 or email them by visiting www.childline.org.uk

POSITIVE ATTITUDE

We have been trying really hard with our **reading on MyOn**.

Below is the word count for each class for the week

Year 2–	10,701
Year 3–	26,348
Year 4–	21,777
Year 5–	12,702
Year 6JG–	30,864
Year 6MJ–	117,472

This week's winning class is 6MJ for the most words read this week. They win a new book for their classroom!

DIARY DATES

Monday 17th – Thursday 23rd March– Book fair

Tuesday 21st & Wednesday 22nd March– Parents' evening

Friday 24th March– Year 6 Road Safety Talk

Tuesday 28th March– Year 2 Great Fire of London visit & Reception INSPIRE session

Wednesday 29th March– Year 5 Egyptian visit

Friday 31st March– Charity Mini Market & Year 1 Wild Zoo visit. Break up for Easter Holidays at 3pm

We reopen for Summer Term on **Monday 17th April**

It is almost Easter!

EYFS have been caring for the Easter chicks



The children named them Cherry, Chip, Chester, Charlie, Chesney, Chicago, Chad, Choco and Cheep-Cheep



Word of the week

Solicitous

Definition: caring
Characterized by or showing interest or concern.

"she was always solicitous about the welfare of her students"

RESPECT

Star Pupils of the week show of our school values of honesty, positive attitude, resilience, respect and caring.

Nursery– Mason for resilience in Nursery

Reception– Isla for resilience in writing

Year 1– Kaleb for resilience in his class assembly

Year 2– Jacob for resilience in writing

Year 3– William-Lee for resilience in Maths

Year 4– Leighton for resilience in school

Year 5– Tyler for positive attitude in learning

Year 6MJ– Esmiee for respect in school

Year 6JG– Mia for positive attitude in Maths

Healthy Eating

<https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes/#recipes>

Please see the above link regarding hints and tips for healthy lunchboxes.
At Hurst Hill we advise the following:

- ♦ A healthy sandwich or tub of pasta
- ♦ At least one portion of fruit / vegetables
- ♦ Yogurt
- ♦ Water or 100% fruit juice
- ♦ One cereal type bar or club style biscuit OR a cupcake /sponge finger cake.

We do not recommend crisps unless they are baked—not fried.

I fully appreciate it can take some time for children to adjust to the healthy school lunchbox incentive, but I am overwhelmed by the positive response so far. I hope the above helps to clarify some of the questions

Healthy recipe of the week.

Creamy hummus dip with pitta bread and vegetable sticks recipe

This creamy dip is fun to eat and makes a change from sandwiches. This works well with a banana and a pot of sugar-free jelly.

Prep: 10 mins
Serves 1

[+ Nutritional information](#)



Ingredients

- 2 heaped tablespoons tinned chickpeas
- Juice of half a lemon
- 1 tablespoon low-fat Greek style yoghurt
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- ¼ teaspoon paprika (or to taste)
- ¼ teaspoon cumin (or to taste)
- 1 clove of garlic (peeled)
- 1 large wholemeal pitta bread, cut into strips
- 1 small carrot, cut into sticks
- 1 stick of celery, cut into sticks

Complete your lunchbox with:

- banana
- sugar-free jelly pot
- small bottle of water

Method

1. Put the chickpeas, lemon juice, yoghurt, oil, spices and garlic in a bowl.

2. Using a hand blender, mix together until smooth.

Make the hummus the previous evening and store in the fridge. As well as saving time, the flavours will have time to develop.

3. Serve with the pitta bread strips and carrot and celery sticks.

Hummus makes a great after-school snack. If you're using a shop-bought hummus, choose a reduced-fat version.