



In A Nutshell

Headteacher's Newsletter Autumn Term 2024 Week 14



Dear All

At the end of last Friday, we hosted the winter events. The children snuggled down in their PJ's to watch a movie. It was such a lovely moment before the hustle of festivities commenced this week.

It was lovely to see so many of you all at the productions/concerts this week! I am sure you were beaming with pride as the children performed and shone on the stage. From the youngest at Acorns who sang like angels 'by the fire' about elves and jingle bells; to Reception who recited their innovated Christmas Talk for Writing stories and sang their songs; to the Lights, Camel, Action Nativity story retold by Years One and Two; to the humorous pantomime by Years Three and Four 'Enchanted Journey'; and, to the harmonious Christmas concert for Years Five and Six, every single one of them excelled and certainly looked like they enjoyed themselves too! I know the hall was extremely packed with two full year groups for the first time in a while, so this is something we will be reflecting on, in preparation for next year. The audience was again in fine form at the end of the Year Five and Six concert with the audience's participation of The Twelve Days of Christmas—a lovely tradition that is now established!

On Thursday, I hosted one of my favourite assemblies of the year—the Christingle Assembly. From Reception to Year 6, they made their Christingles, sat sensibly in a spiral around the hall, and sang carols to their candles. It is a lovely time for the children to reflect about being grateful and thankful, how they can support at a home over the holidays and enjoy the quiet time.

This week, we were also amazed by our Rock Steady Bands, who sang and played their souls to us all!

The staff and I wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy, healthy new year. I am eternally grateful to the amazing staff we have across Acorns and Hamsey and cannot thank them enough for all they have done this term to ensure school and nursery children are happy and thriving.

Wishing you a lovely holiday and New Year. See you in 2025!

Mrs Mace



2025 Spring term—Please see our [website](#) for term dates

(Please check as these dates may differ from provisional dates sent out)

Monday 6th January 2025—Inset day

Tuesday 7th January 2025—Inset day

Wednesday 8th January 2025—Start of Spring term for Primary School children

Wednesday 8th January 2025—Last parent tour for Reception 2025 intake

Friday 10th January 2025—PTA pre loved costume/Christmas jumper drop off

Monday 13th January 2025—Start of Spring term for Nursery children

Notices and resources

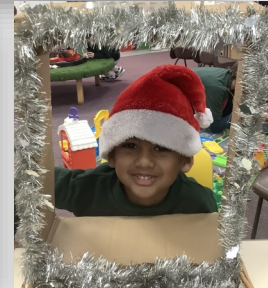


[Home :: Mindworks Surrey](#)

For resources and advice.

[Family learning adult learning courses - Surrey County Council](#) **Free online workshops for parents and carers in Surrey**

If travelling abroad this winter - protect yourself and your children against mosquito borne infections—[NaTHNaC - Home](#) for guidance and advice.



Throughout our last week of nursery, we have continued to enjoy lots of festive fun. After all our rehearsals, the children finally got to sing their songs and retell their Talk for Writing story of 'Stick Man' during our Christmas concerts. We were incredibly proud of how well all the children did during these performances.

The children have continued to enjoy lots of festive activities. Snowballs were added to our playpod resources and the children enjoyed using them to roll them down the tubes and they also created a crazy golf experience with resources.

The children enjoyed exploring a festive rice tray to find and hide Christmas props. Together, they took turns to hide the pictures and then raced to see who could find the most. We have continued to work on our fine motor skills with glittery playdough and festive cutting activities. Some children have also enjoyed completing festive jigsaws.

The children also became a helper to Santa around the nursery grounds and Forest school area. After reading a special story about Santa losing his presents, the children went on a present hunt. They were each given a tick sheet to mark the box when they spotted the corresponding numbered present. The experience was finished off with a hot chocolate outdoors as a special treat.

As this is our final post for 2024, we would like to take this opportunity to wish you well over the festive break and we shall look forward to seeing you in 2025!

Communication this week



13.12.2024—Email to Donaldson class—letter from Headteacher

20.12.2024—Email to Yrs1-6—Spring term teacher run clubs

Please remember to book your children's school dinners for our return after Christmas.

Attendance

1st place:	Dahl (4) - 97.6%
2nd place:	Dodd (1) - 97.5%
3rd place:	Inkpen [R] - 96.7%
Whole school:	93.8%



In a Nutsh-elf



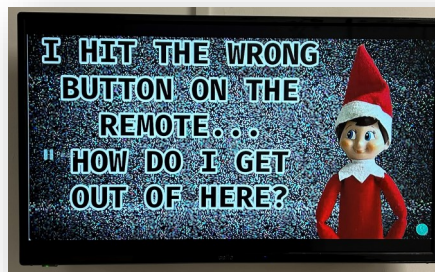
After completing the GCHQ Christmas puzzle on Friday, the elves were accepted for their spy training, traversing across the hallway to the Mission Impossible theme tune!

Tuesday, the elves got into their yellow submarine and went on their underwater mission!



Wednesday, they dressed one of the elves up as Rudolph to pull their sleigh!.....

Thursday, the elves caused some chaos!! They put one elf in the tv and then sat and watched him, whilst eating popcorn. The children all thought they were very naughty!



Friday, the elves were 'hanging around' waiting for the children to say goodbye until next year!.....

The elves




Collection of Hamsey Green children by older siblings

Please be reminded that children can only be collected by someone over the age **16**; unless we have been given written permission from a parent for those in Years 5 and 6 to leave without an adult.

After school activities

If your child is not going to be attending an after school activity but has been in school that day, please can you inform the office and not the class teacher. The office maintains the registers for all clubs and needs to be aware of any child who is not going to be in attendance. Thank you.



Children should **NOT** be riding their scooters or bikes through the staff car park, down the driveway or through the playground at the beginning or end of the school day. Please ask the children to dismount and ensure you supervise your children whilst they are on them. Adults have reported some children are riding on the school grounds that is likely to cause an accident or damage to cars. Thank you for your co-operation.

PARKING & ROAD SAFETY

Once again, we have had some phonecalls from neighbouring properties regarding inconsiderate parking and unacceptable behaviour/language towards our neighbours at drop off and pick up times. **Please park considerately around the neighbouring properties to the school. According to the**

Highway Code it is an offence to park across driveways and it is illegal to park over dropped kerbs. Parking on a private driveway without consent is a civil offence of trespass and may result in prosecution. A number of cars have been reported to the Police.

A number of parents have raised concerns regarding speeding traffic on Tithepit Shaw Lane at drop off and collection times. Please complete the road safety assessment form for Surrey to assess the road. We would recommend this is done as we return to school after half term to ensure they come when school is back in business. [Select the option most like the issue - Report a highway issue - Surrey County Council \(surreycc.gov.uk\)](#) - please select Road Safety Outside a School. Should anyone be interested, there is a vacancy for Road Crossing Patrol for outside the school. This is a paid vacancy through Surrey County Council.



Absences, medical appointments & sickness

If your child is absent from school or has a medical appointment, please email absence@hamseytlt.co.uk or leave a message on the absence line (01883 622000 option 1). Please let us know their full name, class and reason; including any symptoms they may be displaying. We do need to hear from an adult **each day** a child is absent for safeguarding reasons. Please do not bring your child to school if they have been sick during the night. If your child has been sick or has an upset stomach, children may be off school for 48 hours following the last episode, each case is dealt with separately.

Thank you for your co-operation.

[Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#) Please read this guidance before keeping your child off.

Healthy packed lunches

We've noticed that some of the packed lunches coming into school are not necessarily healthy or nutritious. Please can you ensure that what you send in is enough to keep them going for their afternoon lessons.

PLEASE REMEMBER WE ARE A NUT FREE SCHOOL—THIS INCLUDES SPREADS THAT MAY CONTAIN NUTS. THIS IS ALSO APPLICABLE FOR ANY EDUCATIONAL TRIPS.

A Guide to Building...

Healthy Snacks & Lunchbox

P2iP

Bring WATER everyday!

Putting tap water in a reusable bottle is FREE and will help keep your child hydrated all day!



Whole Grains

(Great for Snack or Lunch)

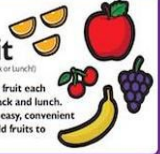
Make sandwiches with whole grain bread. Look for labels that say "100% Whole Grain"



Fruit

(Great for Snack or Lunch)

Pack fresh fruit each day for snack and lunch. These are easy, convenient ways to add fruits to your day



Pack healthy snacks each day. Add a healthy sweet or savory treat.

Try whole grain crackers and pretzels for savory snacks or dried fruits for sweet treats.

Snacks



Add veggies in your child's lunch. They add a healthy crunch instead of chips.

Veggies

(Great for Snack or Lunch)

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!

CAN YOU SPARE A HOUR OR SO A WEEK? COULD YOU OFFER TIME TO HEAR SOME CHILDREN READ OR HELP KEEP OUR LIBRARY TIDY! IF SO, PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE WHO WILL MAKE AN APPOINTMENT FOR YOU WITH MRS MACE TO DISCUSS HOW TO BE A VOLUNTEER. PLEASE NOTE- A DBS WILL NEED TO BE APPLIED FOR UNDER OUR SAFEGUARDING EXPECTATIONS.



We are collecting used printer ink cartridges. Please bring them and put them into the recycling box in the office. We are unable to recycle toner or laser cartridges. Any cartridges recycled, helps the school to raise some money. Thank you!



We are regularly asked by parents, carers, grandparents and friends of the school as to how you can support the school to continue to provide a rich, wide-ranging curriculum and a high standard of education. If you would like and are able, to support the school and your child's education, please buy one of the books on our Amazon wishlist. This will arrive at school a few days later and be added to the children's non-fiction book box or class library.

https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/3GIZF85XRY4MG?ref=wl_share



School Uniform

We are depleting our school stock of uniform. We now only stock very small sizes of cardigans. All uniform items are purchased through Price and Buckland directly. Price and Buckland will refer you back to us if it's stock that we hold. <https://price-buckland.co.uk/school-finder/?school-search=Hamsey+Green+Primary+School>

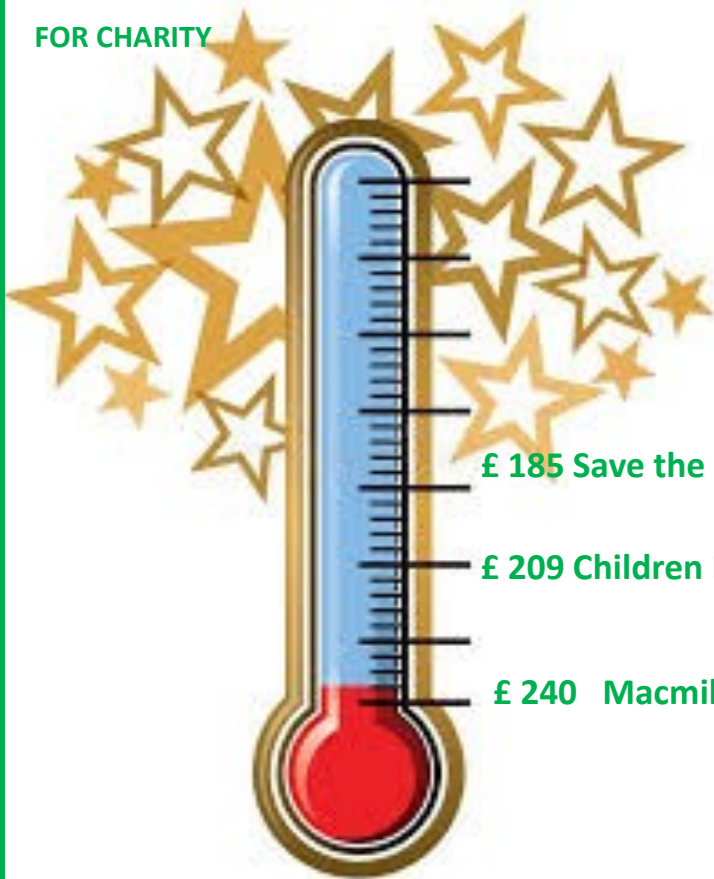
Please be aware that any items ordered through Price & Buckland to be delivered to the school will take longer than if you pay for p&p for home delivery. Price & Buckland will be conducting their annual stock take **from Thursday 28th November to Friday 6th December**. Orders will be accepted but will not be processed or dispatched until after the stock take is complete.

Please name your child's school uniform and coats. We have a lot of unnamed uniform in our lost property box!

Asda's new campaign, [Cashpot for Schools](#), is inviting customers to join in with fundraising for their local primary school by shopping at the supermarket either instore or online. All you need to do is download the [Asda Rewards app](#), opt-in, chose the primary school you want, then shop and scan your app at checkout. Asda will donate 0.5% of your spend to your chosen school. It won't cost you a penny!

<https://www.thebodycoach.com/blog/the-body-coach-partners-with-asda-for-cashpot-for-schools/>

FOR CHARITY

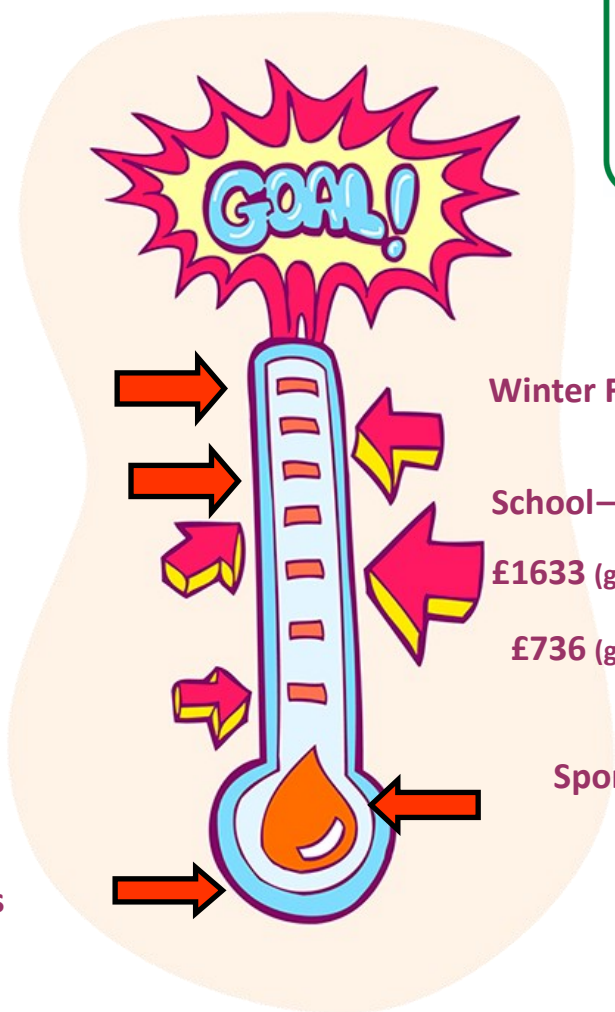
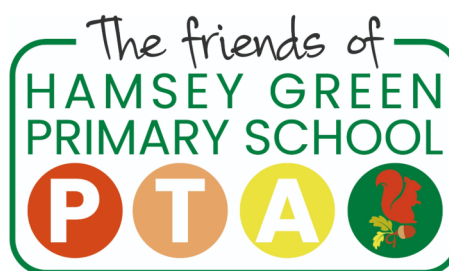


THANKS
for your
DONATIONS

£ 185 Save the Children Christmas Jumper

£ 209 Children In Need

£ 240 Macmillan Coffee Morning



Winter Fair

School—Winter event

£1633 (gross)

£736 (gross) School Autumn event

Sponsored bounce

£2543.80

Christmas Cards

FOR NEWSLETTER FOR ALL PARENTS FROM SCHOOLS

If you consider that there are exceptional circumstances relating to your request, please let the school have full details. Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case by case basis.

Penalty Notices to Address Poor Attendance at School

A Penalty Notice may be issued as an alternative to the prosecution of a parent/carer for their child's unauthorised absence from school (absence without the agreement of the school or not covered by a medical note) and will be used by Surrey County Council in the following circumstances :-

1. Pupils identified by police and Attendance Advice Officers (formerly Education Welfare Officers) engaged on Truancy Patrols and who have incurred unauthorised absences.
2. Leave of absence in term time (5 days or 10 sessions or more).

Please be aware that The Education (Pupil Registration)(England)(Amendment) Regulations 2013, which became law on 01 September 2013 state that Headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.

The Headteacher is also required to determine the number of school days a child can be away from school if leave is granted.

In such cases the Headteacher/Governing Body must decide whether there are exceptional circumstances. They may request that Surrey County Council issue Penalty Notices when the absence is not authorised.

Warnings will not be given where it can be shown that parents have been notified that such absences will not be authorised.

3. Finally, the issuing of a Penalty Notice will also be considered where it is judged that a parent is failing to ensure their child's regular school attendance.

This will be considered when a pupil has incurred 10 or more unauthorised sessions in the previous 10 school weeks, which may include a pupil arriving late after close of registration.

If you believe at any stage that your child's absence from school may leave you liable to receive a Penalty Notice, it is extremely important that you act without delay to secure their regular attendance.

If you have any questions or require further support to achieve an improvement in your child's attendance, please contact your child's school or the Attendance Advice Officer.

Penalty Notice relating to Exclusions

If a child is excluded from school, Section 103 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 places a duty on parents/carers to ensure that their child is not in a public place without justifiable cause during school hours.

This duty applies to the **first five days of each exclusion**. Failure to do so will render the parent/carer liable to a Penalty Notice. (Alternative education provision will be made available from the sixth day of any exclusion.)

Amount Payable for a Penalty Notice and Consequences for repeat unauthorised absences

1. If you have not incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children [in a rolling 3 year period](#) since 19 August 2024, then the penalty notice will be charged at the rate of £160.00, **per parent/carer per child**, if paid within 28 days. This will be reduced to £80.00 if paid within 21 days of receipt of the notice. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.
2. If you have incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children since 19 August 2024, the rolling 3 year period will be activated from the date of the first penalty notice and the second penalty notice will be charged at the flat rate of £160.00, **per parent/carer per child**, if paid within 28 days. There will be no reduction for payment within 21 days. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.
3. If you have incurred 2 penalty notices relating to this child/children in the rolling 3 year period since the first penalty notice was issued, then you will NOT receive a third penalty notice – Surrey County Council will have no option but to consider a prosecution, **per parent/carer per child**, in the Magistrates Court under s 444 Education Act 1996.

Surrey County Council is not responsible for authorising pupil absence and therefore cannot withdraw any Penalty Notice requests without the written permission of the Headteacher.

Advice and support is available from an Attendance Advice Officer by contacting Surrey Attendance Service as follows :-

North West - Tel: 01483 518130 South West - Tel: 01483 517179
North East - Tel: 01372 833588 South East - Tel: 01737 737777