

**Newsletter**  
**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020**

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of our first half term in school, I would like to thank the children, their families and all of the staff for their ongoing cooperation, support and understanding. It is lovely to see how the children have shown true resilience in adapting to our new normal in school. It has been a genuine pleasure to have them back in school.

After half term, the current arrangements for dropping off and collecting children will remain, as will access to the school site. Thank you for supporting us with school risk assessments and wearing face coverings as advised by the Local Authority. Our risk assessment in school is reviewed on a regular basis to ensure the risks of transmitting COVID-19 are controlled. Staff are now required to wear face coverings when not working in their designated bubble. They will not be required to wear face coverings whilst teaching in the classroom.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION - COVID-19 During the Half Term Break**

If your child or anybody in their household tests positive for COVID-19 during the half term break, it is crucial that you inform school immediately. If your child tests positive, as part of the track and trace process, we would need to identify any children or staff who have interacted with him/her and ensure that correct self-isolation procedures are followed. The school office will be closed during the half term break, but the emails will be monitored daily. Therefore, please contact [enquiry@hobgreen.drbigitemat.org](mailto:enquiry@hobgreen.drbigitemat.org) to report a confirmed case and a member of staff will make contact with you.

**Breakfast Club and After School Clubs**

We have reviewed our before and after school provision. Unfortunately, after school clubs remain suspended; this will be reviewed again at the end of the Autumn term. We are now in a position to offer breakfast club after the half term break to the children of parents and carers with work commitments at the start of the school day. Places have now been allocated to those parents and carers who have requested this.

**Parents' Evenings**

Appointments are now available for telephone consultations with your child's teacher on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November. You should now have received a link via email and text message to book this online. Please contact the school office if you require any assistance with this.

### **Parent and Community Advisory Forum**

This week, we held the first meeting of our newly established Parent and Community Advisory Forum Planning Team. The purpose of the forum is to allow the school to consider and act upon the values, opinions, beliefs, and perspectives of parents, carers, families and neighbourhood representatives. Your parent representatives on the forum are Mrs N Bird and Mrs M Barnett; your community representative is Mrs J Hadlow, who you may know as our School Crossing Patrol. We will continue to keep you informed about forum activities throughout the school year.

### **Reading for Pleasure**

During the course of the current academic year, the school will be taking part in a research project devised by the Open University and designed to promote the notion of reading for pleasure. There is a large body of academic research evidence linking reading for pleasure in children with successful educational outcomes across the curriculum. To launch the project, we are asking all pupils to document any reading for pleasure activities that they take part in over the half-term break. Each teacher has set specific half-term homework activities related to the project; you may already have received correspondence about this. We very much hope that all children will take part as we intend to display this homework in the corridors around school.

The half-term break also offers an opportunity for any pupils wishing to enter the Oliver Jeffers author competition to work on their artwork before the deadline for submissions on Friday 6th November. Pupils have been asked to replicate one of Oliver Jeffers' illustrations from any of his many books. The entries we have received so far have been fantastic! There will be four winners (one from each phase: EYFS, KS1, Lower KS2 and Upper KS2), who will each receive books of their choice up to a value of £25!

### **Staffing Changes**

We are sad to be bidding a fond farewell to two highly valued members of our team who are leaving Hob Green this week. Mrs Madkins, our nurture lead, has decided that now is the time to move on to pastures new. Nurture still remains very much at the heart of all we do at Hob Green and I wish to reassure parents that this is a provision that we will still be offering. Mrs Fellows, our Year 2 Teaching Assistant, leaves us today to work in the business she and her husband own. Mrs Williams, who currently works in Year 4, will fill her position. Mrs Arnold will move into Year 4. There are no changes to class teachers.

We wish both Mrs Madkins and Mrs Fellows all the very best of luck and thank them both for their years of hard work and commitment.

Once again, thank you for your continued support. I wish you all a very restful half-term break.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs M Bostock  
Acting Headteacher