



Aspiring to achieve our best: moving forward together!

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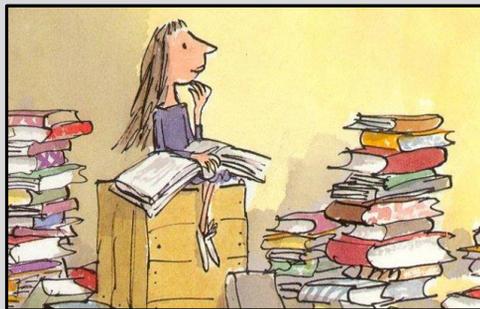
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NEWS

Starting School in Reception September 2020- The deadline is fast approaching for applications for a school place. If your child was born between 1st September 2015 and 31st August 2016 you need to get your application in to Devon County Council by Wednesday 15th January. If you need any help, please contact the school office or call 0345 155 1019.

Contact Details - If you have received a new mobile phone for Christmas or have changed home phone numbers/contact details, please could you advise the school office to enable us to keep your child's records up to date. It is the responsibility of parents to keep this information correct at all times.

Help wanted - We are looking for volunteer readers to help with hearing children read at HPS. We are very grateful to the volunteers that we currently have as it makes a huge difference to children's ability to read the words, as well as to their understanding of stories, if they are heard read several times per week. If you would like to be a parent volunteer and commit to an hour (or more) of reading each week, we would love to welcome you in. Everyone who works with children will require a DBS check which the school would sort for you. We would also give you some ideas on questions to ask the children, examples of what to write in reading records and explain how we teach phonics. If you are interested in volunteering please pick up an application form from the school office.



Menu Change – On Monday 13th January the main meal option will be Lasagne and garlic bread and **not** beef burger and potato wedges.

Loose Parts – Just a reminder that if you have any loose parts or cardboard boxes, old saucepans or wooden spoons, please place them in the KS1 shelter, at the chicken end of the school, so that we can start making our loose parts lunchtime play provision.

Year 5 parents - A letter has been sent home today regarding the Year 6 residential. The residential will take place when the current year 5 children are in year 6 (2nd – 6th November 2020). Kurt Mogridge, the centre leader, will be coming to talk to all year 5 children and parents at 2.30pm on Wednesday 8th January 2020, in Mr Ferdinando's classroom. He will be showing a powerpoint presentation and explaining about the exciting activities and answering any questions about the residential.



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Attendance- Thank you to everyone for helping to achieve 95.60% attendance as a whole school at the end of the autumn term. We appreciate that there have been a few coughs, colds and bugs at the end of last year but we do appreciate everyone's efforts in ensuring that we continue to maintain a high attendance rate. Well done (so far!) to all the children who have managed to be here every day since September.

After-school Prayer Drop-in

- Are you injured or in pain?
- Do you feel overwhelmed?
- Do you have problems that you don't know how to solve?
- Do you ever feel hopeless or lonely?

We believe that God cares, and that he can help!



Some members of Tiverton Vineyard Church and St Pauls and St Georges Church will be in the community room (at Heathcoat primary school) on Thursday 16th January, for a drop-in session for anyone who would like prayer. Anyone can drop in from 3.15-4pm to receive prayer.

Recycling Plastic Chocolate Tubs - Devon contract waste are recycling plastic chocolate tubs (roses etc) and giving money to Dartmoor zoo. If you have any chocolate tubs please hand them in at the school office for recycling.

Had A New Baby?

- New to town?
- Need Feeding Support?
- Want to Make New Friends?
- Need info on Support Groups, Nursery's etc?
- Need Info About Playgroups & things to do?
- Where Can I weigh My Baby?
- Activities For 0-5's

Find The Answers to all of these and much more on our Facebook page with links to Tiverton's Services

Pride Of Devon Community Contribution Award
Winner 2019

Winter Weather Warnings -On the rare occasion that we might need to close the school due to severe weather, such as snow or flooding, please check the following media platforms for information. Updates will be posted online as soon as a decision is made about a school closure.

School website <https://heathcoat.devon.sch.uk>

Devon Live – <https://www.devonlive.com>

As always, we will endeavour to give a decision about school closures as early as possible to help you to make arrangements.

Safeguarding and Child Protection -Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and all child protection concerns need to be acted on immediately. If you are concerned that a child may be at risk or actually suffering abuse please contact Demelza Higginson, Josie Hambly, Mike Payne or Claire Shanahan within school or alternatively if not in school hours please contact MASH (Devon County Council multi agency safeguarding hub) who are available to discuss your concern and advise 0345 155 1071



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Healthy snacks and drinks-Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday are healthy snack days and children should bring only fruit or vegetables. Children can choose to bring in crisps on Thursday and Friday. Please no sweets or chocolate bars. All children in EYFS and KS1 will continue to be provided with a free piece of fruit every day. We are very keen to instill a healthy attitude to food and so all other types of snacks will be discouraged.

All children have access to drinking water during the day. Please can children have a water bottle in school. It is school policy that the drinks that children access during lesson time are plain water, not fizzy or flavoured water. Children can have squash at lunchtime and break time. We have several children in the school who have nut allergies therefore we kindly ask that children do not bring in any products containing nuts. This includes chocolate spread containing nuts.



Uniform-It is lovely to see all the children arriving in school today looking smart in their uniform. Thank you to parents for following and supporting us with our uniform policy.

Please can you name all uniform including coats and PE kits so that we can return any lost items. Our lost property box is now outside the school office. We do have some second-hand uniform for sale at the office and the money goes to the 'Friends'. If you have any donations of clean second-hand uniform, please drop it off at the office.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the correct school uniform:

- A royal blue sweatshirt with the embroidered school logo
- A navy-blue pullover or cardigan (with or without the school logo)
- Trousers/shorts in charcoal grey or black (no jeans)
- Skirt/tunic in navy blue. Blue and white checked summer dress
- Pale blue cotton long-sleeved shirt or pale- blue polo shirt (with or without the school logo)
- Plain socks/tights in white, grey or navy
- Shoes should be flat and should be black, brown or dark blue. Children should wear school shoes. If children need to wear trainers, they should be plain black with no bright colours or white. Please note that hoodies are **not** school uniform.



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Morning routine-The school day starts at 08.45 and children enter the school building through either a cloakroom door or the classroom door. We encourage all children to become independent by organising their own belongings and getting themselves ready for the start of the day, although a period of transition may occur in our Reception and Y1 classes. As part of our safeguarding procedures we ask that parents do not walk through the school building at the start of the day. If you need to go to the office, please walk around the outside of the building.

As I am sure you appreciate, staff are busy getting ready for the school day before 8.45am and once the doors are open the teaching day has started. The staff members standing at the doors are very happy to have a quick chat with parents, however if you require a longer conversation then please make an appointment for a mutually convenient time. It may be easier to arrange for this to happen at the end of the school day or via telephone. Whenever possible, members of the leadership team will also be available around the school site to share longer messages with. The register is taken at 8.55am and all outside doors will be shut at this time. If your child arrives after 8.55am they will need to go to the office to sign in and order lunch. A member of the office staff will walk your child down to their classroom, in line with our safeguarding procedures.

PE Kit- Children need to have a PE kit in school every day including a change of footwear. This is navy or black shorts and either a white PE T shirt or a T shirt of your house colour. (Exe=**Red**, Culm=**Orange**, Dart=**Yellow**, Otter=**Purple**, Barle=**Green**, Lowman =**Blue**)

This term, children in Reception and Year 1 will just change their footwear for PE.

Children who have their ears pierced should wear small studs or sleepers and, for safety, these must be removed or covered for PE. Wherever possible it is better for children to not wear their earrings to school on PE days, especially if they can't remove them themselves. If they can't remove them, please tape them. We may provide the children with some tape to cover their earrings if this is not done at home. You will be informed about which days PE takes place via the year group newsletters which will be sent soon. You can also ask your child or speak to your child's class teacher.



Parking- Only those people who have been issued with a car parking permit are entitled to park in the staff car park to drop off and collect a child from school. To ensure the safety of all, when entering the car park please drive slowly, follow the arrows to the left and use a marked parking space if one is available. Please can engines be switch off once you have parked to reduce the carbon emissions polluting our atmosphere. May we also remind parents to park responsibly in Broad Lane and Orchard Way or use the Old Heathcoat School Community Centre car park. Parking on double yellow lines is illegal and restricts the view of pedestrians crossing the road. Please keep all our pupils, parents, staff and visitors' safe.



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Medicines- A reminder that if your child needs to have an inhaler etc during school day, these need to be brought into school by the parent and handed to a member of staff. If you have not completed a medicine form to give consent to administer this, please collect one from the school office. It is your responsibility to ensure your child's inhaler is in school and is in date. If you are not sure, please check with your child's teacher. When keeping medicines at school we must have the part of the medicine that has the prescription label attached to it.

Message from Miss Higginson



Welcome back to a new year and a new decade!

It is lovely to see all the children back in school today ready to learn and ready for another busy term ahead. We have several new nursery children starting this week. We wish them well and know that they will settle into the daily routines quickly.

We are continuing to focus on our school values (Teamwork, respect, aim high, independence and never give up). Last term we focussed on respect in all aspects of school life and was the focus of assembly and teaching across the year groups. Children in KS2 also took part in some antibullying workshops which focussed on respect. As well as continuing to look for children showing respect, we will also be teaching the value never give up. This focuses on resilience and trying our best. We will be teaching the following learning behaviours as part of this value:

- We always give things a go and try our best
- We understand that learning is tough – we will make mistakes, but we will learn from these
- We can find and use solutions when learning gets difficult
- We know what to focus on and try hard to manage our distractions
- We take responsibility for our learning
- We identify and take risks in our learning

Year 4 will be learning to play the P Bones this term with expert tuition as part of a TCLP project within the local community.

Next week you will be receiving further information about the learning the children will be taking part in this term and how you can support your child at home. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance and then the team leader (EYFS and Year 1 Miss Neale, Year 2 and 3 Mrs Budden and Year 4, 5 and 6 Mr Hudson).



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Lunchtime Behaviour Focus- We have spoken to the children about what they enjoy about lunchtimes, what they think needs to be improved and the various behaviour focuses that we had last term, and the feedback from the children has been really positive. They are all very keen to show off their good behaviour and the skills that they have learnt at lunchtime, and of course, earn some golden tickets (with the hope of being selected to be on Friday's Top Table). They have also suggested some things to focus on over the coming term to help us improve lunchtimes.

The lunchtime behaviour focus for inside the lunch hall for the next fortnight is:

We will try to cut up our food so it's in bite size pieces (or ask for help from a mealtime assistant or friend if we need to). The mealtime assistants always assist children when they require help with cutting their food, and will also explain what they are doing so that they teach children the skills to help them to get better at doing it for themselves. We also encourage those who are able to cut their food well to show others how to cut their food efficiently. For example, we are encouraging the children to cut up their roast potatoes and not put a whole roast potato on their fork and then eat it off the fork like a lollipop!

The focus for outside will be to continue to line up quickly and sensibly at the end of lunchtime.

More information will be sent home in forthcoming newsletters about other ways that we are improving lunchtimes and making them more enjoyable for our pupils.

