



Friday 20th September 2019

Dear Parents

A reminder that on Saturday 28th September, between 10-1pm, school will be open for parents wishing their child to start in September 2020, to have a look around.

Please tell any friends and neighbours that may have prospective pupils to come along. Existing parents are also welcome to come and see the new facilities- please do join us!

On the open morning our gardeners will be busy at work and would be delighted if you could stop by and lend a hand. A variety of tasks need doing!



'Beat the Street' is back again, the fun walking, cycling game will run from 25th September to 6th November.

Please see your class teacher if you are able to volunteer on any daytime walks they may have planned.



Thursday 26th September is photo-day, the school photographer will be in to take individual and sibling photographs.

Teacher Training Days

Monday 21st October 2019
Tuesday 22nd October 2019
Wednesday 23rd October 2019
Monday 6th January 2020
Friday 10th July 2020

Vacancies for Lunchtime Supervisors

We now have vacancies for lunchtime supervisors, please contact the school office for further details.

Swindon Half Marathon Sunday 22nd September

Good luck to Mrs McFayden our Kitchen Manager who is taking part to raise money for Haydonleigh School PTA. If you are watching on Sunday please give her a cheer. Should you wish to support her with a donation please come to the school office.



Family Holidays in term time

A reminder that the Headteacher may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Any request for leave must be made in writing. A response will be returned indicating whether leave is authorised. Any absence not authorised may be liable to a local authority penalty notice.

Black Cat News

Foundation Stage

We have been so excited to welcome our new Foundation Stage children into school and we are amazed at how beautifully they have settled into school life already. We have seen lots of smiling faces each day and are having lots of fun getting to know each other. It has also been great to hear all the children learn the story of 'The Little Black Cat' – I feel like a super star! Ask your child to share the story with you at home, it's a classic!

Year 1

This week the children have been working hard at showing the super star rules, especially that new idea of being ready to learn. As I've strolled past I've often seen the children getting their white boards or looking for a phoneme mat. In maths the children have been making some comparisons, thinking about whether numbers are less than, greater than, or equal to each other. They've also been showing off how good they are with making their teen numbers! In English the children have been learning all about different kinds of extreme weather as part of the phenomenal nature topic. On Thursday there was a real shock as the classroom was found in quite a mess! The children were brilliant at writing a report with their ideas about what had happened. I'm hoping it wasn't the big bad wolf!

Year 2

As I took a leisurely stroll down the Year 2 corridor I was surprised to see a shiny spacecraft, some carrots, a pair of three eyed glasses, some yellow fur and a red hula hoop staring back at me. I didn't feel scared though because the items were only small. Later I realised that the alien rabbit Beegu, had landed at Haydonleigh School. The children did not know where she was so have written some lost posters to try and find her. They included lots of expanded noun phrases and a colourful picture too. I will keep my cat's eyes open in the hope that I find her first.

Year 3

What a busy start to year 3!

The corridor seemed particularly quiet on Thursday as one class were away. I am glad they didn't take me, as it turns out they were enjoying their swimming lesson and I am not a "PURRRfect" swimmer!

In English, children were busy exploring new settings with the dragon Ignis, meeting new characters for their own quest stories. A strange figure has appeared in one of the classrooms, it looked like Halloween had come early. I then realised it was Fred the Skeleton come to show the bones of the human body. The children then got creative and made their own skeleton models using pasta. Personally, I prefer my pasta with a bit of tuna - or any fish for that matter!

Year 4

The pawesome Year 4s have had a spec-cat-ular start to the year, making sure they really try and show their new teachers they're the cat's whiskers! In Maths, I've seen the children playing games on the field - running number cards to diff-fur-rent positions on a clock, as they round them up or down. It was like a giant game of Hickory Dickory Dock, except there were no mice to chase this time! Shame. Meanwhile, in English, they've been purr-fecting their story-writing skills, conjuring up creative creatures as they embark on an epic quest. According to the children, dragons and felines can become great companions, so long as they don't try to singe my tail. Finally, in Science I spied the children classifying vertebrates. They taught me that because I am warm-blooded, have fur and feed my kittens milk, I'm a mammal... and what a fine specimen I am!

Year 5

Paw-trolling around the top corridor, I saw some amazing children, busily writing a description about a 'Tower to the Sun', I hope they don't make me climb it; I'm afraid of heights! Apparently, humans have destroyed the planet and the sun is no longer visible – that's a shame, I love sunbathing!

The children have been finding out about Victorian workhouses – they sound a paw-ful place to go. The jobs and punishments the children had to endure were purr-fectly terrible. I hope that things will improve for children during this time. I'm so pleased I wasn't involved in their PE though as they were crossing the river using equipment (I hate water!) – some fell in and had to try again but they seemed to enjoy it.

Year 6

As I prowled along the Year 6 corridor, I was met with some very quiet classrooms. Apparently though the Isle of Wight is very noisy!! Hope they are having a great time; I'm looking forward to hearing all about it.

Yours sincerely,
Frances Billinge



Headteacher