

Dates for the diary

September

Monday 16th

Yr 1 Parent meeting - 2.30pm

Tuesday 17th

Reception Parent meeting -
2.30pm

Thursday 19th

Yr 2 Parent meeting - 2.30pm

Monday 23rd

Book Fair arrives

October

Monday 21st

Yr 2 Hyde Hall visit

Tuesday 22nd

Yr 2 Hyde Hall visit

Monday 28th - Friday 1st

November

Half term holiday

November

Monday 4th

School photos

December

Wednesday 18th

Flu vaccinations

Thursday 19th

Last day of term

Friday 20th - Friday 3rd January

Christmas break

Echo Newspaper Photos

On Monday 16th September 2019 each Reception class will have their class photo taken to be included in the October 2019 New starters supplement of the Echo. Photos from many Southend schools will be included and you will have the opportunity to buy a copy of the newspaper at a discounted price from school.

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to Hamstel Infant School and Nursery. It is a pleasure to see our returning children and to meet our new children joining us this year. The children all seem to have grown over the holidays and all have returned very happy and well rested.

Our newest children have settled really well in Reception and Nursery and we are looking forward to getting to know all of them.

The staff have all been working extremely hard during the holidays to ensure everything is ready for the children starting back. We have a new look curriculum that we will be introducing, which is very exciting and packed full of new and interesting ideas and events.

We have had a few teething problems with ParentMail but are working hard to rectify these for payments of After School Club, Swimming and trips already organised. If you do have any problems with payments please can you let our Office Staff know in the first instance.

The Sainsbury's Holiday Club that took place over the Summer was a great success and thank you to those parents who took advantage of this great offer. We have received a very generous donation of a telescope for the children. This has been given to us from Mrs White who is Bill's wife, Bill who was our Lollipop man who sadly passed away last year. Our thoughts and thanks go to Valerie for this very kind gesture.

There is a full programme of things planned over the year for all year groups and we look forward to working in partnership with you and for your support with many events.

I look forward to meeting with you at our first Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 Parents information meetings over the next couple of weeks.

Sneak peek at our week

Year N - Nursery

It has been wonderful to see all of your children in their lovely uniform, looking all grown up. Most of the children have already settled into the Nursery routine, and we are sure that those that haven't will soon.

This week the children have been exploring shapes in shaving foam, painting pictures, building towers and many other activities. In carpet session we have been talking about the days of the week and looking at the weather. The children have also learnt to say hello and goodbye using Makaton. We have listened to many stories and sung lots of Nursery rhymes.

REMINDER: Please ensure you drop off and collect your child on time as this disrupts their learning time.

Year R - Reception

What a fantastic start the children have made to their first week at school. They have settled beautifully and have enjoyed making new friends. This week we have been getting to know the children, we have enjoyed listening to them talk about their Marvellous Me boxes and finding out about their families and summer holiday adventures. Next week we will be starting our topic about 'Journeys'. We will be looking at the journey the children have been on so far from babies to starting school. To help us explore this topic in more detail could you please send in a photograph of your child as a baby with their name on the back. PE lessons will begin next week. Please see below for your class PE day.;

Monday: Kingfisher **Tuesday:** Woodpecker **Wednesday:** Owl

Thursday: Peacock **Friday:** Swan

Children should come to school wearing PE appropriate clothing on their PE day (leggings/jogging bottoms/shorts, a round neck t-shirt, sweatshirt and velcro trainers). Please ensure that earrings have been removed and long hair is tied back.

REMINDEES: Tuesday 17th - 2.30pm Reception Curriculum meeting. W/C 23rd September Outdoor Learning starts for all Reception classes

Outdoor Learning

Monday 16th

Heron

Tuesday 17th

Duck

Wednesday 18th

Dragonfly

Thursday 19th

Frog

Friday 20th

Newt

ALDI – Get Set to Eat Fresh

The 'Aldi's Kit for Schools' promotion is giving primary schools the chance to win £20,000 for their school and receive an exclusive school sports kit! To get involved we are asking families to start collecting the Team GB stickers that are available with every £30 spent in an Aldi store and fill up the Hamstel Kit for School poster to help our chance to win.

Earrings

We have noticed a few children have had their ears pierced over the summer, so we are reminding all parents that within our PE policy there is a safety expectation that states that all children must have their earrings removed for swimming and PE lessons.

Contact details

Please remember to tell us about any changes to telephone numbers, emergency contact details, email or home address etc. A form can be obtained from the school office. It is very important that we have the correct details and can contact parents in an emergency.

Weekly Attendance Award

Reception: Peacock & Swan tied on – 98.9%

Year 1: Duck – 96.7%

Year 2: Hedgehog – 99.4%



Year 1

This week we have enjoyed getting straight into our dinosaur theme. We looked at the book "Dear Dinosaur" and received a letter from the dinosaur! Each class has written a reply to the dinosaur; we hope he replies soon! On Thursday, we became fossil hunters and got to dig for real fossils at our dinosaur workshop. We saw different dinosaur bones and fossils from carnivores and herbivores and did a piece of writing to share what we had learned. We are really excited to find out more about dinosaurs in the coming weeks. In Maths, we have been recapping numbers to 10 and counting forwards and backwards from different starting points. We have started back in our Read Write Inc groups and are busy learning and practising lots of different sounds.

REMINDER: Please ensure that your child has a PE kit in school.

Outdoor Learning is next week:

Monday: Heron **Tuesday:** Duck **Wednesday:** Dragonfly **Thursday:** Frog **Friday:** Newt

Please ensure that children come in dressed appropriately for the weather. The children should have wellington boots that are kept in school.

Year 2

A big welcome back to the children in Year 2. All the children have settled really well into their new classes. We have started the term with our new theme 'Wonderland' and have been reading and discussing the text 'Alice in Wonderland' by Lesley Sims. The children have enjoyed acting out the story and taking on the role of Alice and asking her questions about the different events in the story. The children have explored adjectives to describe her feelings and appearance and then written some character descriptions. In Maths we have been looking at numbers to 100, looking at what the digits in a 2-digit number stand for and partitioning the numbers into tens and ones. This week we have been using directional language, looking at aerial maps and creating aerial plans of our classroom.

Dinner menu

Monday

R - Oriental Chicken Stir Fry with egg noodles.

G - Vegetarian sausages with mashed potato in a Yorkshire Pudding with Gravy

P - Pasta with tomato & basil sauce

Carrots & sweetcorn

Summer Berry & Apple crumble with custard

Tuesday

R - Slow cooked shredded British pork taco with coriander brown rice & apple coleslaw

G - Balsamic caramelised red onion & cheddar cheese quiche with new potatoes

P - Jacket potato with cheddar cheese or tuna mayonnaise

Peas & cauliflower florets

Orange & courgette sponge with custard

Wednesday

R - Farm assured British Roast Beef, Yorkshire pudding & traditional gravy with rosemary roast potatoes

Wednesday continued...

G - Chickpea & Sweet potato falafel wrap with minted yoghurt slaw

P - Wholemeal pasta with tomato & basil sauce

Roasted seasonal root vegetables & broccoli

Fruit flapjack

Thursday

R - Creamy British chicken & tarragon pie with mashed potato & gravy

G - Spinach, mushroom & mozzarella lasagne with garlic bread shard

P - Jacket potato with cheddar cheese or tuna mayonnaise

Carrots & green beans

Traditional chocolate sponge & chocolate custard

Friday

R - Fish Fingers & chips with tartar sauce

G - creamy tagliatelle with creme fraiche & nut free pesto

P - Pasta with tomato & basil sauce

Baked beans & garden peas

Raspberry ripple ice cream