



12th July 2024

Reminders and changes for September

Dear parents and carers,

Another year has flown by! It has been a very successful year with many, many highlights such as Arts Week, the KS1/EYFS farm trip, the KS2 theatre trip, forest school, HemFest and the KS2 Sleepover to name just a few. We are really looking forward to next week's whole school show 'Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies'. Of course, we were also delighted to receive our very strong endorsement from OFSTED who judged the school as 'Good' with Early Years as 'Outstanding'. Staff have worked incredibly hard throughout the year to support the children's learning and personal development and I would like to say a huge thank you to this amazing team. Their commitment and dedication is second to none. I would also like to thank our growing team of volunteers and the PTA for supporting the school in a range of ways from listening to readers, supporting in classes and accompanying trips to organising and supporting events. You are amazing!

As you are aware, Mrs Dixon will be retiring from teaching at the end of this year after 18 years at Hemington Primary School. Many of our children have older siblings and cousins who were also taught by Mrs Dixon and I am sure you will all agree she has had a huge impact on the school and our children and their families over the years. We wish Mrs Dixon all the best as she begins her new adventures. She will be sorely missed!

Our new Key Stage 2 teacher, Miss Derrick, has been able to visit our school on a number of days over the term, getting to know the children and staff. Together with Miss Derrick, our teachers have been reviewing our provision for the year ahead and making some adjustments. We would like to invite parents of children in Y1-Y6 to a '**Meet the Teacher Event' on Thursday 5th September** to give parents a chance to meet their child's teacher and understand the curriculum and our expectations for children in their new year group.

- Meet The Teacher Thursday 5th September Key Stage 1 (Y1&2) 3:00pm**
- Meet The Teacher Thursday 5th September Key Stage 2 (Y3&6) 3:30pm**

Trips

We are busy researching and planning our trips programme for next year. We hope to be able to share this with you including approximate costs to help parents plan ahead in mid-September. We are very much hoping to be able to provide a 4 night camp for our Year 5 and 6s in June next year at an outdoor centre. I will be visiting on Wednesday to check its suitability. We are very excited!

Uniform

Children grow fast and I know many families will be buying replacement school uniform over the summer holiday. I would like to remind parents that children are expected to full school wear school uniform except on PE days (Tuesdays and Fridays). School PE should be worn on those days.



Hemington Primary School

Headteacher: Mr Alun Randell

**"To enable, encourage and equip all children to achieve their best
through an inspiring and nurturing environment."**

A full explanation of school uniform requirements and how to order is available from:

<https://www.hemingtonprimary.co.uk/parents-information/school-uniform.htm>

Please remember that long hair should be tied back and no make-up including nail varnish is permitted.

Attendance and punctuality

Nationally, school attendance is of serious concern. The national average has not recovered to pre-pandemic levels of over 96%. The average for primary schools this year is 94.7% . Our average attendance is significantly lower at 91%. In fact, during our recent OFSTED inspection the lead inspector informed me that the only reason we were not judged 'outstanding' for Behaviour and Attitudes was because our average attendance is low.

A child with attendance averaging 90% over the course of their primary school career will miss more than half a year of schooling having a big impact on their learning - so you can understand why low attendance is a concern. For next year, the government is bringing in changes in how attendance and punctuality are monitored and the potential consequences for **term time leave** or **irregular attendance**. These are explained in greater detail in the accompanying letter. Please do read carefully.

We recognise that some children will have some extenuating circumstances contributing to lower attendance. If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to come and see me.

Timings of the school day

Nursery and Pre-school: 9:00am - 3:00pm

Reception to Year: 8:45am - 3:15am. Gates open at 8:35am

Return date in September

A reminder that Monday 2nd September is an INSET day. **Children return to school on Tuesday 3rd September**. All term dates and INSET day dates for the year are published on our website at:

<https://www.hemingtonprimary.co.uk/parents-information/term-dates.htm>

Best wishes,

Alun Randell
Headteacher