Monday 8th September 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Staff were all very impressed with how well our children returned to school last week. We were particularly impressed with how grown up and mature our new Reception children are. Don’t they look amazing in their school uniforms? I am writing today to give you as much information as possible about school events over the next few months so that families can make early arrangements. You can see our live school calendar for the whole year on our website by clicking [here](https://www.hemingtonprimary.co.uk/). Please note the important dates below in your diaries:

**Autumn Parents Evenings: (10 minute slots):**

YR-Y6: 3.30pm - 5.00pm, Tuesday 7th October

Y1-Y6: 4.00pm - 6.00pm, Wednesday 8th October

Preschool: 2.00pm - 3.00pm, Thursday 9th October at 2pm

*(A letter will be sent out shortly with details of time slots available and how to book)*

**Friday 10th October: Hello Yellow - Mental Health Day**

**2.00pm, Thursday 16th October: Show and Share Harvest Celebration**

**Friday 24th October, Inset Day (school and preschool closed to children)**

**Monday 26th to Friday 31st October: Half Term**

**10th to 14th November: Anti Bullying Week**

**9.45 - 10.45am, Tuesday 9th December and Wednesday 10th December: Nativity Performances**

**Tuesday 16th December: Elf Run**

**Wednesday 17th December: Christmas lunch/Christmas Jumper/Christmas Gift Shop/ Craft Day**

**Thursday 18th December, 1.45pm until 3.15pm: Carol Concert at Hemington Church**

**PTA events**

Our PTA had an extremely successful year last year raising a total of £1,568.26!

These funds make a huge difference to the school. They helped towards the cost of the school garden, purchased brand new dictionaries and thesauruses and subsidised the Year 5/6 Activity Day.

This year our fundraising priorities are:

* Sensory equipment
* Re-stocking our school library
* Replacing our worn out PE resources
* Subsidising the Year KS2 Activity Day.

The PTA plan to hold/ assist at the following events:

* **Friday 10th October - Bingo Evening (also Hello Yellow - Mental Health Day)**
* **Wednesday 17th December - Christmas Gift Shop**
* **Friday 6th February - School Disco (to be confirmed)**
* **Friday 24th April - Quiz Evening**
* **Friday 26th June - HEMFEST**

I would like to say a big thank you to all of our PTA volunteers and particularly Mrs Bottle who does a remarkable job at coordinating the PTA. She fully subscribes to our school value ‘Ambition’ and is determined to better last year’s already impressive fundraising total!

A reminder that you can also contribute to our fundraising aims by shopping via the easy fundraising link to shop for everyday items with a range of online retailers. Please save the link to your favourites as it really does help.

**Open Days**

We are holding Open Days for families looking for Reception school places for September 2026. If you are aware of any families who are looking at schools, please do share the dates below:

Tuesday 30th September 9.30am

Tuesday 7th October 9.30am

We are also happy to offer school tours throughout the year.

**Clubs**

In addition to Gardening Club now running on Tuesdays after school and Thursday lunchtimes this term, Mrs Iles will be running Choir club on Monday lunchtimes. Children are welcome to attend every week or when they feel inspired to do so! Thank you very much to Mrs Iles for donating her time!

**Staff absence**

Not many children can claim to be taught by a bonafide Word Champion…. you may remember Miss Derrick competed in the ISKA World Championship in Austria last year bringing home two gold medals and a silver medal! This year she will be competing in the World Championship in Australia. This means she will be absent from school 13th October - 23rd October. During this time, she will be covered by Mrs Sadie Lowe, a very experienced supply teacher who we know extremely well as she works extensively at Midsomer Norton Primary. I am sure you will join me in wishing Miss Derrick all the best as she trains to defend her titles!

We are just finalising our list of Trips for the year and will write separately about this soon to help with planning and budgeting. Several of the trips will be cost-free, however, we will set up the facility to pay in monthly installments which we know can help with costly events e.g. the residential trip for Y5 and Y6.

Best wishes,

Mr Randell

Headteacher