



Hassocks Infant School

NEWSLETTER NO. 6 - June 2024



Dear Parents/Carers

Summer is finally here! It feels as if we have all had a long wait, but we're finally starting to make the most of the school's outdoor spaces, particularly the field and treehouse. We were lucky with the weather for the Summer Fair, which took place recently. It was great to see lots of you there, as well as many pupils who have left us and new families. Events like this really bring our community together, and we're appreciative of the hard work from FoHIS in putting this together.

We were excited to welcome our new Reception families into school for the new parent open evening, and our transition activities for the new Reception classes have now started. Our Year 2 children have also started their transition activities, with some small groups regularly visiting Windmills Junior School and a visit from Mrs Murray, the Headteacher. The Year 2 children enjoyed hearing all about the junior school, as well as asking lots of questions.

Do remember to keep an eye on the school diary and ParentMail for upcoming events and important dates. We look forward to seeing lots of you at some of the events over the remaining weeks of this school year.

Adrian Bates-Holland, Headteacher

Message from West Sussex County Council

Vaccinations—Please check your child's vaccinations are up to date ahead of summer

As we approach the end of the academic year, it's a good time for parents and carers to make sure that their child is up to date with all their routine vaccinations.

For younger children, their pre-school booster vaccinations will help to keep them protected against serious childhood diseases including measles and whooping cough (pertussis).

Measles and pertussis cases are rising in England, and all children are at risk if they are not fully protected. If in doubt, vaccine status can be checked via their personal child health record (Red Book) or by contacting their GP surgery.

For older children, schools are a vital partner in facilitating in-school vaccination sessions. If a child has missed one of these sessions, we ask that schools signpost parents and carers to catch up sessions, details for which are available from the school immunisation teams.

Should parents/carers have any questions or require further information, please contact your doctor, practice nurse or health visitor.

School Behaviour Policy

Be Ready, Be Respectful, Be Safe!

Over the past two terms, the staff team have been reviewing our school's behaviour policy. Our new policy is due to be published on the school website and will be introduced throughout the school from September onwards.

This half term, we have been introducing our three, simple new school rules:

- ★ Be Ready
- ★ Be Respectful
- ★ Be Safe

These rules help our children to be ready to learn, be respectful of other people and the environment around them and ensure that they are keeping themselves and others safe. The rules are guidelines for promoting a good working atmosphere and positive relationships to enable everyone to fulfill their roles in school. Within assemblies and classes, there are discussions around what this means and what it looks like in our school.

To compliment the rules and to bring them to life, we have introduced our Hassocks Heroes to the children:



Ready Rex:

I am ready to learn, I have got everything that I need, I always try my best.



Respectful Rabbit:

I have lovely manners, I treat everyone with kindness, I respect other people's differences, I look after our school environment, I listen carefully to others.



Safe Spike:

I use kind words and actions, I tell a trusted adult if something is worrying me, I keep our school environment tidy and safe.

Keep an eye on our school website – we will be providing further updates.

Scooters and Bikes

Please be advised that scooters and bikes left at the side of the building from the Keymer Road entrance are not accessible until the end of the school day.

Should you need to collect bikes or scooters during the day or before 3pm pick up, they will need to be left in the buggy park by the car park.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Message from the Governors

As this final term comes to an end, the governors at Hassocks Infant School would like to thank all our teaching and support staff for their commitment to the children of our school. We continue to be really impressed by the opportunities that they offer the children and their passion for the school and its community.

We have recently spent a time in school for our regular Governor Monitoring Week and it is great to be in school, to be able to see the children develop and flourish. It continues to be a real privilege for us to be part of the outstanding community at Hassocks Infants.

A key role for governors is to monitor what the school is doing to see how the school is progressing against the School Improvement Plan. We do this in several ways, such as:

- Visiting the school to talk to staff and pupils about the curriculum and other key areas, observe lessons and look at the school environment
- Looking at termly school data across all year groups
- Speaking with senior leaders and the school's advisors
- Listening to views from parents and carers via surveys and at events

The staff's commitment to the children and our school community is truly inspiring. It is always an absolute pleasure to visit the school and chat to staff and the children.

Governor changes

After 3 and 2 years as governors respectively, Julia French and Jo Brumby are stepping down. They have been hugely valuable members of the governing board and we are sad to see them leave. We thank you both for your hard work and support.

We're looking for new school governors! School governors are members of our local community who care about our school and the children we support. Being a school governor can be a very positive experience. The role of a school governor is strategic rather than operational. Governors don't get involved with the day-to-day running of a school, instead supporting the school's leadership team. We are keen to speak to potential governors from a wide range of backgrounds (you do not need to be a parent of the school), and we would be particularly interested in governors with a safeguarding interest or skillset. If you know someone who would be interested, please email us at chair@hassocksis.com or look at the school website [Governors - Hassocks Infant School](#) for more information.

Finally, we want to take the opportunity to send a huge thank you to:

- our staff for working so hard to support the children and each other
- Mrs Brown (a former staff governor) for her hard work and commitment to the school, who is leaving at the end of this year
- Friends of Hassocks Infant School (FoHIS) for another excellent Summer Fair and year of fundraising
- parents and carers for your support during the year
- and the children for being so enthusiastic and hard working all year!

We would like to wish our Year 2 children every success as they start their new learning adventure. We are also excited to welcome our new Reception children and look forward to meeting all the new members of our school community. All that remains is for us to wish you a wonderful summer break and we look forward to seeing you in September.

Update from Reception

Once Upon a Time....

After returning from the Easter break, Reception had a very special visit from the Rainbow Theatre. They watched four traditional fairy tales and some of the children even became actors, to help tell the story. The children were inspired and enjoyed reenacting the stories in their classrooms.



To finish the topic, the children also attended a fairy tale ball! They loved dancing to the music and eating the gingerbread man biscuit they had decorated.



Update from Year Two

At the end of last term, we had a fabulous trip to Wakehurst Place. We participated in three activities including a nature walk, a seed workshop and created a piece of natural artwork. We were very lucky with the wonderful weather and enjoyed our picnic lunch surrounded by wildflowers.



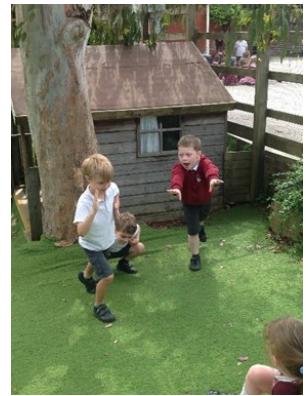
We introduced our brand new topic 'Sporting Superstars' to prepare for a summer of sports fun! The children discovered clues about famous athletes on the field and had to be detectives and decide who each set of items belonged to and what their sport is. Using a non-fiction text, we found out more information about the athletes and created our own Kenning poems to celebrate our new knowledge.



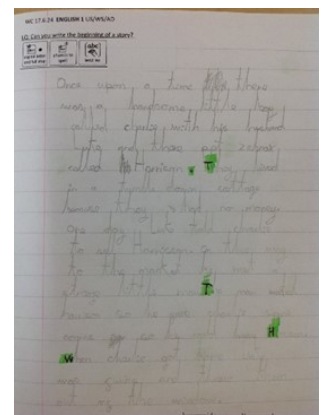
Update from Year One

We have had a busy start to our term with an amazing discovery in our classrooms, a beanstalk was growing! We read the story of Jack and the Beanstalk and acted out the story.

Unfortunately the giant overheard and kidnapped our class bear Hamish until we changed the story! We had to write a new version to get Hamish back.



We have been historians this term, using clues to work out which suitcase belonged to which person.



Then we used the same skills to explore how schools have changed in 100 years. We discovered a picture of Holly class from 100 years ago!

We loved hearing about what school was like when Mrs. Daniel and Mrs. Hutchinson were little and couldn't believe they didn't have computers or an interactive whiteboard in their classroom.

In maths, we have been learning about coins and money. We played a money relay to identify different notes.

