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## Hainford Newsletter

### Welcome Back

Welcome back to Hainford V.C. Primary School for all children, families and staff after hopefully a relaxing and enjoyable summer break. Over these first few days it has once again been pleasing to see how excited and enthusiastic children have been to begin school. It has been particularly pleasing to see how well those children who have started a new class or are new to Hainford have begun to settle into their new class.

I would like to extend a particularly warm welcome to Miss J Harris who will be covering Miss Cunningham's maternity this academic year. She would like to say thank you to everyone for the warm welcome that she has received.

As with every new start there is always some change. This year we will be celebrating assemblies and collective worship in our middle classroom straight after lunchtime registration.

We look forward to another successful year.

### A visit from Iona Lake



To inspire the children at the start of the year we were fortunate to have a visit from Iona Lake who represent England at this year's Commonwealth Games. Iona spoke about her race and the preparations that she used to help her reach her goals. What an inspiration!

**The 'Value for Life' this half-term will be: Courage**

A Christian Perspective on Courage:

*Basic to Christian faith is the claim that God is always present in every situation. This belief has led to great acts of courage that have included facing danger and opposition, overcoming fear, making a stand for what is right and encouraging others to persevere. Through prayer people have found the strength to help them be courageous (Values for Life).*

As a school, we will be exploring how we demonstrate our core values to everyone in our school community. We will look at how we can share our fear and worries and how we can help those members of our school community who are facing difficult times.

**Clubs** (Initial offers)**KS2 Tag-Rugby**

From Wednesday September 12<sup>th</sup> there will be an after-school Tag-Rugby club running up until half-term and led by Mr Cross (3pm to 4pm). This will be open to KS2 children (Yr3to6). Some parts of the session will focus on preparing children for an up-coming Nebula competition. If however, you just want to join the club for fun then you are still more than welcome. Children will need water bottles and P.E. kit. Letters are available from the office.

**Running / Cross Country lunchtime club**

From Wednesday September 12<sup>th</sup> there will be a lunchtime running club led by Mr Cross (12:30 to 12:55). This will be open to all children. Some parts of the session will focus on preparing children for up-coming cross country events. If however, you just want to join the club for fun then you are still more than welcome. Children will need water bottles and suitable running shoes (trainers).

**Homework Club**

More information to follow next week

**Singing Club**

A big thank you to Mrs Allison who will once again be leading our lunchtime singing club. This club will take place on Friday lunchtimes. If you are interested and in Years 1-6 then please let Mrs Allison know.

**Notices / Reminders****Before School**

Just a reminder that the only play equipment that children can use using before school between 8:30 and 8:45 is the giant Connect 4.

**Assertive Mentoring**

To give you as much notice as we are able to, Assertive Mentoring Meetings (Parent Meetings) will be taking place on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> October, (3:10 to 5:00pm) and Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup>, (3:10 to 5:00pm).

**P.E.**

As part of our Nebula Partnership, we once again welcome Mrs Woodhouse and Mrs Mooney who will be leading a wide range of P.E. lessons for all children throughout the year.

### P.E. Kit

**Class 3:** Due to the nature of the lessons children should now wear trainers rather than plimsolls as these provide much greater support. Earrings and jewellery need to be removed before lessons start and long hair tied back. As the weather gets colder, the children need to bring warmer tops and trousers.

**Class 1&2:** Children should bring plimsolls or trainers that they can 'do-up' themselves, school P.E. kit and warm weather clothes. All jewellery will need to be removed before P.E lessons, long hair tied back and earrings covered.

### Sumdog

Sumdog is a mathematics online programme that the school uses to promote a love of maths and core skills. It proved to be a great success last year and we are looking forward to seeing lots awards over the coming year. Now that we have started a new academic year, all of the children have been 'rolled-up' and have access to new content which matches the National Curriculum. Class teachers have been provided with a fresh batch of log-in details. If you are having difficulty logging in to Sumdog at home then please let your class teacher know.

### Attendance

The parents of any child who had attendance below 90% last year will have received a letter about persistent absence. We understand that there may have been a very good reason for their absence but we are required by the government to monitor all children with attendance that may drop below 90% and we wanted you to know if your child was in this group. Where attendance is below 90% the government identifies this as 'persistent absence' and we are not able to authorise any absence without medical evidence e.g. a prescription for medicine from your GP.

Each half term we look at each child's attendance and decide whether to monitor it, send a letter to parents, invite parents for a meeting, refer to the Attendance Officer or send the child a letter of praise. An Attendance Officer regularly visits school and looks at attendance, advising us on the next steps to take where attendance is a concern. Where a child has a genuine reason for absence no further steps would be taken. Holiday fines will continue to be issued for holidays of 5 days or more where your child is over 5 years old. We regularly reward children for good attendance.



### Illness

If your child has been ill with sickness and/or diarrhoea, either at school or at home, they are **unable** to return to school until they have been clear for 48 hours. This is in line with Norfolk County Councils guide lines. Please remember to contact the school office before 9am. Where a child is still absent when the morning registers have closed and the school has not received a telephone call, then Mrs Pamment will phone the child's parents/carers to find out the reason for the absence (in schools this is known as 'first day calling'). Please remember to inform the school by telephone on your child's first day of absence. Thank you for your cooperation with this matter.

**A list of dates will be published in next week's newsletter**

**Thank you for all your support**