



Autumn 2019



Welcome back everyone for the start of what we hope will be another wonderful year at Crofton Hammond Infant School. The summer started well with the arrival of two new babies - Mr and Mrs Halbauer welcomed Charlie John on August 31st and the following day, Mr and Mrs Sanger, their little boy Hugo welcomed Ruby.

Huge congratulations to them both!

Charlie John
Halbauer



Ruby Sanger



Mrs Truslove became a Grandma with the arrival of baby Primrose and Mr and Mrs Bosustow's daughter Harriet got married - a good news summer all round!

We have been joined by several new staff this term who we welcome to our school - I am sure you will get to know them all before long. Helen Barty has joined us as the Owls' class teacher and English and Music lead. Flora Walters begins her NQT year with us in the Squirrels' class. Anna Philipson is taking on Ruth Halbauer's maternity leave until the summer, also in her NQT year. Sian Evans will be covering Amanda Sanger's maternity leave until she returns. Kirstin Westover joins the office team now that Lesley Kennedy has moved to part-time hours. We also welcome Louise Jackson, who is working as TA one day a week in the Squirrels' class, Jenny Cripps who is supporting a child in year R and Cathy Hall who joins the Owls' class, supporting a child. Welcome!

This year the children in Years R and Year 1 will be learning to use a new handwriting approach called 'Kinetic Letters'. There is a useful website if you would like more information. We intend to have a parent workshop to tell you more about it later in the year. However, do not be alarmed if your children come home talking about a 'brave monkey' and a 'scared monkey' - it's all part of the scheme!

I am looking forward to getting to know our new children and new parents over the next few weeks. We pride ourselves on being a very welcoming school so please do not hesitate if there is something you feel we should know or you would like to ask.

Best wishes,

Jacky Halton

Parent Workshops with Lisa Noice - our Family Liaison Officer

Our brilliant Family Liaison Officer, Lisa Noice, regularly runs workshops for parents, which are always really positively received. She has asked me to tell you about two of the other workshops that she will be running this term:

Dad's Top Tips - Wednesday 2nd, 9th and 16th October from 6.15pm - 8.15pm at Crofton School. This is open to all Dads and is an opportunity to build your confidence in your parenting skills, develop new strategies and meet other Dads.

Grandparents' Group - They meet every second Monday in the month, 9am - 11am, in the Youth Room by the Community Centre. Next date is 14th October and this is for all grandparents with children at the Crofton Cluster of schools.

If you would like to attend please book a place by emailing Lisa at: Lisa.dalglish@hants.gov.uk

THANK YOU CHIPS!

What an amazing year of fundraising we had last year! Thanks to CHIPS we raised an astonishing £12,826.24 profit. The money was used to buy new iPads, new books, new instruments, as well as curriculum resources for our new Handwriting programme. We couldn't have done any of this without them.

We would love to see some of our new parents joining our CHIPS team. We have lots of exciting events to plan for the coming year and would value any offers of help.

Attendance

At the start of the year we like to remind you of the importance of your child attending school every day. Even one day off school can impact a child's learning and a whole week out of school will have even more of an impact. We are required to serve penalty notices to anyone who takes a child out of school for a holiday for five days or more in a ten week period. A penalty notice is £60 per child per parent - so it can add up. Whilst we appreciate that holidays can be much more expensive during school holiday periods we do urge you to ensure the good attendance of your child. Please come and chat to Mrs Halton if you have any questions or concerns around this area.

Did you know that for pupils who miss between 10% and 20% of school:

☒ only 35% manage to go on and achieve five GCSEs including English and mathematics, compared to 73% of pupils with over 95% attendance.

☒ only 66% of pupils gained Age Related Expectations in English or Mathematics at Key Stage 2, compared to 87% of pupils with over 95% attendance.

Parent Governor Vacancy

We will shortly be sending a letter advertising for vacancies for Parent Governors. If you would like to be considered please call into the school office and pick up an application form. We would be particularly interested in anyone with HR or Finance experience as the terms of office for 3 of our governors will soon come to an end.



Mental Health Support Line—NHS 111

We have been asked to make you aware of a 12 month pilot scheme offering expert advice, assessment and support for young people and adults experiencing mental health problems which runs 24/7 across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. Specialised mental health nurses are able to support and give advice to anyone who calls 111. This can range from arranging an appointment with a GP or community mental health team to an urgent crisis response.

Autumn Term Dates 2019

September

- 19th: Red White and Blue Meeting - Cabin (2.30pm)
- 23rd: Tea'n'talk to any parents new to the school - Cabin (after drop off)
- 25th: Parent coffee morning with Lisa Noice and Di Bosustow to discuss topics for parenting workshops (9-10.30am)
- 30th: Open evening for parents with children starting school in September 2020 (7pm)

October

- 4th: Red, White and Blue day - details to follow. Children can wear red, white and blue
- 9th: CHIPS clothing collection - donation bags will be sent home before this date
- 11th: Film Night
- 14th/15th: Parent consultation evenings (No clubs this week)
- 15th: Children's Harvest Festival - donations please for the Fareham Food Bank
- 25th: Cake sale at 2pm and after school and last day of half term

November

- 4th : First day back after half term
- 8th: Individual photos and family photos after school (details to follow)
- 12th: Year R Theatre Trip (details to follow)
- 14th: Year 1 Assembly 2.30pm
- 18th: School closed for staff training
- 21st: School nurses in school for Flu Vaccinations (letter to follow)
- 21st: Coffee morning with parenting discussion - Lisa Noice/Di Bosustow in Cabin
- 28th: Christmas Market and Grotto 6pm
- 29th: Parents invited into school to make decorations with their children (no siblings)

December

- 5th: Children's Gift Fair - a chance for children to do their own Christmas shopping!
- 6th: Film Night
- 13th: Nativity Play 1 - PM
- 16th: Nativity Play 2 - AM
- 16th: Nativity Play 3 - PM
- 18th: Christmas Party - children may wear sensible party clothes to school
- 19th: Christmas Lunch
- 20th: Last day of the Autumn Term - see you on January 6th!!

Please note these dates are subject to change but will try and keep to these. If unsure please contact us.