



### Headteacher News

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas break. We also hope you enjoyed the Key Stage 2 Christingle service at St Mary's Church on the last day of term 2 - we were certainly proud of how all the children acted and sang beautifully in 'Bethlehem the Musical' and how they conducted themselves during the lighting of their Christingle candle. Thank you to all those who came to watch; it was warming to see the church so full.



It has been lovely to see how quickly the children have settled (even with some flurries of snow!) and become so quickly engaged in their learning.

We wish Mrs Makey a speedy recovery after she had a successful operation on her wrist just before Christmas. Even with the staff's very special gift of a 'Live Life in all its Fullness' arm sling, Mrs Makey does need time to recover from this. Although Mrs Makey is on leave for the next few weeks, she will be popping in as I know she's eager to see the children's beautiful work and what they have been learning.

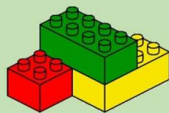
This week in collective worship, the children have been focussing on Gospels. The children have learnt that Gospels means 'Good News' and have explored some examples of these in the Bible. We look forward to our collective worship on Monday 15<sup>th</sup>, where the Leading Lights will perform the parable of the Good Samaritan.

### Homework

If you have any questions please ask the class teacher or email through the school office. The issue of homework has been very extensively researched. Evidence suggests that at primary school, homework is most effective when it involves the practice of rehearsal of subject matter already taught. The research also highlights that children who complete their homework develop better learning habits. Given the above, the main priorities are reading and instant recall of times table facts and number bonds. Please support your child in filling out reading records, and helping your child access TT rocks and/or Numbots.

The children have come back with a spring in their step and an eagerness to learn. There has been some fantastic learning taking place already and we are looking forward to welcoming those chosen back to our star of the week assemblies this term. Do look at our Twitter feed to see more of the learning that takes place.

Have a great weekend.  
Mr Ming



Many of the local libraries run Lego clubs during term-time

Library	Day	Time
Coxheath	Mondays	3:30-4:30pm
Yalding	Fridays	3:30-4:30pm
Marden	Saturdays	10-11am

Please note that parents/guardians are required to stay with their child.



## Star of the Week and House points winners

Every week, each class nominates a pupil as 'star of the week' for an outstanding achievement or learning that has taken place. Their achievement will be linked to the Christian value they show. Look out for it on their certificate.

A huge well done to the children who got awarded star of the week! Congratulations for all their hard work.

Our house colours are named after people who reflect our vision of 'life in all its fullness' and we are sharing weekly results of house points.

	w/e 12 <sup>th</sup> Jan
Devas	Billy-Joe
Bannerman	Hugo
Porteous	Danny
Borton	Tommy
House points winner	<b>Oliver Jeffers</b>

## Dates



Please note that dates are subject to change. Where possible, we will always try to give as much notice as we can if we need to change a date.

<b>Mondays</b> 8/15/22/29 Jan & 5 Feb	Football Club (Yrs 3-6) 3:20-4:20
<b>Tuesdays</b> 9/16/23/30 Jan & 6 Feb	Netball Club (Yrs 3-6) 3:20-4:20
<b>Wednesdays</b> 10/17/24/31 Jan & 7 Feb	Acro Club 3:20-4:20
<b>Thursdays</b> 11/18/25 Jan & 1/8 Feb	Craft Club 3:20-4:20
Weds 17 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Netball match vs Loose Primary
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Non-uniform day
Tues 30 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Devas – Make it Groovy workshop
Thurs 1 <sup>st</sup> Feb 1:30-2:45	Year 5 visit to Coxheath Library
Tues 6 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Parent consultations
Weds 7 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Parent consultations
Thurs 8 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Borton trip to London
Fri 9 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Last day of term 3
Mon 19 <sup>th</sup> Feb	First day of term 4
Mon 19 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Bannerman trip to London
Fri 1 <sup>st</sup> March	National offer day for Secondary school
Thurs 14 <sup>th</sup> March 1:30-2:45	Devas and Year 6 Library visit
Mon 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Devas trip to Kent Life
Thurs 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Last day of term 4
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April	First day of term 5



## Attendance

Together with yourselves we are sure that you recognise that good attendance enables good learning and progress. It is important that your child is at school on time, ready for learning. Learning does start straight away and being late in class can mean that your child misses the essential start of a lesson and then finds it hard to engage.

In order to ensure that the children have a settled start to the day, we would ask all parents to make sure that their children arrive before their start times.

Borton and Porteous – 8:40am  
Bannerman and Devas – 8:45am

Days off school add up to lost learning			
175 NON SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR			
175 days to spend on family time, visits, holidays, household jobs and other appointments			
0	6	15	19
DAYS ABSENCE (190 school days)	DAYS ABSENCE OR MORE	DAYS ABSENCE OR MORE	DAYS ABSENCE OR MORE
<b>100%</b>	<b>96%</b>	<b>92%</b>	<b>Below 90%</b>
EXCELLENT ATTENDANCE	SATISFACTORY ATTENDANCE	REQUIRES IMPROVEMENT	Persistent Absentee
Best chance of SUCCESS	Harder to make good progress	Less chance of success	CAUSE FOR CONCERN
			Serious concern Possible court action

## Every School Day Counts

Please don't let your child miss out on the education they deserve.

For the past 10 days these were the class attendance totals:

Devas: 99%                      Bannerman: 95%

Porteous: 95%                      Borton: 91%

Well done to **DEVAS** who achieved the highest attendance for 4<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> January.

## Twitter



@huntonceprimary

Remember to check out our Twitter page which is updated on a daily basis with information and photos about what the children have been up to.

# MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS.

Improving school attendance is everyone's responsibility and, to tackle the challenge we face, we need to work together. From 8th January 2024, the Government is launching a national campaign to remind parents and carers of the importance of school attendance.

If you are unsure whether or not your child is well enough to come to school, please see this guidance poster from the NHS or the NHS website: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

## IS MY CHILD TOO ILL FOR SCHOOL?

yes

until...



CHICKENPOX	At least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over.
DIARRHOEA AND VOMITING	48 hours after their last episode.
HIGH TEMPERATURE	If your child has a high temperature, keep them off school until it goes away.
IMPETIGO	Their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics.
MEASLES	4 days after the rash first appeared.
MUMPS	5 days after their swelling started.
SCABIES	They've had their first treatment.
SCARLET FEVER	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics.
WHOOPING COUGH	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics.



NO

CONJUNCTIVITIS	You don't need to keep your child away from school if they have conjunctivitis. Do get advice from your pharmacist. Encourage your child not to rub their eyes and to wash their hands regularly.
COUGHS & COLDS	It's fine to send your child to school with a minor cough or common cold.
HAND, FOOT & MOUTH	If they seem well enough to go to school, there's no need to keep them off. Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues straight away and to wash their hands regularly.
HEAD LICE	There's no need to keep your child off school. You can treat head lice and nits without seeing your GP.
THREADWORMS	Speak to your pharmacist, who can recommend treatment.
SORE THROAT	You can still send your child to school if they have a sore throat. But if they also have a high temperature, they should stay at home until it goes away.
TONSILLITIS	
SLAPPED CHEEK	You don't need to keep your child off school if they have slapped cheek syndrome because, once the rash appears, they're no longer infectious.





## Winter Mini Challenge 2023 Visit Coxheath Library



Following the brilliant success of the Summer Reading Challenge, the Winter Mini Challenge is running until 19<sup>th</sup> February and will be continuing the Ready, Set, Read! theme brought to life once more by the amazing

illustrator, Loretta Schauer.

All correspondence that you are sent can be found here: <https://hunton.kent.sch.uk/parents/parent-correspondence/>

If you have mislaid a letter from school or forgotten details about an upcoming school trip, please check the website.

## Tesco Stronger Starts – from 15<sup>th</sup> January



We are very excited to confirm that Tesco Stronger Starts will be putting our project (to build an outdoor covered area) to the vote in January 2024! The project with the highest

number of votes will receive £1,500, the second placed project £1,000, and the third placed project £500.

The following stores will vote:

Grove Green - ME14 5TQ, Tonbridge Rd Exp - ME16 8TE, **Tovil** - ME15 6RQ, **Coxheath** Exp - ME17 4PN, Nr Maidstone Hospital Exp - ME16 0DJ, Bearsted Express - ME14 4NE, Oakwood Park Exp - ME16 9NZ, Week St Maidstone Exp - ME14 1RL & **Loose Rd** Exp - ME15 7TY

If you shop at Tesco we would be very grateful for your support.

## 2024 Calendar for Messy and Muddy Church at St Nicholas Church, Linton

	Saturday 20th January 3-4pm	
	Saturday 17th February 3-5pm	
	Saturday 16th March 3-4pm	
	Saturday 20th April 3-5pm	
	Saturday 18th May 3-4pm	
	Saturday 15th June 3-5pm	
	Saturday 20th July 3-4pm	
	Saturday 17th August 3-5pm	
	Saturday 21st September 3-4pm	
	Saturday 19th October 3-5pm	
	Saturday 16th November 3-4pm	
	Saturday 21st December 3-5pm	

All are welcome!

Muddy Church is outside and allows participants to wander and wonder about God and the world together. Messy Church is about being church together. It's Christ-centred, for all ages and based on creativity, hospitality and celebration

The United Benefice of Coxheath, East Farleigh, Hunton, Linton and West Farleigh

## Staff names

Relationships are so important in schools, especially small schools. While we pride ourselves on our excellent relationship with parents, staff and children, we do ask parents to call staff by their 'teacher/staff name' to support consistency and structure for the children.

Thank you for your cooperation.

## Thank you

We would like to express our gratitude to the Moloney family who have made a sizable donation to the school.

We are pleased to announce that this money will be spent on phonetically decodable Key Stage Two reading books to support reading. Working in a small school where budgets are limited can be difficult in securing all the resources we would like to, donations like this go a long way and again would like to share our thanks to Mrs Moloney

## Slide Away

As some of you are aware, the school is working in partnership with the charity 'Slide Away'. Slide Away offers support to children and young people living in or attending schools in Kent who have been bereaved of a family member or friend.

At the end of the KS2 Christingle service, some of you kindly donated to this and we are pleased to announce we raised £215.04. If you would like to further donate, or would like to know more information, please see Ruth in the office or visit the Slide Away website: <https://www.slideaway.org/>

## P.E Kit

**Your child should have a P.E kit in school at all times.**

P.E is part of the curriculum and all the children need to participate.

If your child needs to take their kit home, please ensure they take it on Friday and return it on Monday.



[https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/the\\_big\\_ambition](https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/the_big_ambition)

Please take a moment to complete this survey, The Big Ambition. They would like to hear from all children and young people in England aged between 6 and 18 years old.

Responses will be taken to the Government so they can understand the views of young people and how they can make children's lives better ahead of the General Election.

Please respond before 19<sup>th</sup> January.



## Millbrook half-term events

<https://www.millbrookgc.co.uk/webshop/events/events-staplehurst>

Millbrook have a lot of events on over the February half-term. They all need to be booked in advance and they usually sell out quite quickly, so don't delay if you did want to book any of the events.

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February – Trainmaster (train themed play)

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February – Sky birds of prey

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February – Creation Station (arts & crafts – decorating a wooden bird feeder)

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> & Friday 16<sup>th</sup> – Our amazing animal world.

## MAIDSTONE MUSEUM

Maidstone Museum are running craft sessions during February half-term. These also need booking in advance.

<https://museum.maidstone.gov.uk/whats-on/events/february-half-term-2024/>

## Clothing

Please could we remind you to ensure that all of your child's clothing has their name clearly written/labelled inside. We have seen some lovely new coats which children received at Christmas but their name has not been put on them so when they are left on the playground we have no idea who they belong to. The same with jumpers and cardigans.

Please take a couple of minutes this weekend to write your child's name into all of their school clothing and coats.