

Headteacher News

What a busy, stimulating and exciting start of the academic year it has been. The children have really impressed me with their hard work and enthusiasm for learning.



I hope you have all read our letter about our use of behaviour ladders which promote rewards as well as sanctions. The children behave so beautifully and this is shown in the kindness and compassion that they demonstrate towards others. This is particularly evident on the playground. I see older children including the little ones in their games, plenty of laughter and happiness and children showing compassion to others if they unfortunately fall over.

Last year, teachers reviewed our curriculum and have produced a curriculum framework. Our vision of *'living life in all its fullness'*, *John 10:10*, and striving outside of comfort zones drives our intent to provide a well sequenced, specifically planned ambitious curriculum so our children are equipped with both the knowledge and skills to excel in their future modern world. There are high expectations for all to challenge themselves. The ability to learn is underpinned by the teaching of knowledge, skills, concepts and Christian values. It is an ever-evolving process which naturally considers the needs of the children, the community, the National Curriculum, our Christian vision and values. We intend our curriculum progression to be a memorable learning journey enabling children to absorb and apply the knowledge, skills and experiences needed to become independent, confident learners. It sequences and builds on learning from EYFS to the end of Key Stage 2 understanding that learning is a life long journey.

Please do look at our curriculum section of our website to see year group overviews to see what your child is learning this term. <https://hunton.kent.sch.uk/curriculum/class-curriculum-information/>

We are pleased to hear that so many of you are enjoying lots of other activities outside of school and achieving amazing things such as winning horse shows, swimming certificates, dancing and sports events. We love to put their photo on our 'Tree of Achievement' and hear about their challenges.

Professor Chris Whitty, Chief Medical Officer, England has recently sent advice to headteachers which I whole heartedly agree with and would like to share with you.

'Children with mild and moderate anxiety are likely to be better off attending school because long periods of absence can make symptoms worse.'

There is wide agreement among health professionals and educational professionals that school attendance is vital to the life chances of children and young people. Being in school improves health, wellbeing and socialisation throughout the life course. The greatest benefits come from children and young people attending school regularly.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Makey



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.

As the children have chosen names for their houses of people who reflect our vision of 'life in all its fullness' we are now sharing weekly results of house points on our newsletters.

	w/e 15 th Sept	w/e 22 nd Sept
Devas	-	-
Bannerman	Jack	Jamie
Porteous	Zack	Scarlet & Violet
Borton	Rose E	Landon
House points winner	Oliver Jeffers	Bear Grylls Alessia Russo

Earrings - Pierced Ears

Please note that only stud earrings can be worn in school. If you are planning to have your child's ears pierced, please do so at the start of the summer holidays so that their ears have a full six weeks to heal. As per our P.E and Uniform Policy: Children must be able to remove their own earrings or they should be removed by a parent before school. Staff must not remove a child's earrings for them. If a child is unable to remove their earrings then these can be covered with **tape only if this would make them safe for the activity that the child is preparing to participate in eg: running activities**. Taping cannot make earrings safe for any ball games. If tape is to be used, the pupil must supply the tape and be able to apply and remove the tape themselves.

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.

Mondays 11/18/25 Sept 2/9/16 Oct 6/13 Nov	Porteous Swimming at Mote Park Leisure Centre
Mondays 25 Sept 2/9/16 Oct	Football Club Years 3-6 3:20-4:20
Tuesdays 26 Sept 3/10/17 Oct	Netball Club Years 3-6 3:20-4:20
Wednesdays 27 Sept 4/11/18 Oct	Tennis Club Years 1-2 3:20-4:20
Thursdays 28 Sept 5/12/19 Oct	Arty Crafty Club Years 1-6 3:20-4:20
Wednesday 4 th Oct 2:15pm	PTFA Annual General Meeting (AGM) tea, coffee & cakes
Friday 13 th October	Visions & Values Day School Disco 3:15-4:15
Friday 20 th Oct	Last day of term 1
Tuesday 31 st Oct	First day of term 2
Tuesday 31 st October	Deadline to apply for Year 7 Secondary School place for Sept 2024
Wednesday 1 st November	School photos – individual and sibling photos
Friday 3 rd November	Sept 2024 Primary School admission applications open
Friday 8 th December	Christmas Fayre
Friday 15 th December	Last day of term 2

Remember to clearly label your child's water bottle and do not fill with juice.



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
100%	96%	92%	Below 90%
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 2 weeks these were the class attendance totals:

Devas: 94% Bannerman: 95%

Porteous: 96 % Borton: 88%

Well done to **PORTEOUS** who achieved the highest attendance for 11th – 22nd September 2023.

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.



PTFA News & Events

pta@hunton.kent.sch.uk

FB: [HuntonPrimaryPTA](#)

New PTFA members needed

Being on the PTFA isn't a time-consuming role as you can help as much or as little as you like. Most PTFA members help out on average 10-15 hours per year (some people are able to do more whilst others may help at a couple of events).

The more members we have, the more we can share the workload which means we don't have to rely on the same people to help out all the time. We have some members who can only help at weekends and we have others who can only help during the week so this works out really well.



We are also looking for a secretary – someone who can take some notes at our meetings (which we hold in the pub!) and arrange our PTFA meetings (we usually

have about 4 meetings per year). This isn't a daunting role and if you would like to know more please email pta@hunton.kent.sch.uk and/or pop along to our coffee & cake meeting on Wednesday 4th October at 2:30pm in the school hall.

There are so many positive reasons as to why you should join the PTFA – but most importantly it is to organise fun events for the children whilst helping to raise money.

Come along to our meeting and hear about the money we raised last financial year and how we spent it. Get an idea of what we do and then if you think you would like to join us you can let us know afterwards.



Milk

If you would like your child to receive a carton of milk each morning, please register them on the [Cool Milk website](#).



Compassion, Joy, Perseverance, Respect

'Life in all its Fullness' — John 10:10

We are a small school with a big heart!

For parents whose children are starting school September 2024

Open Day

Monday 6th November at 10am or 1.45pm

Tuesday 7th November at 10am or 1.45pm

Thursday 9th November at 10am

Please contact the school office to book an appointment or for any further information.

Parents are invited to have a look around the school and meet Mrs Makey and other staff. We look forward to seeing you at one of our open days.



Millbrook Minis' Half-Term Fun at Millbrook!



Sublime Science Spooky Experiments Party
24th October



Halloween Craft
25th October



Weird and Wonderful Animals
26th October

Book now to avoid disappointment!
millbrookgc.co.uk

Healthy Snacks



A reminder that snacks brought into school should be healthy snacks such as whole fruits like apples, bananas (so no fruit

winders etc.) and vegetables like cherry tomatoes, carrot sticks etc. Snacks shouldn't have wrappers so ideally no biscuits, cereal bars, chocolate or crisps. This is to encourage healthy eating in school and also reduce the amount of litter around the school site. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Long Hair

Please can we ask parents/carers to ensure that any child with long hair has this tied back neatly everyday ready for school.



Changing Weather

Due to the changeable weather at the moment please can we ask parents/carers to ensure that their children have a coat in school. Even if it is raining slightly we will still have playtimes outdoors.

Twitter



[@huntonceprimary](https://twitter.com/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.