

School Update

Friday 22nd September 2023

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In this weeks update:

- Autumn weather!
- Food donation station
- Diary Dates
- PTFA News
- Community notices
- HOPS High 5
- Getting to school safely
- Site/building update



Autumn weather!

The weather has a definite Autumnal feel to it at the moment, so I would encourage all children to arrive at school with a waterproof jacket. This allows us to get outside at break and lunchtime if it's not too wet.

As it gets cooler, school sweaters and coats will be much needed. Could we ask that all items of clothing are named/labelled so that they can be reunited with their owners if mislaid? Many thanks

Foodbank donation station

Last year we introduced a Food Bank donation station at school to receive food and toiletries in support of local foodbank charities Project 5000 and the SVC Food Project (based at the Baptist Church). Our collection point can be found in reception where we take donations of various items like cereals and long life milk, pasta or rice, tinned fish or meat and soup or tinned vegetables. If you feel able to support this venture, then please do so. However, there is no expectation. The collection point is a permanent feature as we seek to offer support to the wider community who may be struggling socially, mentally or financially in these difficult times. For those currently in need of food parcels, a list of local food banks in the Charnwood area can be found here.

Autumn Term 2023

September 2023

Tues 26th Key Stage 2 Welcome Evening, 6pm

Wed 27th Reception Welcome Evening, 6pm

Thur 28th Key Stage 1 Welcome Evening, 6pm

Harvest Festival at Church
Fri 29th - Years 1, 3 and 5—9:15 am start

- Years 2, 4 and 6—10:00 am start.

October 2023

	Thur 5th	SENDCo Surgery
		Reception/Pre-school Harvest Festival, 1pr
	Fri 6th	Mrs Kneafsey/Mrs Parry Assembly—9am
	Mon 9th-	PGL—Year 6
	Fri 13th	
	Tues 10th	Mental Health Day
	Thur 12th	SEND Parent Forum
	Fri 13th	Mrs Granero/Mrs Bharmal Assembly—9am
	Mon16th	Half-term
	-Fri 20th	
	Mon 23rd	INSET Day—children not in school
	Tues 24th	Parent Evenings
-Thur 26th	Parent Evenings	
	Fri 27th	Mrs Coneron/Mrs Miles Assembly—9am
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November 2023

Fri 3rd Mr Hatley Assembly—9am
Fri 17th Children in Need Day

December 2023

Fri 1st Christmas Tree Festival

Sat 2nd Village Christmas Lights switch-on

Tues 5th Seasonal flu vaccination, R to Year 6

Tues 19th Christmas Dinner/ Christmas Jumper Day!

Fri 22nd Last day of term

Don't forget to follow us on Twitter to get up-to-date news of the happenings at school. You'll find photos of activities, achievements as well as celebrations.





Welcome everyone! Hello to all our new and returning families!

We hope everyone enjoyed the break and have settled back into the school routine! Over the summer we've been planning away for this academic year and we wanted to share our news with you!

Fundraising Goals After meeting in the summer and with School this week we have agreed our fundraising goal for the foreseeable future to focus on: **Outdoors and Wellbeing.** We think this really supports the <u>school values</u>, will benefit the whole school community now and in the future and is in line with some upcoming purchases for the playgrounds. We will keep you posted with purchases and projects.

Events for 2023/24 We will be organising the following events this term and have included some costs to help with planning your spending.

Join Us in 2023/24 As always, the PTFA's role to support the school and have events will only be successful with the continued support of volunteers. We would love some more committee members, however if you would like to help but are unable to commit to being a member we are looking for the following: people to help coordinate events; parent reps to share updates via parent groups (Facebook; WhatsApp); support to coordinate raffle prize donations; support drumming up local sponsorship for the Summer Festival; folders of raffle tickets; prepping bags of sweets for events; selling ice lollies in the summer.

If you are interested in joining our friendly PTFA group or you are able to volunteer for an event, please contact us at PTFA@hall orchard.leics.sch.uk.

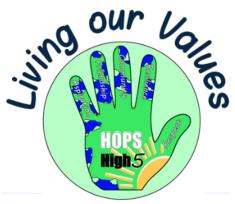
Easyfundraising Thank you! Since February you have helped us raise £407.54 through your online shopping!

We will now transfer this into our account and press the reset button for 2023/24!

Join us today and help to make a real difference to the Hall Orchard CE Primary School PTFA fundraising goals It's so simple to get going all you have to do is visit:

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/hall-orchard-ce-primary-school-ptfa/





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HOPS High 5

This week our whole-school reward system called HOPS **High 5**—based on our 5 core values was again celebrated. We've linked our school rules to these values so the children are rewarded for living them through their positive behaviours. They earn value points each time they demonstrate one of these values, with the overall aim of achieving enough points to receive a values badge. Interim certificates will be issued at regular milestones and weekly **Values Awards** are given out to children showing their commitment to the **value of the week**.



We were delighted to award our **Values Awards** in assembly this week, with children from across the school receiving them for demonstrating our Core Values. Our theme in CoWo this week was **Peace** - we talked about people who try to bring about peace in their communities and those would end war. This linked nicely to our Community and Friendship values, but also considered the power of forgiveness—an important quality for us all. Many have been rewarded with Value Dojos but our Award winners stood out for their positive behaviours. Excellent stuff! Mr D.

Getting to School Safely

With us having **520 pupils** at Hall Orchard, and currently only being able to use one main site entrance, getting to and from school safely continues to be a challenge.



The roads surrounding the school are not designed for the amount of vehicular traffic they receive immediately before and after school and consequently there is an increased risk of an accident taking place. I would ask parents to be vigilant in reminding the children to look both ways when crossing driveways and roads, whether walking or cycling/scooting.

I would also request that, whenever possible, the children should walk to school—the exercise would be an added benefit! If walking is out of the question, then could I suggest that parents park a little further away and walk the last part of the journey. Our friends at the Three Crowns (at the junction of Cotes Road/High Street) have said that parents can park in their car park whilst doing the school run. Car sharing is another great way of relieving congestion—and also a good way of sharing the dropping-off duties.

If you must drive, then please consider the safety and wellbeing of other road users, our neighbours and most importantly, our pupils, by adhering to a few guidelines:

- *drive slowly along the surrounding roads
- *do not drive or park on the pavement or across driveways
- *switch off engines whilst parked up
- *do not drive into or reverse into the main school entrance
- *act with consideration for others at all times.

If you are concerned about a car being driven or parked without care or attention around school, then I would suggest that you report it to the Police, as the school has no power beyond the gates to do anything about it other than to ask respectfully for consideration for all users.

We spend a lot of time teaching our children about our values (including Community, Respect and Friendship) and we would hope that parents would share our ethos, even in the most testing of circumstances, such as at drop off and pick up after school!

The safety of our children is incredibly important and even if these strategies are only employed occasionally, it will make a great difference overall in improving the situation.

Many thanks for your support in this matter.

Site/building update

Just a brief update on the progress of the building works taking place at school.

The works taking place outside the relocated Reception classrooms should be completed this weekend (tarmacking on Saturday) meaning that, all being well, the gate adjacent to the Hall will reopen on Monday (thank goodness!). We would encourage our Reception classes to use this gate, with others continuing to use the side (jitty) gate if possible.

The larger building project (4 new classrooms, studio, meeting room and toilets) continues, and due to delays, we are looking now at a mid-November completion date. Although this project is taking longer than initially expected, it will be worth it in the end. As soon as this project is finished, we shall reopen the entrances gates at the rear of the school (Melton Road) which should help reduce congestion on Cross Street.