



HEMINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Term 3 - February 2025

Diary Dates

Mon 17th - Fri 21st February - Half Term

Thursday 6th March - World Book Day

Friday 14th March - Red Nose Day

Friday 21st March - Y6 Trip to Bristol Museum

Monday 24th March - Dance Umbrella

Friday 4th April - Last day of term

Monday 7th to Friday 18th April - Easter Holidays

Message from Mr Randell

As we head into the half-term break, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on what's been a busy but brilliant term. The children have thrown themselves into every opportunity with enthusiasm and resilience, and we couldn't be prouder of them! One of the highlights this term was the way in which our children engaged in our Children's Mental Health Week activities. It was lovely to see the children thinking about how they can take care of their well-being and support each other. Their thoughtful ideas and kindness really shone through.

We've also had lots of fun taking part in sports events through our School Sports Partnership, including gymnastics, bowling, and multisports. It's been great to see so many children trying new activities, working as a team, and building confidence along the way.

I'd like to say a big thank you for your patience and understanding when we had to close unexpectedly due to the power cut earlier this week. These things are never easy to plan for, but your support made all the difference. I'd also like to give a shout-out to the children for being so adaptable while Nightingale Classroom was undergoing essential maintenance. Using the hall as a temporary classroom wasn't ideal, but they took it all in their stride!

As we look ahead to the second half of the term, we're hoping for sunnier days and more exciting learning adventures. In the meantime, I hope you all have a restful and enjoyable half-term break.

All Aboard the Toilet Train!

A recent survey by the children's bladder and bowel charity, ERIC found that 1 in 4 children will be in nappies when they start school this September. In response to this, they have launched the All Aboard the Toilet Train campaign with information to support families with toilet training and school readiness in general. You can find out more and get involved [here](#) .

Parent Governor Vacancy

We currently have a vacancy for a Parent Governor on the joint Local Governing Body for Hemington and Leigh on Mendip Primary. School governors are volunteers who work together with the Headteacher to deliver the best education for the pupils at their school. They also work together with the Midsomer Norton Schools' Partnership as part of the Trust's governing structure.

The local governing board meets every half term. Meetings last around an hour and a half. Our current governors work full time and manage to fit in their role around their other commitments. Their motivation is invariably to make a positive contribution to education. If you would be interested in this role please speak to Christine Iles in the office or Sophie Flook, a parent who is also an existing governor.

Healthy Eating

Please ensure that your child's snack is healthy - no chocolate bars, please! Whilst at lunchtime, we recognise parents may include the occasional bag of crisps or biscuit in a packed lunch as a treat, please do not include chocolate bars.



SOMERSET EARTH SCIENCE CENTRE

22ND FEBRUARY 11AM - 3.30PM

FAMILY MUSEUM

OPEN DAY

- COME AND SEE OUR FOSSILS, ROCKS & MINERALS
- ASK AN EXPERT ABOUT YOUR OWN ROCKS & FOSSILS
- GEO ARTS & CRAFTS
- GEO TIME TRAIL
- POCKET MONEY FOSSILS
- REFRESHMENTS



www.earthsciencecentre.org.uk



Penalty notice fines for school attendance are changing

The following statutory changes from the DfE will come into force for penalty notice fines issued after 19 August 2024. All fines are held by the Local Authority

1. First offence

The first time a penalty notice is issued for **term time leave or irregular attendance**, the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child if paid within 28 days. Reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

2. Second offence (within 3 years)

The second time a penalty notice is issued for **term time leave or irregular attendance**, the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child to be paid within 28 days. No reduced rate will be offered.

3. Third offence and any further offences (within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed for **term time leave or irregular attendance**, a penalty notice will not be issued and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates' Court; fines can be up to £2000 per parent, per child. Cases found guilty in Magistrates' Court can show on a parent's future DBS certificate, due to failure to safeguard a child's education.

10 sessions (5 days) of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period

Penalty notice fines will be considered when there has been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10 week period.



It has been wonderful to see children enjoying so many sporting activities this term and enjoying the fabulous, uplifting dance in preparation for the Dance Umbrella event next month

