

Dear Parents/Carers,

A very warm welcome back! I hope that you've all had lovely summer holidays and are ready for an action-packed term here at Hunsdon. There's already a lot to look forward to this half term, with some dates and events still to confirm so please look out for updates to the calendar.

STAFF CHANGES – This term we welcome one new member of staff - Mrs. Victoria Keene who has joined our lunchtime team. I am sure Mrs. Keene will be a very positive addition to our already excellent staff.

'MOVING ON' – Year Six Secondary Transfer - Just a reminder to Year 6 parents that the online application system for secondary school places is now open. See www.hertsdirect.org for more details. Look up the dates for Open Evenings you want to attend – they start this week. Applications need to be in before 31st October 2023. **Please ensure your application is in on time.** If you would like to discuss this matter, please contact the office and make an appointment to see me.

DATA COLLECTION SHEETS – The details we hold on record will be given to you to check over at the Parents' Evenings, please amend if necessary and return as soon as possible. Please ensure that there is an up-to-date emergency number in case we need to contact you urgently.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS – We are pleased to be offering a wide range of clubs to reflect the interests of as many of our children as possible. These will be running during lunchtimes and after school some led by staff and some by pupils. Timetables will be on the website shortly.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

PCSO LEON DEBRUYN VISIT – Friday 8th September 9:00am – Hello, hello, hello... Cedar class are welcoming our local PCSO, Leon DeBruyn, who's coming to talk with them about being part of the Mini Police Scheme. I'm sure that we'll all feel safer, knowing that Cedar are in charge of security!

FRIDAY "SHARE & TELL" ASSEMBLIES – I'm delighted to say that we are going to be able to invite you all along again for our whole school assembly. All parents are invited to attend these assemblies that begin again next week, **Friday 22nd September** at 2.45pm.

DRAMA4ALL – Tuesday 26th September – We are very excited to be welcoming Drama4ALL to Hunsdon. Whilst they are with us they will be running a special workshop for each of the classes.

THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF BATS – Wednesday 27th September – Did you know that St. Dunstan's Church in Hunsdon, is home to several well-established bat colonies, including maternity roosts of Pipistrelles and Long Eared? It's definitely not been on my radar... Cedar class are meeting a bat expert at the church to find out more!

MACMILLAN TEA PARTY IN THE AFTERNOON – Friday 29th September 2:00pm – This year we're mixing it up! Rather than having our usual coffee morning, we are going to support Macmillans with an afternoon Tea Party. Cedar class are again donning their aprons and smiles to wait on the masses of children, parents and carers who we hope will turn out in their masses to support this excellent charity. Please help us by joining us in the afternoon and sending in cakes and biscuits for us to sell.

YEAR 3 DEVELOPMENT AFTERNOON – Thursday 5th October – Our fabulous Year 3s get their chance to show off their PE abilities at this inter-school festival.

‘MEET THE TEACHER’ – Thursday 12th October for Years Rec, 2, 4, & 6 and Thursday 19th October for Years Reception, 1, 3 & 5 – This is an opportunity to see how your child has settled in to their class after the summer break. Appointment times to be sent out nearer the time. These are set dates, and due to high numbers of children, teachers will be unable to make alternative appointments.

HARVEST ASSEMBLY – Friday 13th October 9:00am – This year our Harvest Assembly is supporting ‘The Trussel Trust’ local Foodbank in Harlow. In a world dominated by international crises it’s easy to forget the crisis occurring on our doorstep and it’s so easy to help! Please could you send any tinned or dried food that you can spare in with your child on the morning of the Harvest Assembly and we’ll deliver it to the Foodbank. For more details about the types of food they so desperately need please see their website: <http://mrct.org.uk/>

Finally, on behalf of all the staff a massive thank you for the cards and presents you were kind enough to give us at the end of the summer term. We were truly overwhelmed by your generosity and consider ourselves very lucky to work with such amazing families!

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "J. Millward".

Jon Millward
Headteacher