



Huntingdon Academy

A L.E.A.D. Academy

Newsletter - 15th September 2016

I am delighted to tell you that we have had a fantastic start to the new school year. All the children are looking smart in their school uniforms. They are also working hard, producing some superb work and look settled and happy. I would like to welcome our new teachers: Mr Challen in Year 3, Miss Ball in Year 2, Miss Pithers in Year 1 and Mrs Hall in Key Stage Two. We also have new teaching assistant apprentices Miss Hallam and Miss Dulson along with sports apprentices Mr Baptiste and Miss Hunt. Miss Byrne has joined us in the Foundation Stage and Miss Cyster who worked with us in the unit last year has embarked on her teacher training this year.

Over the summer, the Year Two classrooms were altered to accommodate two classes. We have again taken in two classes in Foundation Two and the school is continuing to grow with many classes full to capacity. Our site manager, Mr Coates worked extremely hard over the summer to repaint all the corridors and our modern staircases have been finished at the front and back of the school. This has improved the environment tremendously.

Attendance and Punctuality

As always, we will rigorously follow up any absences and we appreciate your cooperation and help to ensure that your children are attending school regularly. Please let us know as soon as possible if your child is ill and unable to attend. At the moment Melanie Jago (our Family Liaison Officer) is contactable via the school office, hopefully we will have a new mobile number for you to contact Melanie on soon.

We are having a big push on punctuality, children should be at school for 8.45am, registers close at 9.00am after which your child is late, and they will receive a late mark. Children arriving after 9.15am will receive an unauthorised late unless there is a genuine reason. At Huntingdon, we believe that good time keeping is an essential skill for life. If your child is late more than two times in a month, Melanie Jago will make contact to ensure all children are supported in getting to school on time everyday.

A member of staff will wait at the back door until 8.55am after which the door will be locked. After this time you will need to enter via the school reception.

Home/School Diary

We are still waiting for these to arrive from our suppliers. We have issued temporary diaries while we are waiting.

Water Bottles

Every child from Year 1 to Year 6 have been given a new water bottle. Children will bring these home to clean and refill with water. Please use the bottles for water only. If your child loses their bottle or needs another one, new water bottles can be purchased at the school office at the cost of £1.10.



School Meals

We have some exciting menus for the new term. The children tell us that they love their school dinners. The meals are healthy, balanced and nutritious. A school meal costs £1.70 and is good value for money. As part of the Government initiative of 'universal free school

Meals,' it is school policy that all children in Key Stage One receive a free school meal or a school packed lunch.

If your child has a specific medical condition or allergies which requires specific catering please make an appointment to see the Office Manager, who will be happy to show you the menus and the range of choice on offer.

Unless there are unforeseen circumstances, we ask that children have either school dinners or school packed lunches for half a term. If children wish to change their choice, please let the office know before the half term holiday. School meals need to be paid for in advance on a Monday morning at the school office, where possible with the correct change. Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to ask.

Free School Sweatshirt



Remember if you are eligible for free school meals, you can claim a free school sweatshirt from the school office. If you think you are entitled to a free school meal you can collect a form from the school office. Please feel free to pop in and share any health issues you may wish to discuss.

School Nurse Drop-in Sessions

The school nurse will be delivering a drop-in session at Huntingdon Academy on Tuesday 4th October 8.30am - 9.30am. Please feel free to pop in and share health issues you may wish to discuss.

Tuck Shop

The school tuck shop has now been running since the summer term, it is very popular with the children offering healthy snacks and drinks during morning break. Please can we ask that your child brings a maximum of £1 only per day, which they can spend on themselves.

Parking

We have been asked by the PCSOs to respectfully ask parents / carers collecting children from school by car not to block our residents' drives or park on the yellow zig-zag lines. This is to ensure that our local neighbours are not inconvenienced at the beginning and end of the school day and to keep our children safe. This also ensures that any deliveries being made to the school are able to access our school carpark.

Harvest

We would like to invite you to our 'Harvest Festival' assembly on Thursday 13th October starting at 9.30am. Any contributions you would like to make of tinned or packet foods, or fresh fruit and vegetables would be greatly appreciated. These will be distributed amongst the senior citizens of St Ann's. We hope that you will be able to attend and look forward to seeing you.

Dates for your diary and school events

Please find along with this newsletter an Events Diary listing all upcoming diary dates and events. I hope you will find this helpful. I would like to thank you all for your continued support and look forward to working in partnership with you over the coming academic year.

Teresa Shrestha
Headteacher