

Spring 1, Issue 1

January 2010



# Hanslope School NEWSLETTER

## SPRING TERM LEARNING

It's incredible the impact a few inches of snow can have on schools which are forced to close, not to mention the disruption for parents and carers who had to take time off work.

Staff returned to school on 4th January ready to hit the ground running with the full range of learning activities within newly planned topics, only to have to reorganize their plans due to the 2 day closure. We were all very pleased to have run a full timetable since then; we feel we have regained that momentum and the children are all now back on track.

You will, by now, have received your child's 'Learning Journey' for the Spring Term. We would like you to support your

child in his/her learning this term by locating that document in a convenient place around the house (e.g. fridge, kitchen or bedroom wall) and periodically ask your child to answer the questions. Older pupils should be able to record their responses directly onto the sheet. Please don't be alarmed if your child says 'I don't know' in response to some of the questions as it may well be that it has not yet been covered in class. If, however, they offer that same response for all questions by the end of the term, you may wish to inform your child's classteacher!

You will have an opportunity to participate directly in your child's learning at the forthcoming Open Morning to be held in the second half of this term.

## HOUSE SYSTEM UPDATE

Thanks to Mrs Macfarlan and Mrs Lawrence, the House system has got off to a great start since returning from the Christmas break. Find below details of how we plan to run the system henceforth:

- Each class has its own House award chart. As and when a house point is awarded by a member of staff, a star is put against the child's name.
- If the Headteacher or Deputy-awards a house point outside of the classroom context e.g. in assembly, this will be recorded in the back of the child's home-school book. This will also be

recorded on the class chart.

- Each week, Deputy Heads of House visit each class to total points awarded for the current week. Totals are revealed in assembly on Fridays.
- At the end of each half term, the winning House is rewarded.

House Teams are currently working on a 'rap' or motto to represent each House. These will be published in due course.

### Inside this issue:

Learning Journey	1
House System update	1
SRE policy, Uniform, Parent workshops	2
School dinners, Clubs	2
	2
Dates for your diary	2

### Special points of interest:

- **Matt French is the new 326 Manager**
- **First session of 2010 for P.O.S.H. club is on Thursday 4th February at 7.00pm**
- **Parent/Pupil ICT morning club starting soon**

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## POLICIES

The Sex and Relationships Education Policy and curriculum content was recently reviewed by staff and Governors. We would like to give parents an opportunity to comment in particular on the specific content for each year group. Once the related resources have been purchased, we will be inviting you to a meeting to view and consider them. In the interim, the policy and related curriculum plans will be posted on the website for perusal. If you wish to withdraw your child from SRE sessions, you will need to advise the Headteacher in writing.

## PARENT WORKSHOPS

Research shows that progress is greater if parents are fully engaged in their children's learning. As a school we would like to support you in this. To that end, we will be running some parent workshops on 16th March.

3.30 - 4.15pm : Phonics workshop led by Mrs Carson. This is aimed at parents of pupil in KS1, especially parents of pupils in Maple class

5.00 - 5.30 and 5.30 - 6.00pm: repeated sessions on Grammar for writing (this will clarify such things as your child's writing targets) and

Number (written methods for multiplication and division). These will be led by Miss Britnell and Mrs Czornyj. The maths session is aimed at KS2 parents, the grammar sessions would be suitable for all parents. Further details to follow nearer the time.

## UNIFORM

Long overdue as it may be, we are pleased to inform you that the school's uniform provider is 'MAISIE'S' based at 60-64 Church St, Wolverton. We hope that you will be able to make purchases by the end of the Spring Term.

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# General Administration and Housekeeping

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## SCHOOL DINNERS

The recent snow created many problems in respect of the delivery of hot meals. In some instances, the school have considered the administration to be unacceptable; we apologise for the very long delays endured by the pupils in waiting for meals to arrive. Be assured that we will be making our views known to the Local Authority. We shall continue to monitor school meals during the forthcoming weeks.

## EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUBS

We are pleased to offer the following clubs:

Choir: KS2 pupils only, Mondays 3.15-4.15pm led by Mrs Czornyj

Dance: KS2 pupils, Thursdays 3.20—4.30pm starting 28th January led by Mrs Bishop and Mrs Doherty

Recorders: Tuesday lunchtimes from 12.30 - 1.00pm, KS2 pupils, led by Ms Schofield.

Board games: Tuesdays 3.15-4.00pm for Years 1 and 2 led by Mrs Lawrence

Art Club: 3.15—4.15pm for Years 3 and 4 pupils, led by Mrs Knight. This club will start in Spring 2.

## LAPTOPS FOR PUPIL SCHEME

Home Access is a government drive to help families to get computer and internet access from home. Depending on what you need, the grant will allow eligible applicants to buy one of the following packages:

1. Full package (a computer, one year's internet access, service support)
2. A computer with service and support only
3. One year's internet access only.

Visit [www.homeaccess.org.uk](http://www.homeaccess.org.uk) for more details.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Tuesday 9th/Weds 10th February:** Consultation Evenings 3.30pm - 6.00pm, 5.00– 8.00pm respectively (some classes will offer an earlier start on Wednesday)

**Friday 12th February:** School closes for the half term break

**Monday 22nd February:** School resumes

**Tuesday 16th March:** Parent workshops ( see above for times)

**Tuesday 23rd March:** Open Morning

**Saturday 27th March:** Year 5 and 6 RYG pupils leave, returning on Friday 2nd April. RYG Parents meeting date t.b.a.

**Thursday 1st April—**School closes for Easter break

**Monday 19th April - INSET DAY**

**Tuesday 20th April—** School resumes for the Summer Term