

Haseltine Newsletter: Monday 5th December 2022



Dear Parents, Carers, Children, Families & Friends,

I am so sorry that I am not in Haseltine at the start of this week; after three years of not catching Covid it has finally caught up with me and I tested positive over the weekend. It clearly shows that this virus is still very much around and we should all be keeping ourselves as safe as we can. Luckily for me, I am up to date with vaccines so I don't think it will be hitting me as hard as it could – I just hope that I haven't inadvertently spread it to anyone else. My sincerest, sincerest apologies if this has happened.

My biggest regret for being off this week is that I won't get to see the EYFS Christmas Shows! I have been deliberately avoiding all rehearsals so that I could watch it for the first time with all of you, but that cannot happen. By the time you read this, the children will already have done their first performance – I know that it will be beautiful and amazing and just so special: everything that you deserve for it to be. Well done to all the staff who have put the shows together; these things don't just happen naturally, they take a lot of hard work and they have certainly put the work in 😊 I hope that you all enjoy them – it has been 3 years since the last time we could hold them in school; I know that everyone is very excited, and ever so slightly emotional, that we able to hold them again!

The Haseltine Christmas Fair:

I think we can safely say that the Fair on Friday evening was a success; not even the threat of rain could stop the party atmosphere. Everyone had a really lovely time and a lot of money seemed to have been raised.

I know that there were long waits for Santa and some spirits may have been dampened slightly but I hope that they were raised again, once you stepped into his Grotto and your children's faces lit up 😊

There are so many people to thank for the Fair: all the parent volunteers on the day & the night; the staff who stayed around to help out; the people who tidied it away at the end of the night; Greg – for your banners; the wonderful dancers for their gorgeous routines at the start of the fair and to all of you for coming & supporting, for spending your money and for your lovely comments.

I don't know if you are aware though, but this fair has been in the planning pretty much since the Summer fair was packed away in July and I am just so, so grateful to Hannah, Martina, Stacey, Gina, Claire & Alina especially for all their hard work, commitment & resilience from the start to the finish – you were all incredible.

Hannah is also very grateful to Sam Stockley & Moira for their support in the build up to it all.

What a fantastic team of people all round – amazing!

Conversations with Staff at Haseltine:

We have a lovely community at Haseltine – and one that is very supportive of each other. I would also like to think that we have a good system of communication here in that you can always come and talk with me if you are not happy, or are concerned about something. I am



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always available at the gate for example (except this week of course, but there is someone there to approach); you can phone me and you can email me at any time

(headteacher@haseltine.lewisham.sch.uk)

Please can I make it clear that, under no circumstances, should an adult picking up become angry towards a member of staff on the playground or anywhere else in school. Please keep voices and emotions calm and we will always endeavour to help you and your child.

If the person picking up does not have access to this newsletter, please can you talk to them about this too. Aggressive behaviour towards staff will not be tolerated at Haseltine.

Thank you so much to all of you for your support with this.

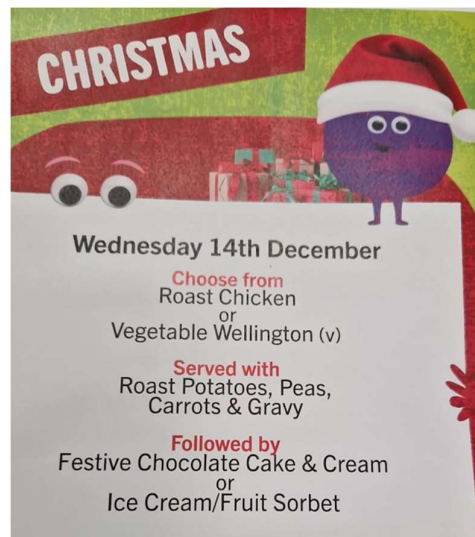
Christmas Jumper Day...

...is this Thursday (the 8th). We will be raising money for the Save The Children Charity this year so please donate £1 to wear your festive jumpers/hats/socks etc.

You can get involved as much as you wish to – Christmas can easily be substituted with wintery or sparkly clothes if you wish to. Children do not need to wear school uniform on this day. Have fun 😊

Christmas Dinner:

The kitchen staff have agreed that they can do something for the children this Christmas, despite the cooker situation. This will happen on Wednesday 14th December.



Children who have school dinners will automatically be offered the Christmas dinner. Any children normally taking packed lunch who wish to have a Christmas dinner that day must let the office know in advance by Friday 9th December and pay £2.30 for their meal on Parentpay. We will then add your child to a list ready for Wednesday.

Please note that the cost of School Dinners will increase from £2.30 to £2.50 as of the 1st January 2023.



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Christmas Shows:

The EYFS kicked off the shows today. The other shows are as follows:

- EYFS (including morning nursery): Wednesday 7th at 10am
- KS1 (years 1 & 2): Thursday 8th at 2pm & Friday 9th at 9.30am
- 3M, 4R, 5F & 6L: Monday 12th at 2pm
- 3SB, 4P, 5S & 6M: Tuesday 13th at 9.30am

There is also a concert on Thursday the 8th at 10am for children in year 3 who have been learning the ukulele with Joff; and one on Thursday the 15th for any child learning the guitar with Stevie – parents are invited to attend.

Speaking of guitars...

Please don't forget that, from January, we will now have to charge parents for guitar lessons unless your child is entitled to Free School Meals. Moira has been setting up your Parent Pay accounts to enable you to do this. Please speak with us if you have any questions or concerns over this.

Thank you so much

Swimming:

The year 5 children are currently swimming an hour every day for two weeks, and the year 4 children finished their 2 week course a couple of weeks ago. They have all been brilliant; coming to school on time every day, with their full kits and a smile on their faces. They have tackled the sessions with amazing resilience and the results have been quite spectacular – so much progress has been made.

The teachers and I have been so grateful to the parents/carers/grandparents who have helped out with this – some of you went/are going every day, we really couldn't have done it without you – THANK YOU 😊

Important dates for next term & the rest of the year:

- Don't forget that we break up next Friday – the 16th December at the normal time.
- Children return on Wednesday 4th January 2023
- Half term falls between Monday 13th to Friday 17th February (no school)
- **The annual Haseltine Careers Fair will be on Friday 24th March: I will start recruiting people in the Spring term, so save the date please 😊**
- We break up for Easter on Friday 31st March
- We return to school on Monday 17th April
- There will be two Bank Holidays in May: the one on the 1st of May and there is now one on the 8th May too (for the King's coronation). They have changed the dates for the yr6 SATs so that they will now start on Tuesday 9th May (please do not request any time off for your yr6 child during this week – it will not be allowed)



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- Half term falls between Monday 29th of May and Friday 2nd June – unless an election is called, there will also be an INSET day on Monday 5th June so no school that day either
- We break up on Friday 21st July

Thank you so much everyone, have a great few days and I will see you soon. You can still email me, if you need any questions or concerns answered.

Best wishes,
Sara Anderman