



Haseltine Newsletter 31st March 2023



Dear Families,

I really can't believe that we have reached the end of another term at Haseltine, can you? It really seems to have whizzed by and I cannot believe that we only have one more term of this year left! It has been a busy term – as always, but seemingly made busier I think with the arrival of Ofsted; hopefully the report will be ready for you all to read when we return after the holidays.

We have had some wonderful concerts this week: singing, dancing & playing instruments at the musical showcases; violins & cellos Wednesday afternoon and ukuleles & guitars yesterday. I think you will agree – we have very talented children in this school and it was wonderful to show this off. Thank you everyone who came and thank you especially to the children who performed; I'm still smiling now 😊 I would also like to thank our fantastic music teachers who do such a great job in ensuring our children make the progress they do.

This holiday is two weeks long – we return back at school on Monday 17th April at the normal time.

Just a short newsletter this time round...

Lewisham Music Hub:

At the musical concerts this week I spoke with you about the Saturday Music Schools running at Prendergast Vale School in Lewisham through Lewisham Music Hub. This provides such amazing opportunities for children in Lewisham; just take a look at their website by clicking on this link:

<https://www.lewishammusic.org/taking-part/saturday-music-centre/>

An opportunity for you to help support your little ones...

VeriVoice Tots

Parent & Toddler Group for 18months - 3year olds

Using music and movement to support talking.

Run by a Speech & Language Therapist

Plus expert advice on:

- What to expect
- Top Tips at home
- When to seek help

6 week course for £60

Tuesdays @ 10am @ Haseltine School

18.04.23, 25.04.23, 02.05.23, 09.05.23, 16.05.23, 23.05.23

To book email Verity: verivoice.toddlers@gmail.com



Attendance

It is vital that children are attending school EVERY day and also on time. Learning starts at 8.55am at Haseltine and every minute of school missed, means learning is missed. Gaps in children's learning are very evident & visible for children when their attendance dips.

There are 29 children in the school whose attendance is 100% for this year so far – really well done to these children and their parents. However, we do understand that children can get illnesses and have no choice to be at home. 95% and above is a good level of attendance & one that we would expect for all our children.

When children fall below 90% for their attendance they become a 'persistent absentee' and it is at this point when we have to alert the local authority about them and procedures start to happen.

Please make sure that your children are coming in, unless they are very ill (you can always call the office to check first if you are unsure); we will always look after your child and call you if there are any problems.

Please do not book holidays during term times as we will not be able to authorise them.

Many thanks for always putting your child's learning & wellbeing first.



[Free activities and food for eligible school children this Easter](#)

With the Easter holidays fast approaching, Lewisham Council has teamed up with local organisations to put on a jam-packed programme of free activities and free food for eligible children and young people.

The Holiday Activities and Food Programme runs during the holidays includes a host of fun activities – from sports and drama, to arts, crafts and cooking - and nutritious lunches are included.

Places are allocated on a first come, first served basis for children and young people who receive Free School Meals and must be booked in advance. [Visit the council's website](#) for information about activities, how to book and eligibility.



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Cheap days out in London...

A parent saw this link on Instagram that gives lots of helpful suggestions & advice for families entitled to FSM:

<https://www.instagram.com/p/Co70oj9ohCN/?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=>

I hope it's useful 😊



SATs/testing Coffee Morning:

Don't forget that we have a coffee morning for parents of children in Reception, yr1, yr2, yr4 & yr6 especially on Friday 21st April at 9am.

I will be there to talk you through what testing will look like for your children in the reception classes and in years 1 (phonics), 2 (teacher assessments + testing), yr4 (multiplication testing) and yr6 (SATs).

Come along if you have any questions or concerns and hopefully I will be able to put your mind at rest.

And finally...

I would like to thank all our parents/family members who volunteered for our **Careers Fair** last week. It was an absolutely fantastic event, and the children (and the adults) were buzzing about it for a long time afterwards.

You were all so, so brilliant – I can't thank you enough.

Your children were given such great compliments too: words such as curious, respectful, polite, inquisitive, fun and clever were used to describe them 😊

Roll on next year's event!!

I hope that you all have a lovely couple of weeks off – have a lovely Bank Holiday if you can only manage those days off.

Also: Happy Easter to those of you remembering & celebrating.

Best wishes,

Sara Anderman