



Dear Families and Friends,

Well, that was January! I cannot believe how quickly it seemed to go! The weather was beautiful yesterday and the children really enjoyed their sunny playtimes, not so much today! The weather is just so changeable at the moment so it is worth remembering a couple of things:

- Always send your child with a coat, even if it looks okay in the morning
- Please, please, please put names in coats/sweatshirts – they do come off at playtimes, especially when children are running around, and it is just so much easier to reunite them with owners when names are on them.

### **Events:**

We have had a lovely week at Haseltine this week, learning all about the Lunar New Year (Chinese New Year). The children have had a lot of fun trying to locate various artefacts & decorations around the school.



In assembly on Monday I told the children all about the Lunar New Year parade that takes place in London on Sunday. If you get a chance & are able to, it really is worth seeing. This link will give you more information:

<https://www.visitlondon.com/things-to-do/event/4733685-chinese-new-year-in-london>

### **"Gong hei fat choy" to all our families celebrating.**



Another great event in London is the Winter Lights Festival around Canary Wharf. It finishes this Saturday, 5-10pm. It does get quite busy, but it is free and quite magical. This link will give you more information:

<https://canarywharf.com/whats-on/winter-lights-2025/>

### **World Hijab Day...**

...is this Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> February. The children had an assembly from Ms. Begum today which focused on this event. We will celebrate it in school on Monday – wear your hijab with *pride*, as you should every day of course 😊





### **Children's Mental Health Week...**

...is taking place all over the country next week. The theme for 2025 is: 'Know Yourself, Grow Yourself'. This link gives you further information about the week in general & also some resources you may find useful: <https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/>

We will be having an assembly on Monday to introduce the week and on Tuesday we will be having an 'Afternoon of Play' for all children in KS1 & KS2. Children will move freely around the classes in the school, experiencing different opportunities for different types of play in each room, including: art activities, construction, junk modelling, role-play activities, dancing, sewing & musical play.

We will finish the week on Friday by wearing our own clothes. As the theme is 'Know Yourself, Grow Yourself', children can wear an outfit of their choosing which really shows who they are. This could be anything they like from a Spiderman costume or football kit to a disco outfit or party dress; it could also be of course, clothes from children's culture or heritage.

I found these videos on YouTube that are helpful in explaining & exploring mental health to/with your children...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nCrjevX3-Js> Good for everyone

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uPh4-DU6MDU> Better for KS2 children

### **Parking in Ridgewell Close:**

Our neighbours in Ridgewell Close are reporting the parking issues to us again, and this time the police are involved; they will be fining people for parking illegally. Please avoid parking in this area.

If you REALLY have to drive, then please park in Sainsbury's carpark and walk over. This really is the best option.



**Please can I remind you about volunteering for our Careers Fair on the morning of Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March?**

Since writing about it in our last newsletter, I have had 3 volunteers. Whilst I am excited and so grateful to those 3 people, we cannot run a careers fair on just 3 people.

Please email me if you think you'd be able to help, or if you have any questions: [s.anderman@haseltine.jewisham.sch.uk](mailto:s.anderman@haseltine.jewisham.sch.uk)

We need representatives from any type of job or career; from plasterers and surgeons to plumbers and astronauts!

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Please don't be nervous about doing this – everyone who has done it previously has absolutely loved doing it. Our children really, really love hearing about all the different careers available to them and this event really does help to open up their choices.

I set the hall up with each adult at their own table and the children come in a few classes at time to talk to who they are interested in – you will be asked an amazing range of questions and it really is a lot of fun ☺



## **Fancy a challenge this year that lets you raise money for Haseltine?**

Come and join us for the Big Half this year. The Big Half is a really fun and friendly half marathon starting at Tower Bridge and ending in Greenwich.

Don't be daunted if you haven't run before - there is plenty of time to train. Those of us who did it last year all loved it. Some ran it aiming for a PB, others jogged and others walked. What we had in common was we all had fun.

There are a number of options you can sign up for:

Big Half (13.1 miles) £25 (discounted from £68)

Big Half Relay (3.2 miles each) £15 x 4, you will need a team of 4 runners

Big Mile for children - free

All events are on Sunday 7 September.

If you are interested in joining one of these runs with us or have any questions please email [haseltinePTFA@gmail.com](mailto:haseltinePTFA@gmail.com)

Alternatively, you can speak to the PTFA in the Hub on Friday mornings.

Please get in touch by Friday 28 February. We will need to apply for places in March and entries will be awarded on a first come first served basis.

Many thanks.

### **Inappropriate online games & TV shows:**

We have heard more than a few children in the school talking about playing games such as Grand Theft Auto & Call of Duty and watching TV shows such as Squid Games.

Please bear in mind that these games/programmes are for adults, not children, and they can be potentially very harmful if children are exposed to them.



**And finally... some sad news for Haseltine but exciting for the person involved!**

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Sam Stockley, who has worked at Haseltine for 10 years in our Breakfast Club and in our Nursery including at Lunchtimes, is leaving to start a new role as a veterinary nurse. Sam will be perfect in this role and it is a really exciting opportunity for her.

We are excited for her, but very sad to say goodbye.

I will keep you updated about any new staff when I can.

**Have a lovely weekend everyone, see you again on Monday.**