Haseltine Newsletter 7th March 2025

Dear Families & Friends,

Wow! What a week we have had! The children – and the staff – have really enjoyed our World Book Day events all week; from the Show & Tell of our favourite books on Tuesday to our Story Book Experience Day today. The children all looked fabulous in their character outfits or their comfy reading clothes yesterday – thank you to all of you too for supporting with this. Please ask your children about what they enjoyed about this week.

Following on from World Book Day…

An event at Beckenham Place Park has been brought to my attention. On Saturday 26th April, BPP is hosting a Book Festival. Details can be found by clicking on this link: https://www.booksinthepark.org/ It's not until April but there's lots of author workshops for kids… tickets to the workshops are only £5 or a no questions asked concession of £1 for children.

Our INSET day was quite a strenuous one for the staff! Half of us were doing First Aid Training, the other half were helping with the removal of the old tables & chairs & the arrival of the new ones – we now have lovely, new chairs across the whole school; chairs that are much more suited to the age groups and that are also good for posture – they are also much more difficult to swing on which is a huge bonus.

Attendance at Haseltine:

We currently have 41 children at Haseltine who have 100% attendance – that means they have come to school every day since September. If you are wondering whether your child is one of these 41, you can simply check their attendance using your Arbor App.

There will be a special prize at the end of the year for any children with 100% attendance and also for any children whose attendance has greatly improved.

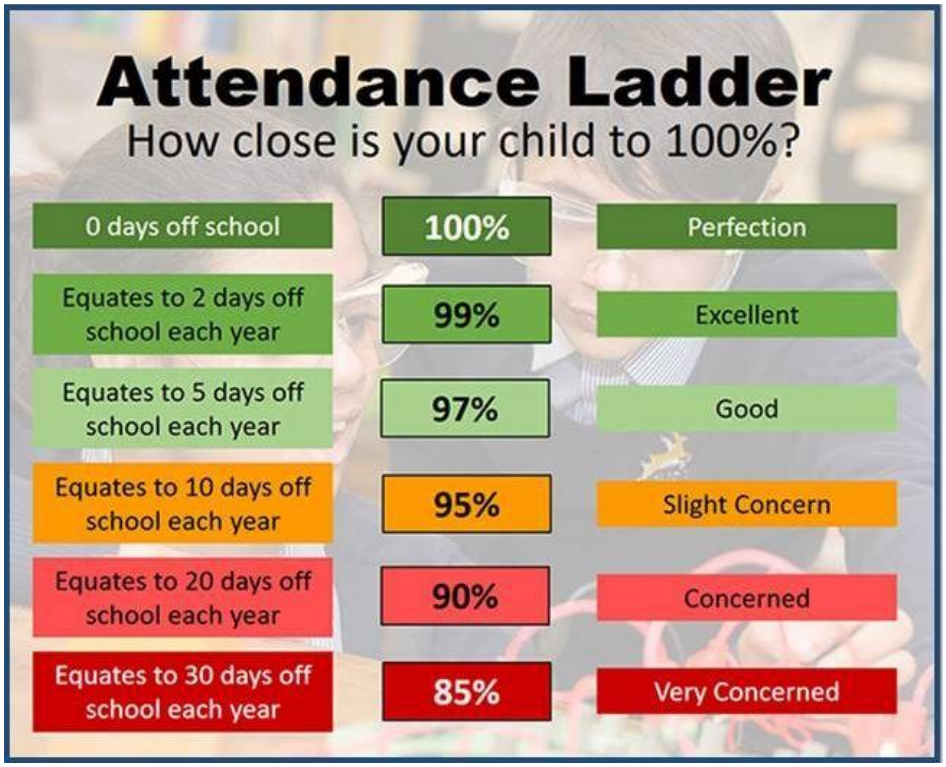
The 5 classes with the best attendance since September are:

Class	Attendance
2H	96.55%
1H	95.99%
4B	95.71%
2B	95.45%

4Ba	95.41%

Well done to the children – and the parents, of these classes ☺

Watch this space for the classes with the best attendance in the next fortnight! Maybe it will be you next time? We are also starting to give out a trophy each week to the class in KS1 & 2 with the best attendance for the last week.



I also need to let you know that we are working closely with Lewisham's attendance team. We will be fining parents for low attendance, and also for taking children out in term time.

Please also look at our Attendance page on our website:
https://www.haseltine.lewisham.sch.uk/about/attendance/

Lateness:

Can I also please stress to you all the importance of arriving at school on time. Minutes late in the morning = minutes of learning time missed. Most classes start the day with either: reading, spelling or maths. These sessions are fairly short and if your child is late, they will miss this whole session; they will then struggle to read, write & do maths. Not to mention the impact that being late to school has on your child's mental health & wellbeing – trust me, children do not like being late to school.

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From Monday, we will be closing the gates very soon after 8.55am - we cannot hold them open, so please make sure that you are here before 8.55am. Please don't be offended if we close up as you are coming towards us.

Many thanks

Reporting Absences:

There has been some confusion lately over absences, mostly because parents are either telling me at the gate, or telling other teachers or staff members. From now on, *only* the following needs to happen:

Either:

- Email the absence or the reason to Kathy-Anne Odle on: attendance@haseltine.lewisham.sch.uk
- Phone the office on 02087786536

Please do not tell anyone else. Many thanks.

Ramadan Mubarak…

…to all our families partaking in Ramadan. We hope that you enjoyed our separate newsletter recently, and we hope that all our families found it informative.

We will be celebrating Eid at Haseltine, most likely on the 2nd April – details to follow.

Easter:

Don't forget that we break up for the holidays on Friday 4th April. We will be having an Easter Hat Parade on the 3rd for the EYFS & KS1 children – hopefully there won't be the wind & rain that we had last year, do you remember?!

Here are just a few snapshots of our Story Book Experience from this afternoon…

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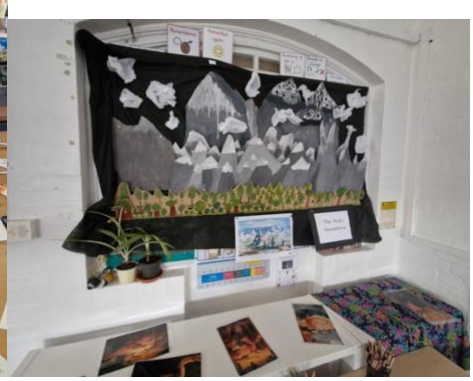

We had a BRILLIANT time in each story, and also looking for clues in the Story Scavenger Hunt!

And finally… Please can I put out a plea, still for volunteers for our Careers Fair? We do have a few more people now, but we still need more. Please email me on s.anderman@haseltine.lewisham.sch.uk if you can help us. Many thanks ☺

Have a very lovely weekend everyone – see you again on Monday ☺