



Hazlehurst Community Primary School

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Newsletter Number 14

Dear Parent / Carer,

Thank you to everyone who helped to make our recent 'Family Bingo Night' such a big success, especially to our wonderful PTA members for organising the event and to Mr Hughes and Mrs McKeeman for running everything so well and making it such good fun! Our next Friends' Association meeting will take place on Monday 14 May to plan the Family Treasure Hunt and the Summer Fair. Everyone is welcome!

All the orders for our Spring Plant Sale have been received and the delivery is due on 18 May. Volunteers are needed to pack all the orders on the same afternoon, ready for collection at 3.30 pm. If you can help, please let us know.



Thank you for all the constructive comments and helpful suggestions that we received as part of our consultation about **School Development Planning**. There were 33 replies from 158 families, which is 12 fewer than last year and 34 fewer than the year before! We have a large, silent majority, but we are always interested to hear from you!

From those who replied, the feedback was overwhelmingly positive. The vast majority of parents said the thing they valued most was that the staff are 'approachable and friendly' and that there is a 'family atmosphere' and the school has a 'child-centred approach, which values the whole child'. I am grateful to the staff for all that they do to make children's well-being our top priority.

The highest scoring comments in the questionnaire were;

- My child feels safe at this school (97% strongly agree / agree)
- My child is happy at this school and makes good progress (92%)
- The school ensures the children are well-behaved (92%)
- The school is well led and managed (91%)
- My child is well looked-after and taught well (89%)
- I would recommend this school to another parent (87%)



The replies show an increased approval rating, for the second year running, for the information that the school provides about children's progress (88%), which is good to hear. Once again, the area which divides opinion the most is Homework; however, the 81% approval rating is the highest we have ever had, with only 16% hoping for a change in the homework policy and 3% (1 parent) not able to comment.

One of the school's biggest improvements, according to the survey, was 'the school deals effectively with bullying' – up 9% on last year to 45% (with 44 % not able to comment), which gives a combined total of 89%. Bullying is always upsetting and often complicated to resolve, but the school is committed to working with families to make positive changes. Sometimes, the parents of victims want harsh, swift retribution, and this is understandable if a child has been upset, but school staff have to work within policy guidelines to ensure that everyone is treated fairly. We appeal to anyone who is worried about bullying, to provide the staff with all the information about the case and then trust them to deal with the issues in a professional way. We really do want to help and we believe that by working together we can bring about positive changes.

In addition to the survey questions, we received lots of other interesting comments and suggestions. We will read them all very carefully and include them in our future planning. Thank you!

As you know, PE and Sport are very important at Hazlehurst. Every child has a minimum of 2 hours of PE per week and there are lots of sports' clubs after school during the year, including badminton club & team, football club & team, girls' football and netball activities & teams, cricket club & team, swimming tuition (Y4), dance club, plus many more! Nearly all of the teachers, and many of the support staff, are involved in providing sports activities outside school hours; they are not paid for these activities and I am grateful that they give up their time so that the children can be healthy and active, and develop a long-term interest in physical activities. Our single limitation is that we only have one school hall, and if the weather is bad we need to move inside, which means we can only run one sports club per day. Most (but not all) of our clubs are aimed at Key Stage 2 children, which means everyone's turn will come round in the end. Many other clubs are also on offer during the year for activities other than sport – so hopefully there is something for everyone!



Dates for your Diary

Mon 16 April	School re-opens
3 – 7 May (inclusive)	Election Day & Bank Holiday Weekend – school closed
Thur 14 June	Sports' Day – Infants AM, Juniors PM
Fri 15 June – from 6.00 pm	Family Treasure Hunt
Sat 30 June – 2.00 pm	Summer Fair
Thur 7 July 2.30 pm and 7.00 pm	Y3 & Y4 Summer Concert
Thur 12 July 2.30 pm and 7.00 pm	Y5 & Y6 Summer Concert



Provisional dates for Wednesday morning Class Assemblies this term are as follows: -
 Y5 – 25 April, Y3 – 2 May, Y4 – 9 May, Rec – 23 May, Y1 – 6 June, Y2 - 13 June,
 Y6 (Leavers' Assembly) – Friday 20 July,
 You are most welcome to attend! Please check the school website to confirm the date a few days before the assembly.

Year 6 SATs will take place in the week beginning 14 May. Full attendance during this week is very important.

Congratulations to all the children in Chester for winning this term's House Competition. The prize for winning is a non-uniform day tomorrow (the last day of term). Well done!

On behalf of all the staff I wish you all a very happy and relaxing Easter holiday. Remember that school will be closing a little earlier tomorrow, at 3.00 pm. Hazles is open from 3.00 pm.

Yours sincerely,

M Golding

M Golding
 Headteacher

