

# Greenfields Federation

## Littlehaven Infant School

Hawkesbourne Road  
Horsham  
RH12 4EH  
office@littlehaveninfant.school  
www.littlehaven.w-sussex.sch.uk



## Northolmes Junior School

Leith View Road  
Horsham  
RH12 4ET  
office@northolmesjunior.school  
www.northolmes.w-sussex.sch.uk

**May 2021**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well what a half term this has been! I think we have all welcomed the feeling that we are starting to return to some form of normality and that there is an increasing number of positive steps forward – from the number of friends and family who have been vaccinated to being able to meet a few people indoors and even share the odd hug!

However, in schools very little has changed in terms of COVID guidance. As it stands, we still have to operate in our 'bubbles' to reduce contacts and therefore the chance of the virus spreading. Handwashing, cleaning and open windows remain our lines of defence. The guidance still advises that adults wear masks in areas where social distancing is more difficult so we will continue to ask you to wear masks when on site.

It has been lovely seeing the children re-engage with their friends and their learning; hopefully the pictures later on in the newsletter will give you a flavour of what we have been up to in the classes.

We are also aware that the half term break will be a chance to recover for many of the children. They have had a very busy half term both in school and with their various social activities out of school. Hopefully, the promised warm and sunny weather means that we will get to enjoy the outdoors at last.

When we return, our thoughts will very much turn to transition and planning for the next academic year. You will see from the dates at the end of the newsletter that some things have already been put in the diary and we will communicate with you further once we return.

We would love to have parents on site for some of our outdoor events towards the end of the summer term but we must wait for both the Government and DfE advice at the end of June before we can make any final plans. However, we do have our fingers firmly crossed and some ideas already pencilled in.

We hope that you have a lovely half term break. Please remember that Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June is an INSET day for all children so we look forward to seeing everyone back to school on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June.

Yours sincerely,



S. Anderson (Mrs)  
Headteacher

# Notes and Reminders!

## Holidays and Time-Off School

We have noticed an increase of children missing from school this term due to family holidays or other commitments. Although some of these events cannot be avoided at the moment due to the past year, please can I remind you that your child's attendance at school is vital and these periods of absence must be kept to minimum.



We are required to refer families to West Sussex for a fine if your child has an unauthorized absence amounting to more than 10 school sessions. Further information on this can be found at <https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/schools-and-colleges/school-attendance-and-behaviour/school-absences/>

Can I also remind you that if your child needs to be absent from school for a pre-planned event then you must let the school know in advance and an absence form completed. These can be found on the policy section of the school websites or you can request one from the school office.

## Start of the School Day

Can I remind you that we have altered the start of the school day slightly after half term. Please ensure that you arrive in time for the register – we are seeing an increasing number of children arriving just after registers close.

Littlehaven 8.50am 9.00am  
Northolmes 8.40am to 8.50am

## Uniform

Please continue to ensure that long hair is tied back (touching the shoulders or below) in neutral coloured hairbands (no large bows please). School shoes should be worn – we are seeing more ankle boots and trainers creeping in again which are not part of our school uniform.

The pile of un-named jumpers (particularly at Northolmes) is excessive. We do not have a lost property bin. If an item is unnamed then we cannot reunite it with its owner and it will be recycled. Therefore, please ensure that you label all uniform and equipment that is brought into school.

## Items from Home

As per our COVID risk assessment, children should bring the minimum amount of items from home into school. They may bring their book bag at Littlehaven or a small bag at Northolmes to carry their things in. Toys, games or 'fiddle' toys brought in from home are not allowed in school. Children at Northolmes are also not permitted to bring in their own pencil cases.

Can I also remind you that we are no longer allowing sweets to be brought in for birthdays. This is in line with the messages that we give the children in school about healthy eating and healthy food choices.

## Lotions, Creams and Soaps

Schools have very strict measures surrounding medicines and other chemical based products on site. We have been advised that we cannot continue to allow the range of toiletries that are being brought into school. Any soaps, hand gels or moisturisers that are currently in school will be sent home with your child today. Please do not send them back into school after half term.

## Medicines



Any medication (whether prescribed or brought over the counter) must be sent into school via the school office and the parent consent form must be completed and brought in at the same time. The form can be found on the policies section of the school website or you can request one from the school office.

## Suntan lotion

Hopefully now the sun has made appearance it will choose to stick around for the rest of the summer! Please remember that suntan lotion should not be brought into school. Lotion should be applied before school. Sunhats should also be worn as the sun does get very strong in the middle of the day.



## Parking

I could not issue a newsletter without a reminder about parking! As the weather improves please think about leaving the car at home and walking, cycling or scooting all or some of the way to school. If you do have to travel to school by car, please can I remind you to be considerate to our neighbours. I receive regular complaints about cars being parked on the grass verges or blocking entrances to people's driveways.



At Northholmes, there are still a few parents who try to travel the wrong way around our voluntary one-way system. The roads are not wide enough for cars to safely pass so please remember to travel up Spooners Road and down Leith View Road.

## Wellbeing and Resilience

As the world continues to open up and lives get busier we are noticing that more children are finding their emotions more difficult to control and understand. Many will just need a little time, space and a chance to talk to you. However, we are always willing to talk to you about any problems your child may be facing. The Young Minds website also has a very good 'A-Z of support' which can often be a good first port of call <https://youngminds.org.uk/find-help/for-parents/parents-guide-to-support-a-z/> to give you a bit of peace of mind and to suggest some strategies or ideas you could try.

## FIVE WAYS TO WELLBEING



**Give**  
Your time,  
your words,  
your presence



**BE ACTIVE**  
DO WHAT YOU CAN,  
ENJOY WHAT YOU DO,  
MOVE YOUR MOOD



**KEEP LEARNING**  
EMBRACE NEW EXPERIENCES,  
SEE OPPORTUNITIES,  
SURPRISE YOURSELF



**CONNECT**  
TALK & LISTEN,  
BE THERE,  
FEEL CONNECTED



**TAKE NOTICE**  
REMEMBER THE SIMPLE THINGS THAT GIVE YOU JOY

# Curriculum News

## Early Years

Earlier this term, two eggs hatched in the Early Years area and we discovered that they were dinosaurs! From that point we have immersed ourselves in all things dinosaur! The children have really engaged in our learning and we were so proud of what we had learnt that we are putting on an exhibition in the hall today. Year 1 and 2 are coming to visit in person and Reception parents will be given access to their own personal video tour of the exhibition for you to enjoy at home.



## Year 1 and 2

This term Year 1 and 2 have been receiving letters from someone called Pearl. At the moment we are still unsure exactly who she is but we have been given some clues and have had great fun guessing! We know she lives near water and this has been the main focus of our learning. As we have been unable to go on a trip to the seaside we created our own experience on the field using the sand pit, a paddling pool and an ice cream stand to eat ice lollies! We have used our senses to describe what it would be like at the beach and have found out about different types of boats that could be found there. Our Geography work has focused on the 5 oceans and we have found out that there are 5 different layers. We have also learnt the names of different sea creatures and found out some interesting facts about them. The children are looking forward to seeing if we get another letter which will reveal who Pearl actually is!



## Northolmes Sporting News

Lower school have taken part in a tri-golf session and we have entered our results into a local schools virtual competition. They had a really fun time learning some golfing skills and challenging themselves.

The Upper school extra-curricular dance club attendees have been working really hard putting together a dance piece based on the struggles and worries they have experienced through Covid-19; we will also be entering this into a local schools competition.

Both upper and lower school have committed very well to the PE extra-curricular club programme and it is lovely to see so many students attending regularly and taking part in these exciting sporting training sessions.

### Year 3 and 4

This term we have started our topic with an experience day where we had exciting snippets of the term's topics, including playing with water balloons!

In Science we are studying plants and experimenting with cress to see what it needs to germinate alongside growing our own sunflowers. We are studying our diverse world in topic and have been looking at the central and southern areas of Africa, focusing on diverse animals and plants. In computing we have been learning how to programme computer games using the application 'Kodu Game Lab'. We have started our recorder lessons, and we are able to play simple tunes. We have enjoyed our outside learning opportunities and plan to continue this next term.



### Year 5 and 6

The Year 5 and 6 classes have been really engaged with their World War 1 topic. Their poetry at the beginning of the term was really powerful to read. We have also made bunting in remembrance of those who fought in the war. The children designed their own pennant and applied their design using felt and their choice of stitches. We are currently building models of trenches and are impressed with their design ideas.



#### Littlehaven Dates

Monday 7 June	INSET DAY
Friday 25 June	Children to visit their new year groups / Year 2 to visit Northolmes
Monday 28 June	Children to visit their new year groups / Year 2 to visit Northolmes
Wednesday 7 July	All children to meet their new teachers and classes
Thursday 15 July	New Reception Classes Picnic
Friday 23 July	Last Day of Term

#### Northolmes Dates

Monday 7 June	INSET DAY
Thursday 17 June	Class Photos
Wednesday 7 July	Year 3-5 to meet their new teachers and classes
Wednesday 7 July	Year 6 transition day at their secondary schools
Thursday 22 July	Year 6 Leavers Service
Friday 23 July	Last Day of Term