

Haseltine Newsletter 18th March 2022



Dear Parents, Carers, Families & Friends,

How amazing to have the sunshine this week! It suddenly feels like Spring – especially with all the daffodils out in our playground ☺ Let's hope that it lasts over the weekend too.

There was a mix up today with some children coming into school for Red Nose Day. I apologise if you felt we were raising money for this charity today, but it was never our plan to. Instead we have an event coming up on the 1st April where we are going to be raising money for the charity UNICEF. The children have asked that they come in their own clothes, and if they wish to, in the clothes of their own culture. We will be asking for a donation of £1 towards this amazing charity that does great work with children, especially in areas of conflict or where their rights are not being met.

I cannot believe that two years have now passed since we went into our first lockdown. I don't know about you, but it feels so much longer than that; probably because of the fact that we are into our third school year within the pandemic.

The feeling is that we have come a long way in those two years, and it seems that there is 'light at the end of the tunnel'. I don't think that we can become complacent yet though; and at Haseltine we are still ensuring that classrooms are well ventilated and cleaning & hand sanitisation are priorities. We are also making some very careful and sensible decisions about the types of events that we will be holding in school for the rest of the year – the safety of the children, the staff & the parents are still absolutely paramount for us.

Samba Concert:

One such event will be a Samba Concert in the playground after school on next Tuesday 22nd March. It will start when the gates open and last for only 10 minutes or so, so come early to ensure you get to hear it all. All of 4B will be performing and also the after school club that Murray runs for the yr5 & 6 children. Sunshine is forecast – a perfect backdrop for Samba: let's see how many of you we can get dancing!

Speaking of Music...

I cannot recommend this to you enough...

Lewisham Music Hub...

<https://www.lewishammusic.org/>

Especially the Saturday Music School...

<https://www.lewishammusic.org/learn-with-us/saturday-music-centre/>

My daughter has been singing in one of their choirs on a Saturday now for years and she has loved it. She's made new friends, sung in concerts and has grown in confidence because of it.

There are so many different groups for different instruments (I think I've seen every instrument possible represented!) and for different genres of music: Samba, Jazz, Rock and Folk for example.



Haseltine Newsletter 18th March 2022

They always have an end of term concert at the Saturday School (based at Prendergast Vale School in Lewisham). I was at a concert at Blackheath Concert Halls this week too and I was very proud to spot 4 Haseltine children on the stage at one point (one presently at Haseltine & 3 who are now in secondary schools). They all performed brilliantly on their instruments in their ensembles.

The lessons are reasonable and for children entitled to FSM there are subsidies, so click on the links above, or have a chat with me to find out more.

Clarinets:

Can the children learning the clarinet at Haseltine please bring their instruments to school on Monday (21st March)? You have an extra lesson because your teacher missed a day.

Thank you

The Haseltine Breakfast Club:

Don't forget that the Breakfast Club at Haseltine is open every day to all children. There are 2 time slots to note:

- 7.30am – open for those parents who need it because they work or go to college early or have an appointment. The cost for this breakfast club is £3 – to be booked and paid for on Parent Pay
- 8am – this is open for all children. The cost for this breakfast club is £2 – to be paid for on Parent Pay. If your child is entitled to FSM though this club is free and you do not need to book on Parent Pay, just bring your child to the main gate to be let in. (They must enter the playground by themselves to walk to the back of the restaurant to enter BC.)

Please note that FSM is only for children whose parents have applied for FSM (free school meals) not children in reception, yr1 & 2 who have universal free school meals. If your child is in reception, yr1 or 2 (or any other year group in the school) and you think that you may be entitled to FSM, please follow this link for further details & to apply:

<https://lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/education/student-pupil-support/free-school-meals-and-extra-support-for-your-child>

As the weather gets warmer (hopefully!), there are a few points to note:

- **Please ensure that all coats & jumpers are named.** They get taken off at playtimes and if left behind are very difficult to reunite with owners
- Please check lost property daily. Anything found will be added to the trolley in the playground near to the restaurant. We will dispose of items left for long periods of time
- Please make sure that your children are still bringing coats – there is still a chill in the air (especially in the reception & nursery playgrounds where we don't get the sun all day) and we will have the April showers coming soon I'm sure!
- The reception & nursery teachers ask that your children don't bring sunglasses to school, they are worried that the children can't quite see properly and could bump into things more easily
- Don't forget to send your child to school with a (cheap) water bottle



Scooter Training Reminder:

For those of you in yr2 who have signed up for Scooter Training, please bring your scooter & helmet to school on Wednesday next week (23rd).

Holiday Dates:

Please check our website for holiday/term dates for this year and next:

<https://www.haseltineprimary.co.uk/about/holiday-dates/>

But please note:

- We break up for the Easter Holidays on Friday 1st April – please come to school that day
- We return on Tuesday 19th April
- There is then a Bank Holiday Monday on 2nd May 2022 (no school)
- And an INSET day on Thursday 5th May 2022 (the school is used as a polling station & we have to close)
- We break up for the half term holiday on Friday 27th May – please come to school that day
- We return on Monday 6th June 2022
- We break up for the Summer Holidays on Thursday 21st July 2022 – please come to school that day

Is your child in Year 1, 2, 4 or 6?

There will be assessments and testing taking place for your child over the next term:

- Year 1: Phonics Screening
- Year 2: End of KS1 assessments
- Year 4: Multiplication testing
- Year 6: SATs in reading, maths, grammar & spelling and assessments in writing

Please come along to a coffee morning in The Hub on Friday April 1st at 9am with me, Sara Anderman, to find out more information as to what this all means for your child and how we carry out the assessments/tests. I hope to put your minds at ease if you are worrying.

A couple of messages from the office...

1. Thanks to all the parents that are regularly paying their dinner money. A reminder that once a parent/carer has made a meal choice i.e. packed lunch, they then have to remain with that choice for the full half term. They are unable to change unless there are extreme circumstances; at which point you need to come and discuss this with the office. **Any child on school dinners that are payable that changes to a packed lunch without letting the office know in writing, will still be charged for the meals that have been provided regardless of whether they have been eaten.** This is due to the kitchen ordering food in advance.
2. Please remember we now use Parentpay. If you have any issues logging on, please get in touch with the office and we can look into this for you. Please note: we are unable to reset any passwords - this

Haseltine Newsletter 18th March 2022



needs to be done via Parentpay yourself. They can be contacted via this form
<https://app.parentpay.com/FormsAPI/forms/contactus>

And finally...

A message from our governors...

Dear Parents/Carers,

On behalf of the Governing Body we wanted to introduce ourselves as the Co-Chairs of the Federation's Governing Body. We started in the role in the Autumn term and we are really pleased to be working with such a great team across both schools and with such a committed and skilled set of governors.

The Governing Body is working closely with the Executive and Schools Heads to secure quality teaching and learning for all the children, develop the strategy for the Federation and as we develop and implement these plans, we will provide a range of opportunities to hear more about the work of the Governing Body and the ambitions of the Federation.

We will make sure that we communicate any significant changes across the school community. In the coming weeks and over the next term, please look out for notices and updates in the school's newsletter about the Federation strategy and options for you to learn more. We want to work with you as families and all partners in making sure both schools and the federation are well placed to provide the best outcomes for children.

Paula McDonald and Sharon Long on Behalf of the Governing Body

Thank you everyone for your continued support and thank you too for not using your phones in the playground 😊

I hope that you all have a fabulous weekend in the sunshine.

**Best wishes,
Sara Anderman**