



Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Harvest Festival- Donations

On the final day of term (Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October) we will be having our Harvest Festival in the church, starting at 9.30am. Parents, carers and family members are invited to join us and each class will be taking part. We are once again supporting Beacon House, a local foodbank, and ask children to bring in donations of non-perishable foods on the day, thank you.

### Attendance

I am very pleased to say that, at 96.6%, our school attendance is both above national and our school aim of 96% or higher. We are also below national figures for the level of persistent absence (7.1% vs 16.2%) which is defined as anyone having an attendance of below 90%. In order to keep our attendance above national and our aim of 96%, it is important that children are only absent when absolutely necessary.

A big congratulations to Kingfishers class who has the highest attendance over the last 2 weeks!

We have started to see some autumn colds, coughs and the like make themselves known. Your child is able to come to school with a cough or cold and is only advised to stay home if they have a temperature. More advice can be found on the NHS website <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>.

### Online Safety

Please use the following link to access The National College's podcast on a round up of all of September's news regarding online safety: <https://nationalcollege.com/podcasts/online-safety-news-roundup-october>.

In addition, the Swanmore Cluster of Schools met recently to discuss the effects of smartphone use on children and considering the messages from the Smart Phone Free Childhood campaign (more information on that can be found [here](#)) regarding delaying the introductions of smart phones until children are 14. This is a rapidly growing movement, with other local school clusters already signed up. Further information regarding the implications of smart phone use by children as well as suggested alternatives can be found at <https://delaysmartphones.org.uk/>.

### Cross Country

Last week, 10 pupils from Years 2-4 took part in the Swanmore Cluster Cross-Country meet with the Year 2s running 400m, the Year 3s running 800m and the Year 4s running 1200m. They had a brilliant time and represented the school fantastically! For some it was their first cross-country event and Miss Marshall was very impressed with everyone's resilience and supportive nature. Well done all!



### Bikeability

The Year 5 and 6s have been partaking in their Bikeability sessions this week and, despite the showers, are enjoying learning more about how to ride on the road safely, look after their bikes and understanding the Highway Code. The sessions continue until the end of the week.



### Ukulele

Owls Class have been learning the Ukulele this term as part of our music provision at Hambledon. Each year, Years 1-6 learn a new instrument meaning that over their time at Hambledon they will be introduced to six instruments. They also have the opportunity to perform in a termly concert to showcase what they have learnt. Owls have enjoyed their ukulele lessons so far and look forward to their Tuesday afternoon lessons.



### Secondary School

If your child is in Year 6, secondary school applications opened on 9th September and close on 31st October 2024. More information can be found on the Hampshire Admissions page.

### Year R 2025

Applications for children starting in Year R in September 2025 open on 1<sup>st</sup> November and close on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025. We have a series of open morning tours and bookings for these can be made via the School Office.

Best wishes,

*A. Corr*

Ms Adrienne Corr  
Headteacher

## Key Dates Autumn 1 2024-2025

These will be added to so please check the bottom of the newsletter regularly!

W/B 7<sup>th</sup> October - Y5/6 Bikeability

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October - KS2 to visit Hambledon Pre-History Exhibit in the Village Hall

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October - Parents Evening for all year groups apart from Years 5/6

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October - Parents Evening for Years 3&4

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October - Parents Evening for Years R-2

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October - Harvest Service at the Church time tbc. All families can join. Foodbank donations to come in to school. Donations for Beacon food Bank.

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November - HALF TERM

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November- Be bright, Be seen day- children to come dressed in colourful bright clothes.

School Holidays dates can be found here: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/schoolholidays>

### INSET Days for 2025

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> June