



Hazeldown Primary School

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Friday 7th September 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the new school year! It has been lovely to see the children back in school this week, keen to learn and looking smart in their uniforms. Thank you for making sure that they understand the importance of their uniform to both the identity of the school and their positive attitudes towards themselves and their learning. We have welcomed our new Foundation Stage children to 'big school' this week, along with several new children in other year groups. We are really pleased that they have all been able to join our school community.

Thank-you to everyone who was able to represent the school as part of the Teignmouth Carnival during the summer holidays. We won first place in our class, have a trophy and certificate to display and won £50 of prize money. We will be asking the children for their thoughts on what we should buy for the school with this.

You will have seen an email earlier this week regarding parking. **Please make sure that you are exercising common sense and consideration when you are dropping off or picking up your children.** We all have a duty to ensure that our children are safe at this busy time and also make sure that we are mindful of local residents within our immediate community. The area is very busy at the start and end of the day, which is manageable and acceptable for the most part if everyone acts with consideration. There is a particular issue with vehicles being left across driveways and on the pavement without consideration for our neighbours. This is causing considerable upset and inconvenience as well as being dangerous for pedestrians. The police will be returning to support with this. They were pleased with how the busy morning period worked out on their earlier visit this week but are keen that this continues. Please do your best to support us with this or, alternatively park slightly lower down the hill and enjoy some fresh air and a walk with your child. Thank-you.

Over the summer, the old fit trail equipment has been removed and it has been replaced with some outdoor gym equipment, which will be longer lasting than the timber version. The equipment can be used by all children across the school and there are instructions on how to use it on each item. At the end of the area, there are coloured patches on the floor, which are linked to an activity generator at the end. If the children spin this, it will give them an activity which they can then go and do in the coloured area. We are really grateful to the PTA for funding which has enabled us to be able to upgrade this area of the school. We will be able to add more equipment over coming years to further improve the area.

We would like to take this opportunity early in the year to remind you about exercising common sense regarding the games and other material your children are accessing at home. Age restrictions are in place on these, which have been carefully identified by appropriate professionals. We are hearing that we may have a number of children accessing materials that are inappropriate for their age including Fortnite.



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Don't forget about the commonsensemedia.org website which provides guidance for parents and children about the content and appropriateness of games and a variety of other media as well.

Dates for the diary this term include **Parents Evenings on October 30th and November 1st**, which is just after half term, so please put these on the calendar now. Letters regarding appointment times will be sent out nearer the time.

Please can we ask you to use the steps and paths around school rather than the grass banks? We are working hard with the children to remind them to do the same, particularly during the busy end of school period. Some of them have mentioned that there are a number of parents and toddlers using the grass rather than the paths, which is making it difficult for us to justify our reasoning. Please support us by using the steps and paths on the way in and out of school. Thank-you.

Finally, please remember that if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child(ren), please don't hesitate to get in touch sooner rather than later. Your child's class teacher should be the first port of call. The team leaders are also available (Mrs Hudson in the Foundation Stage, Mr Quint in years one and two, Mrs Tierney in years three and four and Mr Hardee in years five and six). Alternatively, Mr Goodenough and I are also available. You catch catch any of us directly, contact the office by email or phone or drop a note in via your child as appropriate.

Yours sincerely,

Stuart Ludford,
Headteacher



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