



Hazeldown Primary School

Maudlin Drive, Teignmouth TQ14 8SE
Tel 01626 772901
admin@hazeldown.devon.sch.uk
www.hazeldown.co.uk

Wednesday 9th January 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year to you all! We hope that you all had an enjoyable break and are rested and ready for the term ahead. It was great to see the children pleased to be back at school with their friends yesterday and we are looking forward to a busy term full of exciting learning opportunities.

The children were looking very smart in their uniform yesterday. If you haven't already done so, please support your child in removing holiday nail varnish and jewellery, in line with our expectations. Children may wear small, stud earrings, a watch and wristbands the school have provided such as; for iCan, growth mind-set achievements and anti-bullying week but should not be wearing additional wristbands, bracelets or festival entry bands please.

We reminded you before Christmas, and have reminded the children yesterday, that hairbands should be small in size, without ears, huge bows or 'springy' additions that all cause a distraction for learning. Thank-you for your support with this.

This term, we welcome Mr Evans back to the teaching team. He is teaching Redwood class for the rest of the year. Mrs Gordon is not with us for most of the spring term, but will be returning to Hazeldown for the last two weeks and the summer term so Mrs Cooke has moved to work as the additional teacher with years five and six. Mrs Bayley has joined us on a temporary basis to support with PPA cover in years three and four, in place of Mrs Cooke. She is a language specialist so will be providing some additional expertise in this area for the children. Mrs Radford has joined the team in the front office and is therefore likely to be one of the key members of staff you either see directly or speak to on the telephone when you contact the school.

At the end of term, with the exception of the Foundation Stage, your children will receive their school report. These will be out on Friday 22nd March and are followed by **Parents' Evenings on Wednesday 27th and Thursday 28th March**. Please put these dates in your diary. We send out our school reports at the end of the spring term so that next steps and action points are undertaken by the same teacher who identified them rather than passing this on to the next teacher. In this way, your children will receive a better deal and make more progress with their learning and development. The Parents' Evening session will be an opportunity to discuss the report and identify areas you can support with at home, to supplement the work in school. In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns about your child(ren), please get in touch with their teacher at the earliest opportunity, rather than leaving it until Parents' Evening. We would much rather be able to make changes and iron out issues as soon as possible. Alternatively, you can discuss things with the team leaders (Mrs Hudson in the Foundation Stage, Mr Quint for years one and two, Mrs Tierney for years three and four and Mr Hardee for years Five and six). You can



Learning for Living
Proud to be an Education Futures School

come in to school to speak to them directly or you can telephone or email the school office team (admin@hazeldown.devon.sch.uk) and they will make sure you are contacted. Please don't try to respond to an email message from the email messaging service we use, as it does not accept a message back from you as a reply.

You may remember that, at the last Parents' Evenings, the Governors requested your views on home-learning. They have spent time analysing feedback as a governing body and the staff team have also been reviewing this. We are currently revising our approach to home-learning activities. There will be feedback on changes coming out shortly.

Last term, we were getting a large number of children being brought into the school building by their parents. Please try to leave your children on the playground, on time, to line up and then come in and sort their own bags, coats and reading books/homework. This is an important part of developing independence – for the younger children, there are a number of adults supporting with this and making sure that the children are sorted and comfortable as they become more independent. Some children come in early to undertake particular responsibilities. Again, they should be encouraged to do this for themselves and any siblings who do not have a responsibility in the morning should be outside with the other children. There are occasions that you may need to come in to sort something out for them or meet with one of the team, but these should be few and far between.

Please remember that if it is raining heavily in the morning, there is no need to come in to school through the front door. Children should go around to their normal entrance door. This makes sure that parents who need to speak with the office team can do so without the entrance area filling up with children.

Finally, there may be the possibility of **snow** this term. It may mean that, in the interest of safety, we need to close the school. We will do our best to avoid this if at all possible. If you do wake up to snow, please do not telephone the school to see if we are open, as we will not be able to answer calls from every family. The Senior Leadership Team will liaise and make a decision as early in the morning as possible. We will communicate this to you by email and via the front page of the website. We will also inform the local radio and Devon County Council who will post the information on their 'school closures' website page.

You may find that, even if the school is open, the conditions where you live mean that it would not be advisable to try to head out to either school or work. You will need to make that decision at the time in order to ensure you keep yourselves and your children safe. If that was the case in the morning and conditions change during the day, you may bring your child to school for the rest of the day at the point when you feel it is safe to do so.

If it is snowy, children may wear wellington boots to school but we ask that they bring their shoes in a bag so as to stay comfortable during the day. We also ask that they refrain from throwing snowballs at each other, again to ensure that everyone stays dry and comfortable during the day.

Yours sincerely,

Stuart Ludford,
Headteacher



Learning for Living