



# HALLAM FIELDS JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Website: [www.hallamfields.derbyshire.sch.uk](http://www.hallamfields.derbyshire.sch.uk)  
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Phone: 0115 9322568

12th November 2021

## School Photos

On Monday 8<sup>th</sup> November our school photographer will be on site for School Photos. Children will be routinely photographed individually and with any siblings in school. Should you wish any younger siblings to have their photograph taken with children in school, please come in to school at 8.30am.

## Allergies/Special Diets

We have recently sent out a communication asking for up to date information for children who have any Allergies or Special/Medical Diets. Please ensure you contact school to confirm we are aware of any allergies and complete and return the Medical/Special Diet Form where required. Please speak with the office team for further information.

## Christmas Card Designs

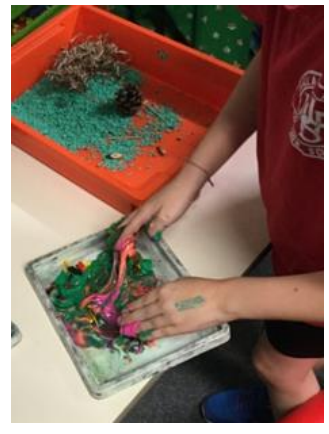
Parent/Carers should have now received a copy of their child's Christmas Card Design Proof. Orders for Cards and Mugs can be placed via the link indicated on the proof. The **deadline for orders is 22<sup>nd</sup> November** when the online shop will be automatically closed.

## Parking

Can we please ask once again to not park on the zigzags or over our neighbour's drives. We are currently working with the council to look at new signage for the road and further road markings on both sides of the road to make it safer for the children when crossing.

## Thrive

1:1 sessions have been running with Mrs Carr and Mr Hussain again this term and it would be fair to say they have been messy sessions at times. All sessions link with the arts and the natural world. We have explored colours and textures and the way they make us feel with slime, paint and cornflour. We have also made the most of the sunny days, looking at the signs of Autumn in our fabulous grounds outside to make Autumn pictures, complete with frames! We have brought the outside in to our Autumn sensory display too which makes a great sorting activity for any children who join us in Thrive to help them calm and soothe big emotions. Keep an eye on the Thrive blog on the school website to see what else we are getting up to.





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## **Pupil Premium**

We are loving seeing the number of children eating school dinners with us in the school hall increasing throughout the term and we even have custard back on the menu! If your child receives Pupil Premium funding because they are free school meals and they are not taking up the free meal, why not consider it throughout the cold months ahead? For each day, children can order sandwiches or jacket potatoes instead of the meals on the menu so hopefully there will be something that they will enjoy.

## **Goodbye to Tina**

We would like to say a fond farewell to our Cook Tina who retired today after working here for the past 40 years. Many of you I am sure will remember her if you attended the school as a child yourself and she will be greatly missed. All the Staff, Governors and Children would like to wish Tina a long, happy, and healthy retirement. Tina was presented with a long service award for her 40 years service last week in assembly and was presented with flowers and a present from the staff along with a card from all the children in assembly today.

## **Uniform during winter months and jewellery**

As the weather starts to get colder it may be worth sending your child with extra layers under their uniform. Our guidance and risk assessment due to Covid-19 means that we are asking staff to keep windows and doors open throughout the day to allow air to circulate. Children will be colder therefore. Children wearing school jumpers and school colour fleeces in classrooms is recommended.

We are noticing a few children coming in with hoops instead of studs in their ears and would like to remind you that the only jewellery children should be wearing is a maximum of one stud per ear. Children wearing other items of jewellery will be asked to remove them for their safety.

## **Diary Dates**

Monday 15th November—School Photos/Odd Sock Day to kick-off Anti-Bullying Week

Monday 15th-19th November Anti-Bullying Week—One Kind World

Monday 15th November-19th November—Road Safety Week

Friday 19th November—Children in Need Day (Non-Uniform—Donation via Parent Pay)

Wednesday 24th November—No Pens Day

Monday 29th November—INSET Day

Friday 10th December—Christmas Jumper Day

Thursday 23rd December School Closed—day taken in lieu of additional Bank Holiday later in year

Friday 24th December-7th January Christmas Holidays

Some further dates have not been confirmed due to restrictions, so we are not able to share all dates like we usually would. If we are able to invite parents back in we will look to set dates for events such as come to lunch and any assemblies or shows.



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## Supporting your child at home

### Seesaw

We introduced Seesaw over the last two years and have been using it for children to complete work at home, as well as for children and parents to communicate between staff. Children use Seesaw during school sometimes to record work they are doing by photographing it, but can also annotate and make films or voice recordings. One thing which a lot of children enjoyed doing during periods of lockdowns, whilst parents were busy trying to juggle work and home schooling, was to record themselves reading out aloud. We have continued to promote this as we understand how busy life can be sometimes and we still want to promote reading to help all children become fluent and enjoy reading. Children will be rewarded for reading at home whether to an adult or recording themselves on Seesaw. Login details should be in your child's home school diary. Unfortunately, if you have more than one child using Seesaw it does not allow you to join accounts as some parents have asked and they need to login each time.



# Seesaw



### Times Tables Rockstars

Children should all have a login for TTRS in the back of their Home School Diary. They can access TTRS at anytime on any device including phones. Each week in assembly we celebrate through our Maths Ambassadors different winners based on how much children score, how long they spend working on their tables or which class together has scored the highest. This includes interclass challenges. By the summer term in year 4 children should know ALL of their times tables. We continue using TTRS throughout all of school as it is important children continue to use their tables knowledge regularly and answer accurately and with speed.

### Reading

Children are rewarded in school for how much they read at home every week, and also throughout the term. This is shared in assembly each week through the reading ambassadors. In school children are tested using Accelerated Reader which gives them a 'ZPD' which is the number band they should choose books from. At the end of reading a book they test themselves using an iPad with 10 quick questions to check their understanding of what they have read. They should have an accelerated reader login in the back of their home school diary, however this only works during school hours.



Children also have access to Epic reading which they can again access during school time with a range of books to read online. Children who struggle to read can also listen to books being read to them. To access Epic Reading at home you would unfortunately need to set up your own account which there is a monthly charge for, although if your child is off ill / isolating they could access this if they are well enough to read and it is during normal school hours.