



# Horwood and Newton Tracey Community Primary School Newsletter

Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear parents, carers and children

Welcome back everybody! What a wonderful start to the new term – it has been lovely to see smiley, happy faces as everyone has arrived in the morning and left at the end of the school day.

Staff worked really hard to get the school ready for you all on Tuesday and I hope your children have told you about all the exciting things they have been doing and new friends they have made.

We are getting out, separately, class information about topics, and this will be sent home next week. In the meantime, the class pages on the website have lots of information about what we are learning this term. PE days are now sorted and the information is included in this newsletter – apologies it has taken a bit longer to sort things out. We are, thankfully, able to use the Village Hall again for our indoor sessions and teachers had to negotiate timetables to arrange this.

Here's to an exciting, new school year!

**Mrs Lisa Eadie**  
**Headteacher**  
[head@hntps.org](mailto:head@hntps.org)

## **Welcome!**

We have lots of new children who have started this term (and some familiar faces in nursery and reception). Welcome to: Elise, Louis, Austin, Isabelle, Ziggy, Ronnie, Emily, Matilda, Beau and Abel in Reception. In nursery: Taddy, Harper, Delmelza, Nico, Theo, Jude, Hugo, Blake and Jo. In Class 2: Theo and Isaac and in Class 3: Kenzie and Ruben. We hope you will all be really happy at HNTPS.

## **PE Days**

**Class 2** – Monday and Thursday

**Class 3** – Monday and Tuesday

**Class 4** – Thursday and Friday

On these days, please can your child come dressed in their PE kits. Thank you! This decision has been made so we can maximise the amount of PE teaching (rather than changing time!).

Class 1 will change for PE on numerous days and should have a PE kit in school every day, as it's an important part of their early years' education.

## **School Transport**

Is your child entitled to free school transport? Have a look on Devon County Council's website for more information. Please remember, if your child does get the school bus, you should let the bus company know if your child will or will not need the service.

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/school-and-college-transport>

**School menu** – the new menu is attached to this email and also available on our school website. Packed lunches – we encourage children to have a healthy lunch with a balanced range of food. No fizzy drinks please. Classes 1 and 2 get free fruit/vegetables as a snack at breaktime. Classes 3 and 4 can bring a healthy snack to have at breaktimes if they wish. Could children please bring a water bottle to school, with water, every day.

**Dates w/c 13.09.2021** – Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> 4.30 pm Governors



### **Tea @ 3 with Mrs Eadie**

Tea @ 3 is awarded to those children who have kept the school "Golden Rules" and is a Friday afternoon reward of tea/hot chocolate, cake and biscuits with Mrs Eadie. To keep mixing of children to a minimum, Tea @ 3 will be held with 4 children from each class, each week. Today's pupils from Class 4 are: Daniel, Joshua, Billy and Caydence. Well done!

### **Covid update**

We have had some important updates from the Local Authority and Public Health South West about Covid and schools. At the moment, all restrictions are lifted and the class "bubble" system has been removed.

Children are allowed to mix during the school day, but we have been advised to "keep this to a minimum". We are, therefore, only mixing all classes for assemblies x3 a week and the children will be kept during these times in class groups. We will also meet once a fortnight in "family groups" where children are grouped into 4 "families" across the whole school to discuss Personal Health, Social and Economic Education (PHSEE), fund raising, listening to pupils, etc. This creates a "family" feel across the whole school and helps the children across classes get to know each other.

High hygiene standards will be maintained – children will be asked to wash their hands (or use hand sanitiser) when they arrive at school, after using the toilet and before lunch. Lunch is continuing to be served in classes and tables will be cleaned before lunch.

We are continuing our "3 gate" entry/exit system to reduce congestion at drop off and pick up time. The school walking bus service is also running to allow parents/carers to drop off/pick up from the Village Hall – thank you to all our staff and parent/carer volunteers who enable this to run.

If we have cases of Covid at the school, we will be seeking advice but closing classes is a very final option and not something anyone wishes to return to. Importantly, if close contacts of a positive case are identified then the rest of the class do not have to isolate (if they are under 18 years) unless they have Covid symptoms, or adults who have been doubled vaccinated and two weeks have elapsed. Please, however, continue to keep us informed of any positive cases.

We have been advised that children only have to be kept off school/sent home and get a PCR test for the original Covid-19 symptoms – high temperature, persistent cough and/or loss of taste/smell. The Delta variant symptoms (which are numerous and included cold-like symptoms) are NOT reasons to keep a child off and have them tested. The same circumstances remain that, if a child is too unwell (for any reason) to come to school, they should remain at home until well enough to return. Please ring the school every day your child is absent.