



Respect – Responsibility – Resilience – Kindness – Teamwork

Mrs Thirkill's Blog 04.09.26

Good afternoon,

Welcome back to school. I hope all our children and families have had a lovely summer and have enjoyed getting back to school and routines. We have another year ahead filled with exciting learning opportunities and we look forward to watching your children continue to grow.

All the children looked so smart on Tuesday, thank you. Please can children wear a plain navy hoodie for PE and forest if parents choose not to buy the one with the school logo. Please can we have no sports logos in school for PE or Forest school. Year 6 can of course wear their new hoodies on PE and Forest school days. Wearing a uniform helps us to create equality and belonging.

A big welcome to all our new children who have joined us in Nursery and Reception this September. You are all settling in beautifully. We are excited for the year ahead and have lots of exciting plans to share rich experiences with your children and ensure they progress. We still have places available in Nursery. If you know anybody who may be interested in a Nursery place, please ask them to contact the office and we would be happy to arrange a visit.



Next Thursday, 10th September, will be our Brilliant Beginnings Day. This year we will be enjoying yoga, sound baths, circuit training, a penalty shoot-out and our very own mini festival with saxophonist! We are excited for our brilliant beginning. We ask that all children come into school, in comfortable and colourful clothing, for this lovely day!

We are making some changes to our home school reading records this year. In Early years and Key Stage 1, we will continue with our traditional reading records which we have used before. In key stage 2, we will be introducing reading records through the Class Dojo platform. For further details as to how this will work, please follow the information at the end of the blog.

Safeguarding is a key priority for us in school. At Hoyle Court Primary School, all of our staff are responsible for safeguarding, however we do have a designated team, who take the lead with more challenging situations. If you ever need support from a safeguarding lead, you can see the team below.

	Mrs Claire Thirkill – Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding lead		Miss Lockwood – Class Teacher Deputy Safeguarding Lead
	Mr Greetham – Class Teacher Deputy Safeguarding Lead		Mr Litvinov – Business Manager Deputy Safeguarding Lead
Miss Saidy and Miss Mellor are also fully trained DSL's as this allows them to fulfil all elements of their roles.		If you have any concerns about a child or a family, please call 01274 581898 and ask to speak to a safeguarding lead.	

We will be opening the library to families on a Monday morning from 8.20 if any children would like to come and choose a book. Our book trolley is available at the end of each day, and adult books are available in our reception area.

I have been delighted to see a great start for most classes with our attendance this week. Please can we maintain this great start as every school day matters. You may have seen, in the news recently that there is a high correlation between poor attendance and lower earnings, as an adult. Please give your child the best life chances by getting them to school every day.

Target 96%	Owls	Beech	Aspen	Sycamore	Ash	Hazel	Birch	Willow	Rowan	Maple
School average 98.0	100	100	97.6	97.6	97.9	95.8	95.8	97.2	97.2	100

Last year we made great improvements with persistent lateness. This week though we have missed 2.9 hours in total due to lateness. This is an improvement on the previous academic year but please do everything you can to get your child to school on time, to support their learning.

This year we will be introducing new initiatives around attendance. There will be rewards for individuals and classes. Please do everything you can to get your children to school every day.



I would really like to encourage new members to join our PTA. We have a number of fabulous members at the moment who do so much for our school and we are very grateful. We would like to further expand the PTA team, for the benefit of all our children. If you think you could support our very welcoming and generous PTA, email friendsofhoylecourt@gmail.com Please come and join us and see how you can support our school.

Have a fabulous weekend.

Mrs Thirkill

Reading record update

Dear parent/ carer,

This year, we will be using Class Dojo Portfolio as your child's reading record. Therefore, your child WILL NOT bring home a paper-based reading record book.

To use the ClassDojo Portfolio as a parent (there are photos overleaf to help):

- Log into your ClassDojo parent account.
- Tap your profile icon in the top left corner.
- Switch to your child's student account.
- Select school (not home) and scroll down to 'my portfolio'.
- Click create. Then select 'journal'.
- From there, type in the date, title and pages of the book your child has read.
- Include a short comment too if required – something your child worked hard at, succeeded at or found tricky.
- Hit the 'Hand in' button for teacher approval. You only need to do this once a week (see the example below).

Reading record	 Child's name ...
Saturday 11th - My football heroes - Bellingham	 1 comment  1 view
Monday 13th July - Football heroes quiz	 Like
Tuesday 14th - Farm boy - Micheal Morpurgo	
Thursday 16th - My football heroes - Lamine Yamal	 Mrs. Rigby Teacher 17 Jul
	Lovely varied reading this week. Well done . Keep it up. Thank you.

Your child's teacher can add their comment once you have pressed 'hand in'. Any problems, please speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance. Many thanks as always for supporting your child with home reading. It is the most important homework you can do to help your child succeed at school.

Mrs Emily Rigby - Reading Leader