



22 September 2023

Hook Junior School

Ravenscroft

Hook

Hampshire

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Weekly Newsletter, week ending Friday 22 September 2023

Weekly Newsletter

Friday 22 September 2023

From the Chair of Governors

Dear Parents and Carers,

We held our first Governor Body meeting of the new academic year this week. There is lots of positivity about the year ahead for everyone connected with the school and it was a pleasure to hear how well our new pupils and members of staff are settling in. The key focus of the meeting was to agree the school strategic plan that covers every aspect of school life, also to confirm our Governor roles for this year and approve important statutory policies.

A number of the Governors also joined the staff inset day at the beginning of September for annual Safeguarding and Child Protection training delivered by Brightcore. Safeguarding is critical to ensure that we provide a safe environment, safe practices and educate about risks and safety for all children to enable them to thrive at and beyond school. We take this responsibility extremely seriously and the safeguarding role the school plays within school and the local community is vital for children, their parents and carers. The school has a strong culture of safeguarding, which is recognised by Ofsted 2023, staff and governors are not complacent, we recognise how small incidents can create a bigger and broader picture when it comes to protecting children. The Governing body also approved our Child Protection Policy and Safeguarding Policy which have been updated in line with Keeping children Safe in Education 2023 and are available for you to read via [the Policies page on our website](#).

We currently have vacancies within the Governing Body and we would encourage you to apply if you are keen to support the future of the school, please refer to You can read more about the role of a governor [via the Governor Vacancies page on our website](#). Further communications will follow on this subject.

Gareth Evans

Chair of Governors

Monday 25 September – INSET day

Please remember that school is closed to children on Monday due to it being a staff training day.

Monday 2 October – PE kit required

All children should come to school in PE kit on Monday 2 October as we have an inter-house cross country event taking place in school.

Child Protection and Safeguarding Policies

Governors have approved our revised Child Protection and Safeguarding policies at their meeting this week. We encourage all parents to read each policy to fully understand the arrangements we have in place to keep your children safe. All policies can be found [on the Policies page of our website](#). The following links will open each policy directly:

- [Child Protection Policy](#)
- [Safeguarding Policy](#)

What parents and carers need to know about WhatsApp

We have shared an informational flyer on our website this week explaining some key facts that parents and carers need to know about WhatsApp: [What Parent and Carers need to know about WhatsApp 2023](#)

Year 6 Secondary school applications are now open

Parents and carers with children due to move to secondary school next year can now [apply for their child's school place for September 2024](#). Secondary school applications are open until 31 October.

Applications can be [submitted online](#), while paper forms can be requested by emailing admissions.team@hants.gov.uk.

Please follow the below guidance when submitting your application:

- Name three schools on your application to give you the best chance of being offered a place at one of your preferred schools
- Submit your application on time, before the 31 October deadline
- Use the County Council's [school catchment area finder](#) to check the catchment school for your address

- Read the schools' admissions policies and look at previous years' admissions data to get an indication of how many places schools can allocate and the criteria that will be used to allocate places
- Think about how your child will get to school. See the [travel to school](#) pages to help plan your journey and find out if you are eligible for help with transport. You must name your catchment school as one of your preferences if you wish to apply for transport assistance

Where three schools are named on applications, very few children are not offered a place at one of these preferences. Should a place be offered at an alternative school, this would be because each of the three chosen schools received more applications than the number of available places, and the child did not rank high enough in accordance with the oversubscription criteria to qualify for a place. In these circumstances, the child would be added to a waiting list for the next available space. Often spaces become available because families move home or decide on different schools. Any parent who is unhappy with the place that has been allocated for their child can appeal against the decision.

Parents who apply online can log back into the system to amend their applications at any time before the closing date on 31 October 2023. Applications must be resubmitted after making any changes. Anyone who needs to make changes to a paper application should contact admissions.team@hants.gov.uk.

Parents who have applied online and on time will be notified of the outcome of their application on 1 March 2024 and two to three working days later by letter if they applied using a paper form.

For more online guidance, parents should visit the [Education and Learning pages](#) on the County Council's website.

Administration Assistant Vacancy

We are currently seeking to appoint an administration assistant with welfare responsibilities who will be based in the school office. If you are interested, or you know of anyone who might be, please [visit the Hampshire Education Jobs website for more information](#).

Drop-in Coffee Morning Invitation

You are invited to join us for an informal coffee morning on Wednesday 4 October from 8.45am. This is an opportunity to drop in, enjoy a hot drink and a pastry and talk to us. To help us cater for the expected number of visitors, please complete the Parent Mail form we circulated on Monday 11 September if you will be attending. We look forward to seeing you!

Parking outside the school gates

Please be mindful that the cones we have placed in the spaces immediately outside the school vehicular and pedestrian gate are intended to prevent recurring near misses when children and parents are entering and leaving the school grounds at busy times. We will be grateful if anyone transporting children would please refrain from using these spaces. Permanent bollards will soon be installed in each of the spaces where temporary cones are already present to further improve safety for anyone arriving at or leaving the school grounds.

When waiting to enter the school grounds, with or without your child, we encourage all pedestrians to wait on footpaths and not in the flow of traffic – this includes waiting on the new path adjacent to the skate park which the Parish Council have kindly installed as part of the skate park development project to provide a safe path for pedestrians.

Our school vehicular gates are the only route of access for emergency vehicles and we request that they are not obstructed at any time.

HCC Family Information and Services Hub

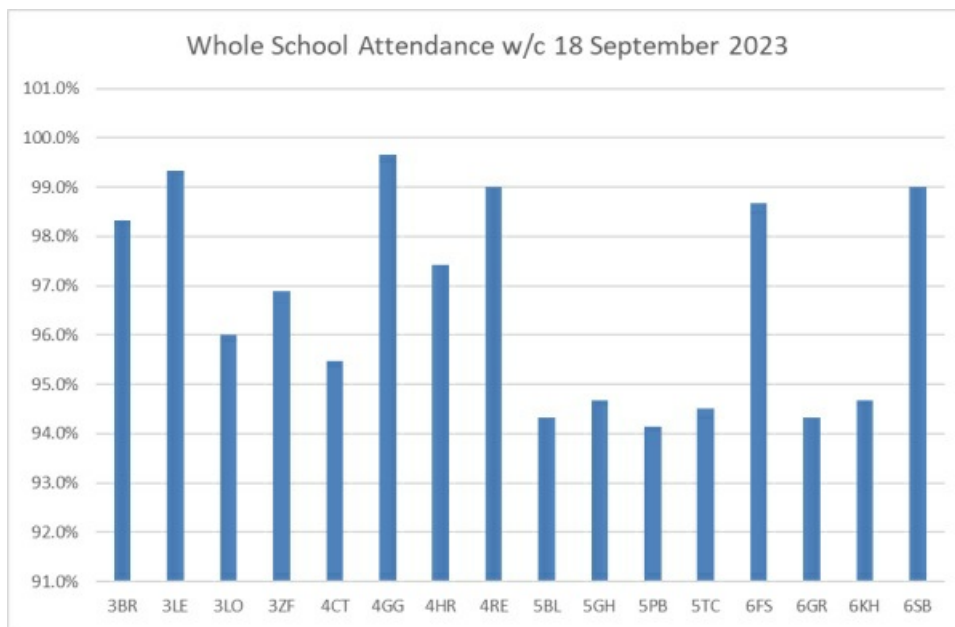
Hampshire County Council's new look [Family Information and Services Hub \(FISH\)](#) is now live! This launched before the summer, and we'd like to take this opportunity to remind you to take a look at all the information and support available for families there.

A number of parents and young people have been working with to make the pages more engaging and accessible. The pages have been made easier to navigate, and there are new accessibility features, mobile compatibility and even translation functionality.

As a reminder, FISH has information and advice under the following categories:

- Hampshire Local Offer
- Childcare and Early Years Education
- Family Support
- Activities Leisure and Play
- Young People
- Employment Training and Learning
- Connect4Communities
- Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health

Attendance



Whole School Attendance this week: 97.46%

Stars of the Week

Year 3: Evie H, Alfie B, Harry W, Callum G

Year 4: Emmy, Jack G, Benny E, Maxime S

Year 5: Harry P, Austin R, Jack N, William S

Year 6: Lewis S, Betty B, Florence M, Arianne I

House Points this week

Austen: 223

Brunel: 266

Nightingale: 229

Wellington: 227

House point winners this week: Brunel

Find out more...

Follow us online to see much more about what's happening in school.

[Twitter.com/hookjunior](https://twitter.com/hookjunior)

[Facebook.com/hookjuniorschool](https://facebook.com/hookjuniorschool)

[Instagram.com/hookjunsch](https://instagram.com/hookjunsch)

Key Dates

New dates added since the last Newsletter appear in green

Dates for 2023 - 2024

18 Sep Year 6 Marchants Hill Information Evening - 5pm

19 Sep Asthma Drop-in morning for parents organised by Frimley Health NHS (tbc)

20 Sep Individual and Sibling Photographs in school

21 Sep National Fitness Day Lunchtime Bootcamp

25 Sep Inset Day – school closed to children

2 Oct Inter-house Cross Country Event (P.E kit for all children)

4 Oct Coffee Morning for Junior Parents - 8.45am

9 Oct Learning Consultations for Parents - 3.30pm until 6.30pm

10 Oct Learning Consultations for Parents – 3.30pm until 6.30pm

11 Oct Open Morning for Infant parents – 9am

16 Oct Year 6 Residential Trip to Marchants Hill

30 Oct Inset Day – school closed to children
1 Nov Year 5 Marchants Hill Information Evening – 5pm
4 Nov HSCA Firework Show
13 Nov Astronomer visit for Year 5 (back up date is 20 Nov)
13 Nov Odd Socks Day
13-17 Nov Anti-Bullying Week
21 Nov Year 5 Performance (5TC and 5GH) – 9.15am
22 Nov Year 5 Performance (5BL and 5PB) – 9.15am
30 Nov Year 3 Learning Event – 2pm
30 Nov Flu Vaccinations in School
2 Dec HSCA Christmas Fair
8 Dec Year 6 Learning Event – 2pm
12 Dec Christmas Production (4HR and 4GG) – 9.15am, parents to arrive from 8.45am
13 Dec Carols around the Tree – 4pm
13 Dec Christmas Lunch for Pupils
14 Dec Christmas Production (4RE and 4CT) – 9.15am, parents to arrive from 8.45am

2024

2 Jan Inset Day – school closed to children
5 Jan Year 5 Swimming starts (classes tbc)
23 Jan Young Shakespeare Company Visit
24 Jan Coffee Morning for all Parents – 8.45am
29 Jan Young Voices Concert (selected Choir members)
5 Feb Learning Consultations – appointments between 3.30pm until 6.30pm
6 Feb Learning Consultations – appointments between 3.30pm until 6.30pm
6 Feb Safer Internet Day
19 Feb Inset Day – school closed to children
4 Mar SATs Presentation to Parents – 5pm
7 Mar World Book Day
11 Mar Science Week (all week)
14 Mar Gremlin Dance Challenge
15 Mar Red Nose Day
27 Mar Year 3 (3BR & 3ZF) Easter Service in the Church (Learning Event) – 9.30am
27 Mar Year 3 (3LO & 3LE) Easter Service in the Church (Learning Event) – 2pm
8 May Coffee Morning for Parents of Year 2 Children – 8.45am
13 May SATs Week

23 Apr Year 4 Ufton Court Viking Workshop in school

24 Apr Year 4 Ufton Court Viking Workshop in school

29 Apr Open Box Theatre Company visit for Year 5
14 Jun Class Allocation Letters to Parents
17 Jun Sports Day
19 Jun Information Evening for Parents of Children in Year 2 - 5pm
5 Jul End of Year Reports to Parents
10 Jul Strawberry Tea

Safeguarding your children is our priority. Please contact the schools Designated Safeguarding Leads, either Mrs L Martin (Headteacher),

Mrs N Bailey (Deputy Headteacher), Miss J Carne (Inclusion Leader) or Miss E Smith (SENDCo) with any concerns. Further Safeguarding information and support can be found via www.NSPCC.org.uk or Childline 0800 1111. Any concerns may also be raised directly with Hampshire County Council Children's services phone line (anonymously if you wish) by calling 0300 555 1384. Keeping our children safe is everyone's responsibility.

Vivace Music School

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and Yateley



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