

Dear Parents

A warm welcome back to you all and I hope you managed to have some great family time together while the children were on holiday. I am really hoping that the taste of good weather we have had the last few days is a sign of things to come (but I am not placing any large bets....).

I wanted to let you know about the dates coming up over the summer terms ( a weekly timetable can be found on each of the parents' notice boards for the week ahead) but here are a few events I hope you will share with us over the coming weeks.

Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> April	Year 1 and 5 are visiting a local farm
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	Year 2 are off to Brixworth Park
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 3's class assembly 9.00am
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May	School Closed – Bank Holiday
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	Parents' Voice Session 3.30pm (All welcome!)
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> May	SATs week Year 2 and Year 6
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	Information Evening for Y4 Parents – Grendon Residential 7.00pm
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 5 visit to the Space Centre
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> May	Family Problem Solving Activity Day (All Welcome) Information Evening for Parents – Year 6 Pupils 7.00pm
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Half Term
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> June	Summer Fair 2.30pm
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	Meet the teacher evening for children moving into Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Meet the Teacher evening for children moving into Years 3, 4, 5 & 6
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	Sports Day (weather permitting) Nursery, Reception, Year 1 & 2 9.30am Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 1.30 pm
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	Summer Concert 1.30pm or 6.00pm
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Leavers Assembly 2.00pm End of Term

## **New Science Area**

As you are aware we have significantly developed the outside areas over the past couple of years .... but we're not finished yet. With the dedicated support of our Friends at Hopping Hill and your support at events, we are now developing another outside area for the specialist teaching of science. The area will include facilities for children to grow plants, carry out practical experiments, investigate habitats and even keep pets! I would personally like a goat but it has been suggested (sensibly) that we start with a rabbit and a guinea pig. I am really excited about this new area and will be sharing the progress with you as it develops over the coming months.

## **Economic Wellbeing Project**

Thank you so much to the parents who responded to our request for volunteers. Over the next term, parents will be coming into classrooms to talk about what they do for a living, sharing a skill or interest they have or joining in with classroom activities. Positive role models in education are vital to children's success and I look forward to many more of you joining us in school over the next year. Thank you!

## **Assessments, Attendance and Attire**

Our three big drives for improvement this year have been about children attending school regularly and on time, achieving their potential in assessments and having positive attitudes to school. I am delighted to say that we have significant improvements in all these areas. Ofsted asked us to work on our attendance figures as pupils who are not in school cannot achieve well. The local Education Welfare Officer is monitoring our registers and pupil attendance figures very closely and you will receive letters and even home visits if your child's attendance drops below 90%.

The evidence shows that pupils that arrive at school on time and everyday in primary school are many, many more times likely to gain GCSEs and qualifications at the end of secondary school – every day really does matter. Also, our school data shows a significant link between attendance and children's happiness. This is because if they are in school everyday, they will maintain good friendships with their class mates, will understand the work in lessons and will grow in confidence.

## **New Staffing Structure & Leadership Team**

As you all know, I am quite fond of doing things a little differently here at Hopping Hill and over the past three years (yes it has really been that long) I have made many, many changes to the organisation of the school in terms of procedures, curriculum, teaching styles etc. Our leadership and management structures need to reflect the organisation of the school and therefore the Governors have reshaped the leadership of the school to have the most positive impact on the education of your children. Attached to this letter is a diagram outlining the Who's Who at Hopping Hill. Please do not hesitate to contact me if there is anything you wish to discuss.

Best wishes

Tammy Mitchell

Headteacher.

# Leadership of Hopping Hill Primary School

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## Strategic Leadership Team

**Governing Body**  
**Chaired by Glenn Daly**

**Headteacher -  
Tammy Mitchell**

*Additional  
Responsibilities:*

KS1 Phase Leader

Budget

Assessment &  
Standards

Child Protection

Extended Services

Attendance

**Deputy Headteacher  
Sam Phillips**

*Additional  
Responsibilities:*

ICT Strategic Lead

Lunchtime  
Supervision & Line  
Management

Behaviour

Transition

**Senior Teacher –  
Michelle White**

*Additional  
Responsibilities:*

Staff & Pupil Coach  
& Mentor

Induction

School Council

## Leadership Team

**Leader of Enjoy & Achieve – Creativity  
within and beyond the curriculum**

**Julie Bridges**

**Advanced Skills Teacher – Leader of  
Literacy**

**Louise Richardson**

**Leader of Positive Contribution –  
community cohesion within and beyond  
the curriculum**

**Sarah Busby**

**Advanced Skills Teacher – Leader of Early  
Years**

**Esther O'Connor**

Special Educational Needs Coordinator and DSP Leader

Heather Parker (Taking up post in September – Headteacher will lead until then).