



# Newsletter – Monday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you had a lovely Christmas and found the time to relax and unwind with friends and family. Everyone at Helmshore Primary School wishes you a very happy, healthy 2022.

The children have returned to school with enthusiasm and motivation and are settling back into good work routines, catching up with their friends and engaging with the wide variety of activities on offer.

Unfortunately, some children did not make it back to school on Tuesday due to Covid-19 and we have seen additional positive cases since our return. Those children isolating at home are completing remote learning tasks via Purple Mash and any child prevented from attending school due to Covid related issues are offered remote learning similar to the work the children are completing in class.

We are taking precautions to reduce the risk of Covid-19 transmission in school and ventilation is a key element of this. Windows and doors are open to increase airflow and keep everyone safe, but this does mean that the building can be cold and draughty. Please send your child to school with extra layers of clothing to keep them warm and comfortable.

## **Navy Fleece Jackets for sale - £7.50**

We have a limited supply of school fleeces available for you to purchase which are warm and long in the body and look smart over the top of a cardigan or jumper. We are able to provide these at a special offer price of just **£7.50 each** and are available in sizes 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, 9-11 and Small Adult.

Please ensure that all items of uniform have names in them so that they can be returned to your child if they misplace them. To order a fleece jacket please email [office@helmshore.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:office@helmshore.lancs.sch.uk) with your child's name and size, we will confirm stock availability by return email.

We like to see the children in school looking smart in their school uniform. Please can I remind you that jewellery, makeup, mobile phones and toys are not permitted in school.

School uniform can be ordered via the Gooddies website [www.gooddies.co.uk](http://www.gooddies.co.uk) or purchased from Amin's School Wear in Rawtenstall.

It would also be very helpful if your child could bring the following items of equipment to school:

- Please ensure that your child has a PE Kit (shorts, t-shirt & pumps and outdoor games kit for KS2) in school at all times (this does not include our EYFS children who continue to have a designated PE day). If your child takes their PE Kit home for washing, please ensure this is returned to school as soon as possible. PE is scheduled for each class, but occasionally the timetable is altered to take into account other activities in school/weather etc. **Please ensure all school uniform is named!**
- Robust outdoor shoes for additional outdoor activities and playtimes (preferably with Velcro for KS1 children), particularly if the weather is very wet or snowy.
- A warm coat for playtimes or other outdoor lessons. Additional layers of clothing to be worn to combat cooler temperatures in the school building due to the need for increased ventilation.

Please note:

- Staff will, on occasions, wear masks and visors in response to the perceived level of risk.

- We will continue to use the one-way system implemented around the KS1 and KS2 buildings to ensure that corridors or circulation routes have a limited number of pupils using them at any time and to reduce mixing between groups.
- We ask that you walk your child to school if possible. It would be very helpful if only **one** parent or carer could accompany their child. Any parents or carers showing symptoms of coronavirus must **NOT** enter the premises.
- Although we are limiting the number of face to face meetings with parents at the moment, we are always keen to communicate with you via telephone or by email and your child's teacher can be contacted directly via the class email.

You can contact your child's teacher directly via the class email or the school office (01706 213756 or [office@helmshore.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:office@helmshore.lancs.sch.uk)) who will pass on the message to your child's teacher.

Christine Myers (Headteacher)

### **Punctuality – Arrival and Home time arrangements**

Please note that drop off and pick up times remain the same as last term: 8.50am for all children in the morning and 2.55pm for EYFS children and 3.00pm for the rest of the children at the end of the school day. It is very helpful if your child(ren) have *all their* belongings with them at the start of the school day (i.e. coats, lunch, drinks etc.). Thank you for your support.

### **Illness and COVID-19 related enquiries, and absence from school**

Please refer to the following guidelines; <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

**What are the symptoms in children?** The main symptoms of COVID-19 are:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to sense of smell or taste – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

### **What to do if your child has symptoms:**

If your child has any of the symptoms listed above, even if their symptoms are mild, stay at home and arrange a test. You do not need to take a PCR test if you have already taken an LFD test and the result was positive. For further details, refer to guidance below:

**Guidance Updated 11<sup>th</sup> January 2022 - [Stay at home: guidance for household with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#)**

### **Daily testing for close contacts of COVID-19 Positive Cases**

People who are fully vaccinated, or children and young people aged between 5 and 18 years and 6 months, identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19, should take an LFD test every day for seven days and continue to attend school as normal, unless they have a positive test result or develop symptoms at any time. Children under 5 are not being advised to take part in daily testing of close contacts.

**If a child under 5 is a contact of a confirmed case**, they are not required to self-isolate and should not start daily testing. If they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, they should limit their contact with anyone who is at higher risk of severe illness if infected with COVID-19, and arrange to take a PCR test as soon as possible. They can continue to attend an education or childcare setting while waiting for the PCR result. If the test is positive, they should follow the stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed COVID-19 infection.

If you are concerned about your new possible COVID-19 symptoms, use the [NHS 111 online COVID-19 service](#). If you do not have internet access, call NHS 111. If your child is unwell, without COVID-19 symptoms check <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/> for advice.

Please contact the school office on 01706 213756 or email [office@helsmshroe.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:office@helsmshroe.lancs.sch.uk) at the earliest possible opportunity to report an absence, giving as much information as possible for the reason for your child's absence. You may be contacted by our admin staff if further information is required.

### **Primary Admissions Reception 2022 (CLOSING DATE 15<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2022)**

If your child has a 4<sup>th</sup> birthday on or between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2022 they will start school in **September 2022**. Apply on-line at [Lancashire County Council Primary School Admissions](#). You must apply even if an elder sibling is already attending school. The closing date for applications is **15<sup>th</sup> January 2022**.

### **Free School Meals & Pupil Premium Funding**

Have your circumstances recently changed? Are you now entitled to any of the benefits listed below? If the answer is **yes**, your child could receive free school meals (Year 3 – Year 6), saving you up to £11.75 per week. Even if your child is in EYFS, Year 1 or Year 2 and currently entitled to Universal Infant Free School Meals, registering could assist the school in securing additional funding that will enable the school to provide additional support and resources. Currently, financial support is also available during school holiday periods to those families that are entitled and have registered.

#### **The criteria for funding as based on parents being in receipt of any of the following:**

- Universal Credit with a household income of **less than £7,400 a year** (after tax and not including any benefits you get)
- Income-Based Jobseekers' Allowance
- Income-Related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit, **not** entitled to Working Tax Credit and household income less than £16,190
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Income Support
- Working Tax Credit 'run on' – the payment you receive for a further four weeks after you finish work

If you think you may now be entitled to this benefit, there is an online registration to complete and a decision will be sent to you and communicated with the school.

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/free-school-meals/?page=3>

### **Curriculum Information for Parents**

You will have received information from your child's teacher, giving you an overview of the work your child will be covering this half term so that you can talk with your child about this and work on activities at home. We hope you find this useful. This half-termly information can also be found by visiting:

<https://www.helmshoreprimaryschool.co.uk/our-curriculum/curriculum/year-groups/>

As always, if you have any questions or worries, please contact your child's teacher directly via the class email.

### **Curriculum Newsletters**

Each half term we are planning to share with you a newsletter covering an individual subject area. We hope you have found our recent Computing and PE newsletters to be helpful.

[Computing Newsletter](#) (Autumn 1)

[PE Newsletter](#) (Autumn 2)

**Visit our Twitter page** at [twitter.com/HelmshoreSchool](https://twitter.com/HelmshoreSchool) where you will see regular updates on what we have been doing in school.

### Dates for Diary:

04/01/22 ~ School Opens for Spring term (1)  
06/01/22 ~ Y4 Commence Swimming Lessons  
11/01/22 – 14/01/22 ~ Life Education Centre Visit  
11/01/22 ~ Life Education - Parent Session 8.50am  
14/01/22 ~ Y2 Falconry Visit  
15/01/22 ~ Rec '22 Primary Application Deadline  
17/01/22 ~ Receptions Heights & Weights Visit  
01/02/22 ~ Governing Body Committee Meeting  
11/02/22 ~ School Closed to Pupils (Inset Day)  
14/02/22 – 18/02/22 ~ School Closed Half Term  
21/02/22 ~ School Opens for Spring term (2)  
01/03/22 ~ Governing Body Committee Meeting  
03/03/22 ~ World Book Day  
03/03/22 – 07/03/22 ~ Scholastic Book Fair  
22/03/22 ~ Full Governing Body Meeting

01/04/22 ~ School Closes for Easter  
19/04/22 ~ School Opens Summer term (1)  
21/04/22 ~ Braiswick Photographic (Class Groups)  
02/05/22 ~ School Closed (Public Holiday)  
05/05/22 ~ School Closed (Inset Day – Polling Day)  
09/05/22 – 13/05/22 ~ KS2 SATs Week  
10/05/22 ~ Governing Body Committee Meeting  
27/05/22 ~ School Closes for Half Term  
06/06/22 ~ School Opens for Summer term (2)  
09/06/22 & 10/06/22 ~ Y6 First Aid Training  
14/06/22 ~ Governing Body Committee Meeting  
20/06/22 – 23/06/22 ~ Y6 Bikeability  
28/06/22 ~ Full Governing Body Meeting  
21/07/22 ~ School Closes for Summer Holiday

### Spring (1) After School Clubs

Year 3 Lego Construction Club – Mr Driver  
Year 2 Recorder Club – Mrs Ashworth & Miss Morton  
Year 3 Tri Golf – Mrs Ashworth

## Helmshore Primary School School Holidays ~ Academic Year 2022/2023

### AUTUMN TERM 2022

School opens	School closes
<b>Friday 2 September 2022</b>	<b>Thursday 20 October 2022</b>
Monday 31 October 2022	Friday 16 December 2022

### SPRING TERM 2023

School opens	School closes
<b>Wednesday 4 January 2023</b>	Friday 10 February 2023
Monday 20 February 2023	Friday 31 March 2023

### SUMMER TERM 2023

School opens	School closes
Monday 17 April 2023	Friday 26 May 2023
Monday 5 June 2023	Friday 21 July 2023

In addition the school will be closed on the following days ~

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022 (Parent Consultation Day)

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2023 (Public Holiday)

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2023 (Polling Day)



Do check out our weekly Shooting Stars and Oscar winners on Twitter by visiting <https://twitter.com/helmshoreschool>



### Community Events:

Visit [www.primarytimes.net/lancashire](http://www.primarytimes.net/lancashire) or <https://www.thescallywag.co.uk/> for information on local activities and events.



**CAP (Christians Against Poverty)** are a national debt counselling charity who work through a network of local CAP debt centres. The Rossendale CAP debt centre started in 2017 through a partnership of local churches and offer free debt advice and personal support within the community.

### Is CAP just for Christians?

No. CAP will help anyone regardless of his or her religious beliefs. Their service is available to all individuals.

For further information, refer to their leaflet [‘Lifting the weight of debt’](#)

Call free on: 0800 328 0006  
or visit: [www.capdebthelp.org](http://www.capdebthelp.org)

**Blackburn Hawks Ice Hockey Club** are offering local schools a £1 ticket offer for our home game V Whitley Warriors on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> January.

Each ticket admits a maximum of 2 adults and unlimited children for just **£1 PER PERSON**. Payment is made on the door with the ticket. The ticket can be shown on an electronic device or can be printed. Click on the image to access the discounted ticket to show on the door or contact the school office and a printed copy will be sent home with your child.

Below you will find a link with highlights of previous game against Whitley and also the link to the latest edition of the club's monthly magazine.

<https://blackburnhawks.com/hawks-mag/>

<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=blackburn+hawks+promotional+video&&view=detail&mid=050EE4417A9F60E14690050EE4417A9F60E14690&&FORM=VRDGAR&ru=%2Fvideos%2Fsearch%3Fq%3Dblackburn%2Bhawks%2Bpromotional%2Bvideo%26FORM%3DHDRSC4>

