



Hamp Nursery & Infants' School
Rhode Lane
Bridgwater
TA6 6JB

Tel: 01278 422012
Email: office@hnischool.uk

Headteacher: Mrs. M. Weatherburn

2nd October 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welly Walk

On Wednesday, we took the children on a welly walk around our local area. We looked carefully for signs of autumn, spotting seasonal changes in the trees and environment around us. We were also excited to see the fair as we walked! The children were wonderfully behaved throughout the visit, listened carefully and represented our school brilliantly. They made us all very proud!

Phonics information session for parents

Thank you to all the parents who attended our phonics workshops this week. We hope you found them helpful and that they have given you more confidence in supporting your child's reading at home. We have really appreciated the positive feedback. All children have brought home a phonics information pack this week. If you were unable to attend but would like to find out more about how we teach phonics and how you can help at home, please speak to your child's teacher. We may be able to arrange an additional session.

RSHE Information Session

We will be holding two further parent sessions this term. The next session will take place on Tuesday 22nd October and will focus on the Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) curriculum. We know that some parents are unsure about what RSHE looks like for infant-aged children. This session will give us an opportunity to explain the curriculum, share the resources we use and answer any questions you may have. Booking slips will be sent out closer to the date. Sessions will be held at 2.00pm and 3.15pm.

Harvest Assembly – Wednesday 7th October

Next Wednesday, we will be taking the children to church for our Harvest Assembly. On the same day, we will also be raising money for the Women's Refuge Charity. For a suggested donation of £1, children are invited to come to school wearing autumn colours. Please do not feel that you need to buy anything new. Any clothing in shades of red, orange, yellow, brown, purple or gold would be perfect. Thank you for supporting this worthwhile cause.

School Photographs – Friday 9th October

The school photographer will be in school on Friday 9th October to take individual photographs of all children, including Nursery pupils. No booking slip is needed for individual photographs.

Sibling photographs will also be available for children who attend our school and/or nursery. If you would like a sibling photograph, please return the booking slip being sent home today. Please ensure that all children's classes are clearly recorded and, for Nursery children, indicate whether they attend the morning, afternoon or all-day session. This will help us ensure nobody is missed. Please return booking slips by Wednesday 7th October.

Attendance

Good attendance in the infant years is extremely important. It helps children build confidence, develop friendships, establish routines and make the best possible progress in their learning. At this age, children learn and develop in small steps. Missing even a short amount of time can mean missing key learning experiences and important social opportunities, making it harder to catch up.

Our school attendance target is **95% or above**.

Since returning to school, our weekly attendance figures have been:

7 th - 11 th September	95.9%
14 th – 18 th September	92.6%
21 st – 25 th September	93.18%
28 th September – 2 nd October	92.89%

As you can see, our attendance is currently below where we would like it to be. Whilst we would never expect children to attend school when they are genuinely unwell, many common childhood illnesses, such as coughs and colds do not require children to stay at home.

Please remember that we are able to administer medication in school. This includes prescribed medication with the child's name and dosage clearly displayed, as well as age-appropriate over-the-counter medicines, such as Calpol, provided they are in their original packaging. Staff can complete the necessary medication forms with you when you bring your child to school.

We are hoping to see attendance improve over the coming weeks. If you need any support or advice regarding attendance, please contact Mrs John, our Home-School Liaison Worker, who will be happy to help.

Applications to Start School or Transfer to Junior School in September 2027

The portal for applications to start school for the first time or transfer to junior school (Year 3) opened this week, and please find below the relevant links to Somerset Council's website. The closing date for applications is 15 January 2027. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries.

[Apply to start school for the first time](#)

[Starting at a junior or middle school](#)

IRIS ParentMail

Don't forget that we are using IRIS ParentMail, an online payment service which allows you to make payments to school or nursery electronically. If you haven't received an activation email from IRIS, please let us know and we will arrange for one to be sent to you.

Data Collection Forms

We will be sending data collection forms home for all the children over the next week or so – please check your child's details, make any necessary amendments and return the forms to school and nursery as soon as possible. Please sign and return your form even if there are no changes to be made. Thank you.

As always, please let us know if you have any questions or need any further support.

Yours sincerely

Charlotte Beresford

Charlotte Beresford
Deputy Headteacher