



Hamp Nursery and Infants' School
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Headteacher: Mrs. M. Weatherburn

11th September 2026

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back to school and Nursery! I hope you all had a lovely summer. Our return appears to have signalled the end of the very hot weather, and we've already had to negotiate rainy days and "wet doors". For those of you new to school, please see the list of drop off and collection points at the end of this letter.

Despite the weather, the term has started well and most children are settling happily into their new classes. Please speak to your class teacher if you have any questions or concerns.

Throughout the year, we will usually communicate with you by sending "Friday letters" to you each week by email. If we have to send anything more urgently, we will advise you by putting a note on the whiteboard by Reception. I promise, not all my letters are this long!

Important things to remember:

School and morning Nursery begins at 8.30am - Gates open at 8.20am so you can be on the playground on time.

Gates close by 8.40am. If you arrive after this window, you will need to sign your child into the "late register" in the main school Reception, giving a reason for the lateness. Please be sure to hand them to a member of the office staff or Mrs John, our new home school liaison worker. Whilst we appreciate we all have "one of those days", punctuality helps the children and lateness disadvantages them, so improving school attendance and timekeeping continues to be important to us, as it improves your child's school experience and progress.

School and afternoon Nursery ends at 3.00pm - Please be sure to inform us if someone else is collecting your child, as a one-off, or routinely. We will not release children to anyone if we have not been informed. If your plans change during the day, please telephone the school office so they can let the class teacher know. It can be very worrying for the children and if we know of a change or that you are stuck in traffic, for example, we can reassure and prepare the children. Please also be aware that anyone collecting your child, including older siblings, must be over the age of 16.

Uniform – Please name all items of clothing, especially coats and jumpers. Imagine a PE lesson, when they all take off new t-shirts, trousers, shoes etc. No-one knows what belongs to anyone, and some children can become quite upset if they lose their things. It takes up valuable learning time to try to find and relocate all items, which could be avoided if everything was named. Sharpie pens written onto the label are the most effective, but a normal Biro pen will do the job for several washes.

Please ensure all PE kits and Forest school kits are here by Monday. They will stay in school until the next holiday week. Book bags should come in and go home daily.

Just a reminder that our hair policy does not allow any shaved heads, or any shaved lines or patterns into hair. Braids are allowed but beads are not. Coloured hair is also not permitted.

Simple stud earrings are allowed for school but no other jewellery.

Uniform sale

We sell donated “outgrown uniform” for just £1.00 per item, with a sale held once every half-term. Our **first uniform sale will take place after school next Thursday, 17th September**. After this, sales will be held after school on the first Thursday of each half-term.

The sale will take place in our spare classroom, located to the right of the Nursery entrance (this was the Gruffalo classroom last year, but the class has now moved). The room can be accessed through the Nursery garden.

We are always very grateful for donations of clean, good-quality uniform that your children have outgrown, so please feel free to send these into school at any time.

Scooters and bikes

We encourage our children to be active and healthy and are always pleased to see them coming to school on scooters and bikes. However, we must also ensure that everyone can arrive and leave school safely.

Our Nursery and Infant children, along with younger siblings, are welcome to ride or scoot up our long driveway **on the road section only**, leaving the footpath clear for families who wish to walk safely away from moving bikes and scooters.

All older siblings, including Hamp Academy pupils, and **all adults** must dismount at the school entrance and walk up and down the driveway, pushing their bikes or scooters.

All bikes and scooters should then be parked in the scooter park and collected again when leaving school.

If you have older children at Hamp Academy, please ensure they understand these expectations. If they are waiting outside the Academy on bikes or scooters, they should remain by the Academy gates and must not use the Nursery and Infant entrances or driveway as a play area, as this creates a significant safety risk for our youngest children.

For everyone's safety, electric bikes and electric scooters must not be ridden anywhere within the school grounds at any time by children or adults. Please note that these vehicles are not permitted to be used on school premises without the school's permission, and permission has not been granted.

Dogs

Dogs are not permitted anywhere within the school grounds. This includes our long driveway and all the grass and path areas at the bottom of our driveway and all adjoining areas to Hamp Academy.

If you are bringing a dog on the school run, please ensure that you are able to leave it with someone safely outside of the school grounds on Rhode Lane. They must not be brought into the grounds, even if being held or carried. Again, thank you for helping to keep everyone safe.

Parking

I am really sad to report that a complaint from a local resident dropped into my email box by the end of the first day back in school. Can I please remind everyone that Elmside House car park is a private car park (it has big signs at the entrance to the car park by the flats, saying residents parking only) and ask

that you respect the local community and find alternative parking. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Reading

Reading is always a very big focus for our school and we ask that you help your child to practise their reading book every day. All Key Stage one classes should be bringing home a reading book this week. It only takes a few minutes and the small regular practise makes all the difference, as they are beginning to master their phonics understanding. The way reading is taught now may be very different to how you learnt to read and so we will be inviting parents to a phonics information workshop later this half-term, to keep you up to date with the current methods.

We also highly recommend continuing to read a range of other books to your child. Sharing and discussing stories is such a lovely end to the day, and also helps your child develop their reading comprehension, vocabulary and logical thinking skills.

We are always looking for volunteers to help with reading to children or listening to children read in school. If you are able to spare an hour or two, we would love to welcome you. Please let the school office know.

Wraparound care

We have spaces available in our Early Birds (open from 8am) and Night Owls (closes at 5.30pm) clubs. If you are interested in this provision, there is more information on our website. Please see Mrs Leigh in the Nursery office if you would like to register your child. She is available in the office during the mornings only.

Flu immunisations

We are expecting the flu immunisations to happen again this term for all school age children, although we do not yet have a confirmed date. We will let you know as soon as we do. We sent details out before the Summer of how to access the NHS app to give your consent or non-consent. We will resend them – please keep an eye out.

Wet Doors

Inside the main gate then...	Class/Nursery room	Teacher/s
First gate on your left (as usual)	Humpty Dumpty	Mrs Cole
Second gate on your left (as usual)	5 Little Ducks	Mrs Ingram
Fourth gate on your left (train garden)	Gruffalo	Mrs Barker/ Mrs Hall
Jack and Jill building	Jack and Jill	Miss Miller
Second hall door on your left	Percy the Park Keeper	Mrs Foord/ Mrs Cripwell
High gate on left to playground then first door on your left	Stardust	Mrs Wynn/ Mrs Burrows
	Very Hungry Caterpillar	Mrs Williams
High gate on left to playground then second door (at the other end)	Paddington Bears	Mrs Clements/ Mrs Beresford
	Night Pirates	Mrs Gardner/ Mrs Beresford

Tapestry

There is an extra letter coming to you by email today, with details of Tapestry and how we use this to share your child's learning journey with you. It includes details of how to log on when you receive the activation link (which will also come by email early next week). If you have any problems with this please come in and let us know, we will do our best to help. It is a lovely way for your child to share their experiences with you. For our Nursery parents, some of you may already have access if your child was here last year, but for new families, it may take a couple of weeks to get this all set up for you.

Sharing sheds

Our Sharing Sheds are open again! For families who are new to our setting, we have both a Food Sharing Shed and a Book Sharing Shed, available for everyone in our school and Nursery community.

The idea is simple: **give when you can and take when you need to**. Staff, families and members of our wider community kindly donate items throughout the year, and everyone is welcome to make use of what is available.

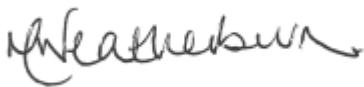
Please do have a look when you are passing – whether you have something to share or spot something that would be useful to you. There is no need to ask; the sheds are there to be used and shared by our community.

Try to remember to bring a spare bag on Mondays as we are lucky to have donations from the Pop -Up shop that runs in Westfield Church every Monday morning. We often have a good supply of bread and vegetables, and a mix of salad and fruit but it is always loose!

Finally, I would like to welcome our new members of staff this year, Mrs Cripwell – year one teacher, Mrs John - home school liaison worker and welcome back to Mrs Leigh – Nursery administrator (mornings) and TA (afternoons). We are all looking forward to a very exciting and fun-filled year of learning.

As always, if you have any concerns or worries, please come and talk to us, we will help if we can.

Yours sincerely



Mary Weatherburn
Headteacher