

# ACADEMY UPDATE

NEWS FOR  
HAMFORD

ISSUE 1

DATE 6th September 2018



**Hamford**  
Primary Academy  
To make our best better

*Hello Hamford and a very big welcome back from the Summer break. Since discovering I was to be your new Principal I've been counting down the days to joining your school and cannot put into words how excited I am to be here. I am over-joyed! Already I've enjoyed leading an assembly with the children and have spent time going around each class to say hello and look at some of the fantastic early learning experiences for the children. Over the days and weeks ahead I will be present on the school gate both morning and afternoon (as often as I can), to help me get to know you all- feel free to have a chat and say hello. Thank you for making me (and our other new staff) feel so welcome already and let the 2018 / 19 learning journey begin. Mr Joy (Principal)*

## PTA News

Our wonderful Hamford Academy Friends (PTA) are on the look out for more helpers to join their team. Over the last year they've hosted Hamford's best ever Summer Fete, School Disco's, the Christmas Fayre, Cinema Evenings and so much more, raising significant funds for various school projects. If you're able to spare a little time and join their team they would love to hear from you. If interested speak to Mr Smith who can put you in touch. Their next AGM is on Tuesday 25th September at 2pm at the school, more detail to follow soon.

## After School Clubs

Letters have now gone out announcing the amazing array of lunch time and after school clubs on offer this term for all our children from Yr 1 to Yr 6. All clubs begin week commencing 17th September. Please be quick in booking required places, we expect all clubs to be filled very quickly. Any questions on clubs please ask at the school office.

## Breakfast Club

Over the Summer break we have made plans to increase the Breakfast Club capacity from 28 to 32 meaning we have a small number of places available each day. Breakfast Club is open from 7.30am and provides a wonderful start to the school day for our guests. Please feel free to speak to Mrs Clarke or Mr Smith who will happily answer any questions.

## Contacting the School

With immediate effect our telephone lines become active from 8.15am until 4.45pm each day. The telephone number of 01255 673415 remains the same.

## HOLIDAY DURING TERM TIME

Requests for holiday to be taken during term time need to be put in writing. Leave of Absence request forms are available from the school office. Authorisation is at the Principal's discretion and is only granted in exceptional circumstances. If the absence is not authorised and the time is taken anyway, the Education Welfare Service may issue a Penalty Notice to each parent of £120 (or £60 if paid within 21 days). Good attendance is essential for your child to get the maximum benefit from his/her education – Every Day Counts.

## Term Time Holidays

The Essex Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices has been reviewed and the following change has been made: As from 1st September 2018, a penalty notice may be issued if there are 6 or more unauthorised sessions (3 or more days) due to a holiday taken during the first two weeks of the September term.

## Dates for Your Diary

Wednesday 12th September-Bradwell Meeting Y6 Parents  
Monday September 17th - School Clubs Begin  
Tuesday September 25th - Hamford Academy Friends AGM  
Tuesday 2nd October-Individual Photographs  
Wednesday 10th October-HAF Circus  
Wednesday 17th October-Flu Immunisations  
Wednesday 31st October-Crucial Crew for Year 6  
**Half Term-Monday 22nd October-Friday 26th October**

**Dinner Menu Next Week is overleaf...**

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