



Dear Parents,

Welcome back after the Christmas break and a very belated Happy New Year to you all. I cannot believe how quickly these first few weeks have passed.

We hold parent consultations this term on Wednesday 14th and Tuesday 20th March. We will be trialling a new system of booking appointments which we know is widely used by other schools. We will be putting class appointment sheets out in the hall on Thursday 22nd February for you to select your own appointment time/s. For those parents unable to book in person, you may ask another parent to book on your behalf or we will allocate a time from the remaining slots available. A letter will come to you via Parentmail at the start of that week to remind you. **Please ensure you make childcare provision for your children** - school is not able to provide supervision and it is not appropriate for children to attend the meeting unless they are year 6. Despite our requests, we are still having children come with parents. This request has been in place since last academic year. If you arrive with your child this time, we will unfortunately not be able to see you.

Best Wishes

Sue Dury



EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITY DROP OFF & PICK UP

Several members of staff have raised **safeguarding concerns** during extra-curricular activity drop off & pick up times.

If you drop off or collect a child from an extra-curricular activity please refrain from driving and parking up at the very front of school. At the start of day, staff are trying to park and unload; and at pick up times, children are dismissed to parents are congregating safely at the front entrance. Only drive into school if it is absolutely necessary and park in the side parking bays not those directly in front of the entrance.

If parents continue to drive up to the front entrance at these times, we will have to stop all parents driving onto school premises at all times.

Thank you for your help in keeping our children safe.

School Pick Up

School finishes at 3.25pm for Reception and KS1 and 3.30pm for KS2. We understand that unavoidable circumstances can result in you being late for your child but please phone school, as soon as possible, so we can ensure your child waits in school. We have recently had children waiting for a considerable amount of time after having received no communication. **This is a safeguarding concern.**

Please check parent mail messages to ensure you are aware when an extra-curricular activity has been cancelled (usually down to inclement weather or staff illness) and make appropriate arrangements for your child to be collected at the end of the school day.

School Drop Off

School starts at 8.55am. It is expected that children will be in the playground ready to line up by 8.50am. We are experiencing an increasing amount of late arrivals this term. We are monitoring this closely and will be contacting parents if this becomes a regular occurrence.

It is unsettling for a child to enter a class when the day has started and is also disruptive for the children who are already to learn.

Thank you for your co-operation with ensuring your child starts the school day on time.

Spring Term “Extra-curricular” School Clubs

As a school, we are committed to offering pupils a full range of extra-curricular clubs and activities and strive to offer new opportunities as they become available or can be squeezed into the timetable.

Details and reply forms have been sent out for the clubs on offer this term and include:

Trampolining	Monday Lunchtimes	Y1 Y5
Dance	Tuesday 8 – 8.45am	Full
Archery	Tuesday 3.30-4.30pm	Full
*NEW*Paralympic Activities [activities include volleyball /boccia/	Wednesday 8-8.45am	Full
Football	Wednesday 3.30-4.30pm	Full Y5/6
Netball	Wednesday 3.30-4.30pm	Full
Tennis	Thursday 8-8.45am	Full
Y1 Gymnastics	Thursday 3.30-4.45pm	Places available
Whole School Gymnastics	Friday 3.30-4.30pm	Full

The majority of our clubs run on a termly basis and we request that you apply for a place each term. Forms are sent to you very early or wherever possible just before the start of the new term. Responses by the deadline dates are really important as we are usually working against the clock to produce club registers and notify everyone accordingly.

Booster and homework clubs are offered on an invitation basis via the class teachers.

The school football club runs throughout the year which Mr Martin manages. Netball club and cross country club are managed by Ms Wasson.

We endeavour to offer clubs free of charge or at a subsidised rate wherever possible.

Uniform

Until stock has sold out we will continue to sell the remaining uniform items in school and as it is depleted, the items will be made available online. The online platform is now live and can be accessed via www.pbparentsonline.co.uk/ickleford

The link to Price Buckland is also available directly from the school website.

Special Diets

Herts Catering Limited (HCL) is our current school meal provider.

Should your child require a special diet (food allergies or intolerances) or amended menu (religious or cultural reasons), please apply online via the HCL system – HCL website: <https://hertscatering.co.uk/allergy-menu-application>

Crossing Patrol

The road safety team at Hertfordshire County Council employ road crossing patrol staff and are still actively recruiting for a new crossing patrol person for Ickleford.

Dates for your diaries

January - Hope

Friday 13th

- 9:15am – School Nurse – Reception Health checks

Friday 20th

- PTA – Quiz & Curry Evening

February - Patience

Thursday 1st

- 3.45pm – 5:30pm – Indoor Athletics Competition – Hitchin Boys School

Tuesday 6th

- 6.15pm – Y6 parents SATS information meeting

Friday 9th

- Reception class – Height & Weight check

Monday 12th – Friday 16th – HALF TERM

Monday 19th

- KS2 – Young Shakespeare Company workshop

Friday 23rd

- 3.00pm – 4.30pm - Spirited Arts display for parents (school hall)

March - Courage

Thursday 1st

- World Book Day

Wednesday 7th

- Y5 & Y6 – K'nex Challenge Workshop

Thursday 8th

- Book Fair opens

Sunday 11th

- Royal Albert Hall – Schools Gala

Week beginning 12th March – Final week for all extra-curricular activities

Wednesday 14th

- Parent Consultations 4:00-7:00pm (NO CHILDREN except Y6)

Week beginning 19th March – NO extra-curricular activities

Tuesday 20th

- Parent Consultations 4:00-7:00pm (NO CHILDREN except Y6)

Thursday 22nd

- 9.15am – Easter Egg Hunt

Friday 23rd

- **1:30pm - FINISH**