



Newsletter for Parents

Friday 7th June

Welcoming Mrs Collyer and Mrs Sidhu to the school office

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Collyer and Mrs Sidhu to the school office team. Mrs Collyer joins us from Elvetham Heath School and will be in the office each day of the week. Many of you already know Mrs Sidhu, who teaches children in the afternoon. Mrs Sidhu will be working as part of the office team each morning.

We will be saying farewell to Mrs Taylor who is leaving the office team later this month. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Mrs Taylor for her contribution since joining the school earlier in the year.

Governor News, May 2019

Dear Parents

One of the duties of the governing body is to oversee the financial performance of the School and ensure its money is well spent. You will be aware of the challenges schools face when it comes to financing from headlines in the news. For example, in April the findings from a survey by the Teachers Union showing that one in five teachers use their own money for school supplies once a week was widely reported. Whilst the government has increased spending on education, it has not kept pace with increases in pupil numbers and inflation.

At our governing body meeting in May we approved the school budget for the 2019/20 year and we are comfortable with the financial management at our school. As we have been looking at the finances in detail this month, in this news item we thought we would give you a bit more information about schools finances and our involvement as governors in this area.

Teri Viney

Vice chair of governors at Hook Junior School

Where does the school get it's income from?

The majority of the school's income is provided by the government. It receives an amount per pupil from the Educational State Funding agency which is part of the Department for Education.

Additional funding is available for pupils who are eligible for free school meals, those in the care of local authority, children of service personnel and children with special educational needs.

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We receive some income from other sources, such as donations and sponsorship and income from letting our buildings. Fundraising from the HSPA is a significant part of this and we are extremely grateful for the work they do as well as donations made directly to the school from local organisations.

These extra sources of income are increasingly becoming a key factor in enabling the school to provide an enriching education for our pupils, delivering on our ambition to develop children with enquiring minds and a love of learning who achieve their potential not only academically but socially and personally too. For example, money from the HSPA this year has gone towards installing the trim trail. Investments like this would not be possible on government funding alone.

How is the government funding determined?

The pupil count is taken on census day, which is a single day in October. The funding for the following tax year will reflect the number of pupils on roll that day. So, if pupil numbers increase from census day in October to the second census in January, the school does not receive any additional funding for these children within that period.

This mismatch between when the headcount is taken (October) and when the money is received (during the following tax year), can make budget planning a challenge. Not only is there a delay between the headcount and receiving the relevant funding but there is no adjustment for new joiners during the year. Both of these challenges are exasperated in a growing school.

There is a complicated formula which works out how much each school will receive but ultimately this is outside of our control. The amount per pupil is not equal between schools - it will vary depending on their stage of education and local authority. As you might expect there is more money per pupil at secondary school than primary school. But there is also a significant difference between funding for 2 children of the same age in different counties.

What is the Governors role?

One of the three core functions of the governing body is to ensure financial probity. We look at the schools budget at least three times a year. This includes budget planning and projections, monitoring and reviewing year end outcomes.

We will visit school and ask questions at our meetings to understand how the budget is set, the assumptions behind it, any reasons for differences between actual and expected spending, the impact of decisions made the school leadership and the link between finances and the objectives for improving outcomes for pupils.

We also review and approve policies around how the money is managed in school and visit regularly to look at these procedures in process.

How can parents help?

There are many ways parents can help including:

- Consider fundraising directly for the school, many companies will match this. Your employer might also make a separate donations if you spend time volunteering in school, this might be helping at a HSPA event or reading with children in school.
- Pay for school meals and other contributions promptly – time spent chasing these is time that office staff could spend elsewhere
- Support the HSPA
- Volunteer your time and skills to the school to support the curriculum or improve the school environment
- Make personal, voluntary financial donations to the school
- Return forms when you are sent them about eligibility for free school meals
- Volunteer your time and skills as a governor.

We will let you know when are next running parent governor elections but please get in touch via the school office if you would like to find out more about becoming a governor in the meantime, or speak to us if you see us around. We have recently obtained new lanyards to wear when in school which should make us easier to spot and parent governors are in regularly in school at pick up time.

Geography Home Learning Projects

It has been amazing to see the variety of responses to last half term's geography home learning project of 'A discovered Island'. It is clear the children loved the challenge and creativity it presented them with.

All of the islands were carefully designed and included many different landforms such as mountains, plateaus, valleys, deserts, dunes, plains, rivers, deltas, oceans and glaciers which really demonstrated children's knowledge of physical features and geographical understanding. It was evident that a lot of time was invested into creating the islands and they all looked spectacular!

Children received an opportunity to showcase their island to their class and year group and really enjoyed seeing the different creations using a range of media varying from cupcakes to sandbox games, like Minecraft.

Well done to all of the pupils for their imaginative islands and the staff at Hook Junior School really appreciate the time and effort given to the home learning projects as it really allows children to celebrate their knowledge and talents.

Mrs Barnes- Geography Leader

World Environment Day Competition

On Wednesday 5th June, Hook Junior School learned more about World Environment Day and the focus of 2019 of reducing air pollution. The pupils discussed the six main contributors to air pollution and made suggestions of what actions could they take towards cleaner air.

Did you know nine of ten people breathe polluted air? To help raise awareness of the importance of reducing air pollution, celebrities, influencers and creators have been designing and wearing face masks to show their pledge of making a difference to the world.

Pupils at Hook Junior School have been given the opportunity to take part in this international event by designing their own masks to help raise awareness of World Environment Day and reducing air pollution. If you would like to enter this competition, please ask your teacher for an entry form. However, you are more than welcome to create an actual mask to enter into the competition!

Entries need to be returned to the office by Friday 28th June and Eco-Warriors will choose the top three designs related to this year's theme. Please make sure your child's name and class are written onto the entry form/mask clearly.

'We have a responsibility to look after our planet. It is our only home.'

- Dalai Lama

Menu Change

From Tuesday 18th June the lunchbox options offered by the School restaurant will change from a ham wrap to be pork sausage in a bun.

Please note that the sausage roll offered on Tuesdays is a pork sausage and the sausage puff option on a Thursday is vegetarian sausage.

Parking Outside the School Grounds

We must remind parents and carers to exercise extreme care when parking outside the school grounds. This is particularly important at peak times of the day. For the safety of all those in the car park, please observe the 5mph speed limit and only park in marked bays. If you are parking immediately outside the school gates please be mindful that children must pass your vehicle in order to leave the site.

Attendance

Weekly attendance for all classes will appear in the newsletter each week.

Every day counts. Your child's attendance matters!

Class	Average Attendance
3JR	96%
3SR	98%
3ES	98%
4LE	98%
4RM	97%
4NS	98%
4KW	97%

Class	Average Attendance
5KB	96%
5SF	96%
5JH	96%
6VH	97%
6SH	98%
6TC	97%

Whole School – 97%

Find out more...

Follow @HookJunior on Twitter for more up to date information and photos about exciting activities at school. Staff post regularly to keep you up to date.

Events Calendar

Date	Event
13 June	Year 5 Open Box Theatre Workshop
13 June	HSPA Fathers Day Sale
17 June	Year 3 Roman Workshop
22 June	HSPA Summer Fair
26 June - 1 July	Scholastic Book Fair
26 June @ 6:30PM	Year 2 Parent Transition Evening
28 June	Cyber Championships workshops – years5/6
1 July	Year 6 Transition Day to Robert Mays School
2 July	Year 6 Transition Day to Robert Mays School
2 July	Year 2, 3 and 4 Transition day at Hook Junior School
3 July @ 2.15pm	Rock Steady Concert
5 July	Year 6 Performance Dress Rehearsal
8 July @ 2PM	Year 6 Production
8 July @ 6:30PM	Year 6 Production
9 July @ 6:30PM	Year 6 Production
11 July @ 2PM	Strawberry Tea
16 July	Year 6 Leavers Lunch
16 July	HSPA Disco
17 July	Sports Day
18 July @ 1:45PM	Year 6 Leavers Assembly
19 July @ 1:30	End of School Year
22 July	INSET Day
23 July	INSET Day
4 September	INSET Day
4 November	INSET Day
6 January	INSET Day
16 March	INSET Day
22 July	INSET Day

All forthcoming events are listed [in the events Calendar on the Hook Junior School website](#).
Alongside our own events, you will also find links to Hampshire County term dates and national public holidays.



**FREE TRIAL EVENING
THURSDAY 27 JUNE -
7.30pm @ Yateley School
Pool**

We would like to recruit new members for the start of the 2019 September term and invite you to our FREE trial evening on Thursday 27 June at Yateley Pool.

For younger children (9+) we offer the Rookie Lifeguard Course:

Our programme will inspire and embolden children, helping them keep themselves, their friends and their family safe in the water through a range of fun activities that lead towards a series of awards.

For teenagers (13+) we run Medallion courses and the new Survive & Save syllabus:

The awards are challenging but fun to complete and are arranged into Bronze, Silver and Gold levels to ensure that participants get the opportunity to develop their lifesaving skills as they progress through the awards.

We meet term-time on Thursday evenings from 7.30 pm at Yateley Pool. If you are interested in joining and can swim 100 metres, please contact us via email to book a space at the free trial session.

Email: yateleylifesavingclub@hotmail.com

Website: www.yateleylifesavingclub.co.uk

Join us on Facebook, search 'Yateley Lifesaving Club'