



# HURSTHEAD INFANT SCHOOL

*We care, we learn, we belong*

Headteacher Miss K Grant

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Dear Parents,

Thank you for your support so far. I have enjoyed every minute of being part of the Hursthead family - the children, staff and wider community are extremely welcoming.

We would not normally send a newsletter in the middle of a half term but there are a few things I wanted to communicate to you all. We are really looking forward to welcoming parents and carers back into school, and there are dates below for performances and our open afternoon. However, as winter approaches, we still do not know whether COVID-19 will again begin to impact our best laid plans, so we will adapt if needed to keep everyone safe. We thank you for your support with this.

## Dates for the Diary

Tues 4, Wed 5 & Thurs 6 October	Learning Review Meetings for Reception
Fri 7, Tue 11 & Fri 14 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 2 Staircase House visit
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> October	Hello Yellow World Mental Health Day (wear something yellow)
Tuesday 18 October	Open Afternoon and Meet the Head
Wednesday 19 October	Nasal Flu Vaccinations
Friday 21 October	Next Steps sent home (see below)
Friday 21 October	Tuck Shop
Friday 21 October	School closes for half term
Monday 31 October	School opens
W/C 7 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 1 and 2 virtual parent's evening
12 and 15 December	Reception Christmas Performance
6, 7 and 9 December	Year 1 Christmas Performance
14, 15 and 16 December	Year 2 Christmas Performance

## Open Afternoon and Meet the Head

On October 18<sup>th</sup> from 3:15-3:45pm we would like to invite parents and carers into school to have the opportunity to see your children's classroom, and meet the teachers. Parents can come into school through the classroom at pick up - I'm sure your children will be very excited to show you around! At the same time the PSA will serve tea and coffee in the hall and I will be available so you can meet me if you haven't already. Sarah White our Stockport family school age plus worker will also be available to chat to. There is more information regarding what help and advice Sarah can provide at the link below:

<https://www.stockport.gov.uk/team-around-the-school>

## EYFS Outdoor Provision

I know the PSA have already let you know that school would like to develop the outdoor areas in reception. Our aim is for each reception classroom to have easily accessible outdoor provision, so the children can learn outside, as easily as they can learn inside.

Manchester Airport are running a community trust fund competition - three primary schools, whose outdoor designs are judged to have the most beneficial impact, will be awarded funds of up to £25,000 to help make plans a reality. We need your and the children's help! Our focus will be on improving outdoor learning areas which can provide an immersive experience for young people, and improve wellbeing.

Outdoor learning provides opportunities for exploration, experimentation and contextual learning. We would like you to get creative to help us design exciting, safe and beneficial spaces for our reception children. Please see the attached form to design an outdoor classroom. You don't have to use it if you prefer to be creative with paint, models or digital designs. We will use the designs to help create our final project.

I have provided some ideas below and links to helpful websites to aid with your creations. We are on a tight deadline! Applications need to be in by the end of October so please can you give any designs into school by **October 17<sup>th</sup>** so I have time to collate our final application.

**The judging criteria - we must meet at least 6 of these to be considered for the funding:**

1. **Creative design** - clever, innovative design
2. **Fun and inspiring** - making protecting the environment and improving biodiversity fun and engaging
3. **Making best use of available space** - designing a garden which uses whatever space you have.
4. **Climate positive** - considering what climate change means in our places, leaving a positive footprint. This could include climate change (considering the impact of future climate change on choices of plant, water runoff and water harvesting etc) and carbon footprint (how this has influenced the design and choice of materials such as peat-free, quality long lasting materials, locally sourced)
5. **Championing biodiversity** - designing with a positive impact on biodiversity.
6. **Welcoming wildlife** - considering how wildlife can use your garden, and what this means.
7. **Leaving a legacy** - designing a space that will benefit tomorrow's students.
8. **Student impact** - demonstrating the involvement of and educational benefit of students in designing their eco-garden and preparing the submission.
9. **Wellbeing** - demonstrating that the design will have a positive impact on the wellbeing of those using the space.
10. **Community impact** - delivering meaningful impact for the school, and potentially wider, community.

Details of the competition:

<https://www.manchesterairport.co.uk/community/working-in-our-community/eco-garden/>

Some useful websites could be:

[About Alisair | Alistair Bryce Clegg at ABC Does](#)

<https://earlyexcellence.com/>



## Harvest

School Council will be writing to you this week to let you know how we are celebrating Harvest this year and when to bring your donations into school.

## Black History Month

Black History Month falls in October each year. This month our children will learn about and celebrate Black history and heritage. You can find out more at the link below as you may want to chat about this at home with your children.

[Black History Month - Teacher Resources - BBC Teach](#)

## Christmas

Christmas is back! All years will be performing to parents and carers. There will be a limited number of seats per performance - each child will be allocated 2 tickets. The PSA are arranging tea, coffee and cakes to purchase and enjoy whilst you watch the performances. All proceeds will be donated back to school. Please see dates and times below for performances.

## Reception

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December - 9:30am

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December - 9:30am

## Year 1

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December - 9:15am

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December - 9:15am

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December - 9:15am

## Year 2

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December - 9:30am

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December - 2:00pm

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December - 9:30am

Thanks everyone,

Karen Grant  
Headteacher