

# NEWSLETTER

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## MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

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Dear Families,

An interesting half-term, featuring a real mix of weather, from freezing temperatures under glorious blue skies to stormy rains and winds, and maybe now a flurry of snow! Yet, amidst the unpredictable outdoor elements, the buzz inside our building remained constant. We are very excited as we embark on our journey with OPAL, anticipating a revolution in children's playtimes. Stay tuned for more details following our upcoming meetings.

The positive impact of the Clare Williams talk reverberated among attendees, both physically present and virtually connected. The virtual link proved invaluable, extending accessibility to those who might otherwise have missed out.

The children reveled in a delightful half-term of enriching experiences, including engaging learning, insightful trips and captivating visitors. Hayeswood's Reception children received visits from individuals sharing their job roles and contributions to others, a tradition Colehill eagerly awaits next term.

Year 1 delved into the history of toys, culminating in a visit to the Museum of East Dorset. Their carefully written recounts captured the memory beautifully.

Musical notes resound through Hayeswood, where Mrs. Murray now leads music lessons for Year 3 and Year 4, while Mrs. Radford lends her support at Colehill. The joy emanating from these sessions is palpable, and we are grateful to have such talented musicians enriching our learning environment.



Behind the scenes, our dedicated staff invest in continuous professional development (CPD), with several undertaking NPQs and others guiding new students like Sam Ryan and Emily Rogers.

The initiation of My Time young carers groups has been a heartwarming spectacle, witnessing children share precious moments together.

As we reflect on the diverse tapestry of the past half-term, we eagerly anticipate the learning experiences planned for the upcoming weeks for our school community. We wish you all a wonderful break, whatever you have planned.

Mrs Staddon

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## READING AND PHONICS UPDATE

We were delighted that in the past year Ofsted recognised that our schools have literacy-rich environments and that we instil a love for reading among the school community. This was particularly evident in the positive relationships between the staff and children. The children continue to be positive about reading in all classes and the “treasured” storytime continues to be a high priority where children can access higher level texts and more challenging vocabulary, sentence structure and moral messages.



The successful implementation of the ULS phonics scheme (new in 2022) is a key factor in building strong foundational reading skills for our children. This is going from strength to strength. There is ongoing training for all staff members, which is crucial to maintaining a high standard of teaching and ensuring that everyone is equipped with the latest methods and strategies. This commitment to professional development enhances the overall educational experience for the children.

Our family reading workshops have reflected the growing collaborative effort between staff and families, fostering a supportive learning environment for our children. This is something we would like to develop further, including writing workshops too. Watch this space!

All classes have been using our libraries which is fantastic! Lots of books being borrowed and shared, which helps promote our love of reading and encourages independent book choice. The library club for Key Stage 2 adds an extra dimension to this, providing an opportunity for Y3 and Y4 to engage with books in a social setting. It's particularly positive that children are enjoying this club, as it indicates a genuine interest in reading beyond the classroom.

Mrs Simmonds and Miss Self



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## READING AND PHONICS UPDATE





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## PE UPDATE FROM MRS DAWSON

This half term has started with a great variety of sports activities for our children. Most year groups have experienced dance and gymnastics lessons with our PE specialist, Mrs Hurlstone, as well as outdoor PE lessons including invasion games.

A new type of indoor PE our children have been enjoying, this half term, has been yoga. Years 1 and 2 have had 3 sessions so far, learning about 'lion breath', 'tree pose' and 'on guard' poses. Year 3 also had the opportunity to experience a yoga session, ready for their turn after the holidays. Yoga is very beneficial for our children as it helps them to improve upon their balance, flexibility and strength. They use their coordination skills and control to help make poses and to experience mindfulness. Mrs Dawson



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## SCHOOL TRIPS

On Monday 15th January, Rabbits visited The Museum of East Dorset in Wimborne linked with their History learning about toys in the past. At the museum, the children enjoyed handling a range of old toys, playing some traditional games and following a gingerbread man trail.

Miss Pike



## ATTENDANCE

We work closely with the Local Authority to monitor absence. There has been a dip in the attendance figures this half term in both schools. We appreciate that there has been significant illness, however, some families will be receiving letters about poor attendance EVEN if we are aware it is due to illness. This is an expected action for schools. As always, we want to work together to ensure the children can be in school .

Please do talk to us if you are difficulties getting your child into school.

## STAFFING NEWS

Mrs Brooks, Office Manager, who works at both schools, will be leaving us just after half term but will be remaining within the Trust. We will be desperately sad not to have Mrs Brooks on our Office team any more but wish her every success in her exciting new role.



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## EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE (EYFS)

This half term has been such an exciting time for the Frogs class. We have been learning about People Who Help Us and have had so many visitors from our own community to tell us all about what they do. The children have gained so much from these special visits. It has impacted their Communication and Language skills through listening well and absorbing new vocabulary, which they then have used together during their Discover and Explore time. The postal service visit had the children using their shape, space and measure skills and all of the professionals extended the children's understanding of the world. Many of our visitors also allowed the children to exercise their gross and fine motor skills through experimenting with special equipment unique to their professions - what wonderful opportunities! We can't thank the parents enough for their time in enriching our children's Cultural Capital.

Mrs Everitt



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## EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE (EYFS)

As part of our topic about 'Bears' at Colehill, children in Hedgehog class have been raising money for the charity 'The Dorset Children's Foundation' which provides services to children with disabilities and their families. We had a big bear fundraiser over two days where the children brought their teddy bears into school and showed them around the classroom. The bears even did some phonics learning and PE with us! We painted pictures of our bears and wrote words to describe them. On our second day the children made jam sandwiches and went into the woods to have a teddy bear's picnic. The children had so much fun!

If you would like to visit the website to find out more about the charity, then you can follow the link below. There is also a QR code link to the just giving page if you would like to help us support the charity.

[The DCF Big Bear Campaign 2024](#)

Miss Self

Big Bear  
Campaign's  
JustGiving  
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## ECO CLUB & SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

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This half term, Hayeswood's School Council decided that they wanted to raise money for more Library books. They want to spend any money raised to buy books which reflect the children's current interests and authors. To do this, we're having a 'break the rules day!' on Friday 23rd February. The children can choose to break a chosen rule in donation of £1. Let the fund raising begin! Once the books have been chosen and bought, we'll email parents so you can see what the money raised has bought. Thank you in advance for your support.

Mrs Cuff

This half term in Eco Club, the children have been thinking about what we could recycle in school. The children have suggested that they would like to recycle empty crisp packets and old pens. We hope to create recycling points to achieve this as well as posters to promote our new recycling points around school.

Miss Pike



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## VISION AND VALUES

*Everyone Matters, Every Day Counts*

**Vision:** A school where everyone is nurtured and empowered to be their best selves.

*School Values : Respect, Reflect, Resilient*

Respect	We respect ourselves, other people and the world around us
Reflect	We think about how we can make things better in how we learn and how we behave
Resilient	We keep on trying even when it is hard and know that the harder we try the better we will be.

## FAMILY STRATEGIC GROUP

Thank you to all those who came forward. We now have a good-sized group covering both schools. Our first meeting has already been scheduled!

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## CAR PARKING

A polite reminder to park considerately and legally. There continues to be parking at junctions. I have asked our local policing team to do random checks over the coming months at both schools.

## PARENT LINE

The NHS offers a free text service for families to get advice and guidance, called Parentline 5-19. This is available for anyone with children between 5 and 19 years of age.

TEL 07312 263131

## DIARY DATES

We are looking forward to an exciting 2024 with the CFSA & HSA and would love to share some dates for the diary coming up - including our popular quiz night.

### HAYESWOOD

Friday 23rd February - QUIZ NIGHT - Doors at 7.30pm Quiz starts at 8pm! @ Hayeswood School Hall

Monday 25th March - Easter Tea Party - 3.30-5pm

Saturday 29th June - Summer BBQ - 12-3pm

More details will be released about these events in due course.

### COLEHILL

Friday 1st March - Bingo Night. 7pm

Wednesday 27th March - Easter Egg Hunt and Raffle. 3.15pm

Friday 17th May - Bag to School

Friday 5th July - Summer Fair. 5pm - 7pm

