



Hunslet Moor Primary School  
Headteacher: Miss H Darley  
Telephone: 0113 271 7257  
Email: Enquiries@hunsletmoor.co.uk

## Spring Term Newsletter – February 2024



Dear Parents/Carers and families,

We hope the spring term has started well for you. We would like to thank you for your ongoing support and share some important information for this term and share key dates for the remainder of the school year.

One of things that makes me proud to be a part of the Hunslet Moor Primary School community is the diversity of our make up and the different life experiences we bring. Core to our values at Hunslet Moor is those of tolerance and respect for all, regardless of background, ethnicity or beliefs. Thank you for the ongoing support from many parents and families who have supported and promoted this message with children. We hope that 2024 is a successful and positive year for all of our community.

### Staff News

There's lots of news to share with you in terms of staffing.

Miss Simpson (who was a member of our Safeguarding Team) left Hunslet Moor for pastures new in November, thank you to everyone who attended her leaving assembly and for all the presents and good wishes. We wish her all the best in her new role. Recruitment for the Safeguarding team is ongoing.

On 9<sup>th</sup> November Miss Bates (Assistant Headteacher) welcomed Louie to the world and a week later Mr Hall (KS1 Phase Leader) became the proud Dad of Esme. Then on 22<sup>nd</sup> December Mrs Browne (Nursery Teacher) gave birth to a healthy baby boy (Alfie).

We welcome Mrs Haskins to Hunslet Moor who will be covering Mrs Browne whilst she is on maternity leave.

We were pleased to welcome 2 of our parents to our staff team who have joined us as Lunchtime Supervisors – Mrs Sawaneh and Mrs Tindall.

There have been some changes in the Office Team too. Mrs Richardson now works mornings only. Miss Green was successful in recruitment so has a split role working as a TA in Year 2 in the mornings and working in the office in the afternoons.

The designated Child Protection Officers of the school are Miss K Kassabian, Miss H Darley, Mrs K Dellow, Miss L Bolger, Mrs L Hemingway, Mrs F May and Mrs D Graham





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Miss Wain was also successful in securing a Teaching Assistant post. She officially joins our staff team after February half term.

Finally, we would like to share that Miss Kassabian got married over the Christmas holidays!

There are also some regular supply staff who are working with us across School:

From left to right - Miss Shamshir, Miss Dickenson and Miss Purchon provide teacher cover across School covering PPA, Leadership and Subject Release. Miss Franklin and Miss Harrison are providing SEN support in School. Mrs Rafi is currently working as a TA 2 days per week in KS1 supporting us with Read, Write, Inc.



### Free School Meals Eligibility

Some of our families may be eligible to apply for Free School Meals, but are unsure of what the criteria is or how to claim. Please see the information below:

### DO I QUALIFY FOR HELP?

You can claim Free School Meals for any child (including in Nursery) who normally lives with you and who is classed as being under your parental care. To get Free School Meals you must receive one of the following benefits:

- Universal Credit (and your net combined household income is less than £7,400 a year after tax)
- Income Support, Pension Guarantee Credit, Income-based Job Seekers Allowance.
- Income-related Employment Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit Only (With No Working Tax Credit) and your Annual Taxable Income does not exceed £16,190.

If you live in the Leeds area, you can claim online by clicking the following link - <https://www.leeds.gov.uk/schools-and-education/apply-for-free-school-meals>.

If you need support to apply please visit one of our Wednesday coffee mornings or speak to the School Office.

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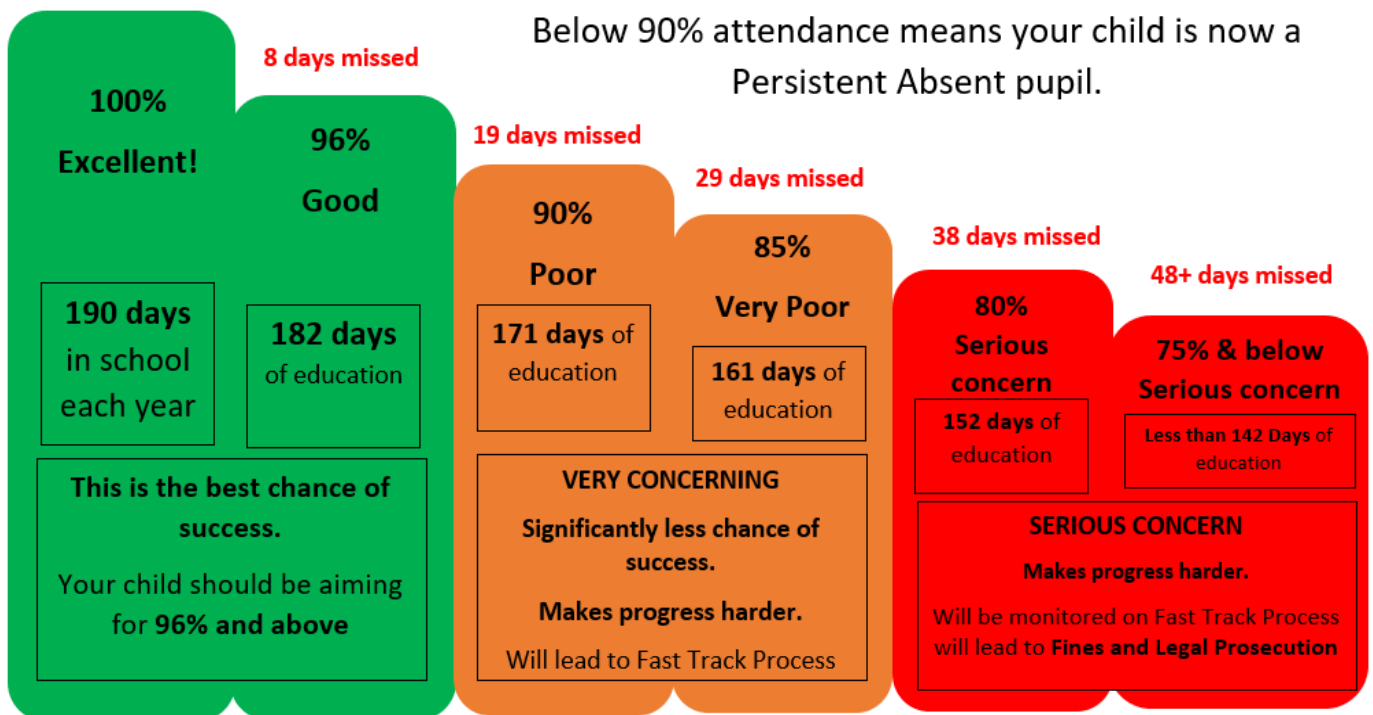
**Attendance and Punctuality**

**For children to make progress in their learning and achieve their potential it is critical that they are in school every day. Every day or half day lost to non-attendance has a significant impact as children miss critical learning and fall behind.**

This is why we are asking all of our parents/carers and children to work with us to improve attendance and punctuality across the Spring and Summer term. Attendance data can be misleading; a 90% score in a test would seem very positive, however 90% attendance means that a child is classed as **persistently absent** and will have **missed 19 school days** across the school year. Our whole school attendance is currently 94.3% which is higher than this time last year. This is really encouraging and we hope you will continue to work with us to get this figure even higher this year.

We expect to see children in school every day unless they are very unwell and it is a critical part of our safeguarding expectations to ensure children are in school and learning. **We know that you will all share our high expectations that your child/children achieve the best that they can, and for this to be possible we need your support in making sure their attendance is above 96%.**

**190 school days: opportunities to learn, make progress and achieve their potential**



**There are 175 non-school days in a year to spend on family time, holidays, shopping and non-essential medical appointments.**

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**Please can we ask every parent/carer to work with us to achieve the best for your child/children**

- that children are only absent if they are very unwell and not able to be in school
- if your child is ill please notify the school on the first day of absence before 9.15am either in person at the school Office or by phone. There is a dedicated absence line if you would like to leave a message
- contact school every day of a child's absence or inform the school Office if your child will be absent for more than 1 day.
- whenever possible, appointments should be arranged outside normal school hours to prevent disruption to the child's education. For medical appointments during the school day to be authorised, a letter or appointment card must be produced.

Our school attendance policy is in line with the local authority expectations. In line with our policy we will:

- contact home on the first day of all absences if no message has been received from home, either by phone or in person by visiting the home;
- contact home over any absences which are of concern;
- meet with parents/carers and children to set targets for improving attendance and identify individual support plans where required;
- carry out fast track initiatives to support the management and improvement of attendance throughout the school;
- involve Attendance Improvement Officers and school Governors where there are on-going concerns regarding a child's attendance (this could result in a penalty notice fine being issued and/or parents being required to attend a court hearing where attendance does not improve).

### **Punctuality**

Please ensure that your child/children arrive in time for the start of the school day. All children should be arriving through their classroom doors. Our school gates are open from 8.40am and classroom doors open at 8.45am.



Children should be in their class from 8.45am.

Gates close at 8.55am so please ensure you are at school by 8.50am at the latest. Arriving after this severely impacts children's learning and means they may miss the breakfast we provide for every child at the start of each day. Where parents are dropping off children late they will be expected to access School via the Hall/School Office and speak to a Senior leader in School about the reason for being late.

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### Celebrating attendance

**Please work together with us to ensure every child achieves their potential with attendance that is 96% or above!**

**We have some exciting rewards in place this term for children who have good attendance:**

**Daily Reward-** In class praise for the children who attend each day.

**100% Reward -** 5 DREAMS points for each day they have attended.

**Weekly Reward-** The class with the best attendance each week receive cookies in class, the attendance bear and 5 minutes extra play time.

**Half Termly Reward-** The class with the most attendance points for the half term will receive a movie afternoon with popcorn.

**Termly Reward -** The class with the most attendance points at the end of the term will participate in the Creature Ark experience!

We will keep you updated of our celebration of attendance through our social media and school website.

### Support for families

Please see links below where parents/carers can access support. If you are experiencing any difficulties, please do not hesitate to contact the school office and we can look at how we can best support.

[Together Leeds](#) (information on where to get help and support )

[Zero Waste Leeds - We're building a movement to help make Leeds a zero waste city by 2030](#) (school uniform exchange, together for sport, free winter coats)

<https://leedsbabybank.org/> (provide equipment and clothing for babies and young children)

<https://costoflivingsupport.campaign.gov.uk/help-with-your-bills/> (Income support)

<https://costoflivingsupport.campaign.gov.uk/help-with-childcarecosts/> (Help with your bills)

<https://costoflivingsupport.campaign.gov.uk/help-with-transportcosts>

[BBC Children in Need Emergency Essentials Programme | Family Fund](#) (grants for essential items)

[Deliver beds and basics to children in poverty. \(zarach.org\)](#) (provide bed bundles)

[Leeds Community Trust » Grants](#) (provide grants for items)

[www.leedsandmoortown.org.uk](http://www.leedsandmoortown.org.uk) (provide used furniture)

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### Important Term Dates

#### Spring half term, holiday week:

Monday 12th February – Friday 16th February (Children finish Friday 9th February and back in school Monday 19th February 2024)

#### Easter holiday:

Friday 29th April – Friday 12th April (Children finish Thursday 28th March and back in school Monday 15th April 2024)

#### May Half term holiday week

Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May (Children finish Friday 24th May and back in school Monday 3rd June 2024)

**Last day of term for pupils (start of summer holidays):** Friday 19th July 2024

#### Remaining Training days (no pupils in school):

- Training Day 4 Monday 22nd July 2024
- Training Day 5 Tuesday 23rd July 2024

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