

# Year 6 Newsletter – Spring 1

## Welcome

Welcome back, we hope you had a wonderful Christmas and we wish you and your family a Happy New Year! Thank you to the parents who joined us for our Christmas Carol Concert. We hope you enjoyed listening to our songs and story of the birth of Jesus Christ.

Last half term was extremely busy. Year 6 visited Hazard Alley, a warehouse with various dangers which taught children how to stay safe and we were lucky enough to be visited by Peter Barratt, whose great grandmother, Alice Hawkins, who was a suffragette, as well as celebrating the Christmas festivities.

This half term, we begin our Booster Clubs. Your child may have been invited to a booster club with a letter. It is so very important that the children attend these booster groups as they are opportunities for children to work in a small group with an adult, focusing on areas of improvement in order to support the children in their SATs tests.

After half term, I will be inviting Year 6 parents in for a meeting regarding SATs, providing parents will all the information you will need before your child sits the tests in May 2026.

Thank you very much for your support.

If you need to contact me, please do not hesitate to arrange a meeting with me via the office at [admin@hazelleysacademy.org](mailto:admin@hazelleysacademy.org)

Miss Celebicanin

## Spelling and Reading

This term, we will test our spellings on a **Monday** and new spellings will be sent home on **Tuesdays**. We will be reading a wide variety of texts, continuing to work on skills such as inference and explanation, finding evidence in the text to support our arguments.



**PLEASE ENCOURAGE YOUR CHILD TO GO ONTO SPELLING SHED REGULARLY TO PRACTISE THEIR WEEKLY SPELLINGS.**

## Writing

In English this term, we will be using our class text from last half term, Holes, to write an additional chapter from a different character's point of view. We will also be using our knowledge gained in our history lessons to write a newspaper report, explaining the events of Kristallnacht.



## Maths

In Maths, we will be learning about fractions, decimals and percentages. Pupils will also learn how to convert decimals, fractions and percentages, as well as finding a percentage of an amount. Children will also learn how to add and subtract mixed numbers as well as multiply and divide fractions.



**PLEASE ENCOURAGE YOUR CHILD TO GO ONTO TT ROCKSTARS REGULARLY TO PRACTISE THEIR TIMES TABLES.**

## Science

Our Science topic this term is 'Electricity'. We will be investigating and making different circuits, including with switches and will be looking at voltage. Pupils will use symbols to represent components of a circuit including batteries, wires, bulbs and switches. Pupils will learn about the importance of switches for conserving energy and for safety reasons and build their understanding of batteries and their voltage.



**Art & Design**

In Art, we will be studying Victorian Art and Architecture. We will be looking at different Victorian buildings, including the Houses of Parliament. Pupils will have an introduction to the Pre-Raphaelites—Millais and the Pre-Raphaelites and realism—Rosset.



**Design & Technology**

In Design & Technology, pupils will be designing and creating a card which operates using an electrical circuit for a friend or family member, using their knowledge gained from their Science lessons.

**Geography/History**

In History, pupils will learn about the Rise and Fall of Hitler. We will learn how the surrender of Germany after World War 1, in 1918, shocked him and how he created the nationalist party, which controlled many aspects of life in Germany during this period, including the roles of men and women and education.



In Geography, we will be studying the geography of North America. Pupils will learn about the continent of North America and identify countries within this continent. Pupils will also study the biomes of the continent, as well as rivers. Eventually, pupils will compare a region of North America to a region in the United Kingdom.

**Music**

In Music, children will be exploring 'Blues and the Groove'. Pupils will play and perform a 12 bar blues using a walking bass, made up of blues lyrics and an improvised solo using minor pentatonic scale.



**PE**

In PE this term, pupils will be learning the skills of basketball and leadership skills through the use of different games and activities indoors.



**Year 6 will be doing PE on Mondays**

**PSHE**

In PHSE, we will be looking at Dreams and Goals: personal learning goals; steps to success; my dream for the world; helping make a difference and personal achievements.



**RE**

In RE we will be learning about Christianity, specifically asking if anything is ever eternal.



**Reminders**

As a reminder, our school uniform for Upper Key Stage 2 is a white shirt and school tie with black trousers/skirt and black shoes.

Children are expected to read at home **daily**. Reading records should be brought into school each **Friday** for Dojo points to be awarded. These will be checked by an adult.

Weekly homework will be given out on a Tuesday to be handed in the following Monday. **From January, weekly homework will be pages from a SATs revision book. These should be returned to school on a Monday to be marked.**

Dojo points will be given for weekly homework. This includes Times Tables Rock Stars and Spelling Shed.





**Homework Project**

**History – The Rise of Hitler:**

- Create a timeline beginning at the end of World War 1 and recount the events of the Rise of Hitler.
- Create a fact file about Adolf Hitler – detailing who he was and the party he created in Germany.
- Create a poster with details about Nazi Germany during the period of Hitler’s rise to power.

**Geography – North America:**

- Create a 3D map of North America, detailing any famous areas with famous landmarks, such as New York and the Statue of Liberty.
- Create a fact file of North America, including population, climate and famous rivers and biomes.
- Create a 3D model of a famous landmark in North America.



**Science- Electricity:**

- Design a short electrical circuit for a small toy that you would create.
- Write a poster to explain what electricity is and how it works.



**Skills Builder**

The Skills Builder Universal Framework provides a common language for building essential skills with children and young people.

Research shows that building essential skills supports social and emotional wellbeing, learning and academic outcomes and careers and opportunities



**Times Tables Rockstars**



**Spelling Shed**



**Rewards**

The children will receive 'Dojo Points' as reward for good behaviour, work and attitude. Points can be 'spent' on prizes periodically.



**Class information**

**Class Teacher:** Miss Celebicanin

**Teaching Assistants:** Mrs Bradley

**Please remember to name your child's school jumper** or cardigan and that upper Key Stage 2 uniform is black/grey trousers/skirt, white shirt and academy tie.

Please remember if you are making your child a packed lunch, we ask you not to put anything in that contains nuts.



**Dates for the diary!**

**Spring 1**

- Monday 5th January – Teacher Training Day 3 – School closed to pupils
- Tuesday 6th January – School reopens to pupils
- Friday 9th January – Issue newsletter
- Monday 13th January – Young Voices
- Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January – Grow a Reader Workshop
- Monday 19th to Thursday 22nd – Maths drops in parent sessions
- Monday 9th to Friday 13th February – Children's Mental Health week
- Friday 13th February – School closes for half term



# Grow a Reader



Join us for our Parent/ Guardian workshops.

Six individual workshops across the year.

Learn how to support your child's reading at home in a safe, supportive space.

Enjoy the flexibility to join the workshops that best support your child's learning journey.

**3:20-3:45pm in the school hall**

- o Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September – Building strong foundations –
- o Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November – Reading book top tips – - - -
- o Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January – Growing vocabulary and language skills
- o Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March – Developing accurate readers
- o Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May – Understanding reading development
- o Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July – Fostering a love of reading



**Further information will be provided about each session throughout the year before you register to book.**



# Special Educational Needs



## Information for Parents

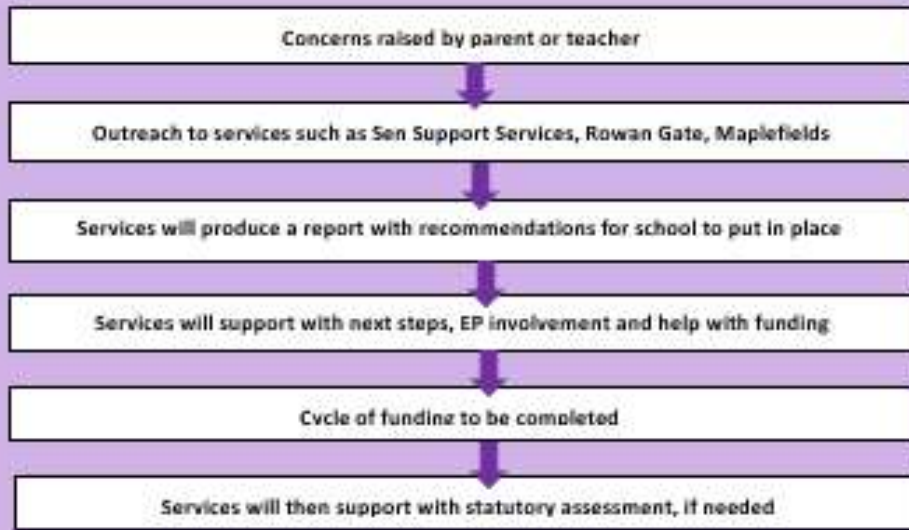
### What are Special Educational Needs?

Some children have difficulties that mean they don't learn in the same way or at the same rate as other children. For example, they have a speech difficulty that makes it hard for them to be understood or express their ideas and causes problems with learning letters and sounds (phonics), that can make learning to read difficult.

These children need special support to help them to learn and to achieve.

They may need this support for a short time or for a longer period, but during this time they will be part of our Special Educational Needs (SEN) register and we will keep a close eye on their progress, look carefully at what special support they need and keep in close touch with their parents.

## Hazel Leys Academy SEND Protocol



## Who do I talk to if I think my child has Special Needs?

### Your child's class teacher

They will be able to listen to your concerns and discuss with you how your child is managing at school.

They will discuss your concerns with the SENDCo.



### The SENDCo (Special Educational Needs & Disability Co-Ordinator)

Miss Kamel is always happy to discuss any concerns with parents.

You can arrange to see her by contacting the school office or by sending an email to:

[akamel@hazelleysacademy.org](mailto:akamel@hazelleysacademy.org)

## What happens if my child has Special Needs?

If your child is thought to have special needs, this will be discussed with you and the child may be placed on the SEND register. This is a list of children who need to be closely monitored and who may need additional help.

Very few children with SEN need one-to-one help in school. Most of them can make progress in class with teachers who are aware of their difficulties and know how to adapt their teaching to suit them.

Many (but not all) children on the SEN register will have some small group time each week to help them with their particular difficulty (e.g. a language group or a reading group).

## Communication with parents

- Parents of children on the SEN register must be given opportunities to meet with the teacher and/or SENDCo to discuss their child's progress at least 3 times a year. This can be at parents evening or at additional meetings.
- Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCs)  
These give parents a more central role in discussing and deciding what their child needs and a framework of expectations through which to support the child's needs.

## What can Hazel Leys Academy offer children with Special Needs?

- A commitment to helping every child make progress and being happy at school.
- A range of interventions to help children overcome the barriers to their learning.
- Adaptions in the classroom that help children learn in a way that suits them.
- Referral to support agencies such as Speech and Language Therapists or Specialist Teaching Service.
- Regular reviews between parents, Teacher and SENDCo to discuss the children's needs and progress.