



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of Halley House School, Welcome back to a brand new Autumn term at Halley House School! I hope you have all enjoyed a wonderful and adventurous summer break and are feeling excited about the term and year ahead! Reception children made an excellent start settling into their new classes this morning, making new friends, learning routines and exploring the roof terrace, and our 'experienced' Year 1s and Year 2s have settled quickly back into school life! There is always a lot of information to take in at this time of year; please carefully check our newsletter diary dates page every week to see what is coming up this half term – do come along to our 'Meet the Team' event this Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> September, in the school hall to familiarise yourselves with our fantastic teaching and support staff for this year. There are lots of familiar faces as well as some new ones to get to know! It is also a great opportunity for our new families to share their experiences of their very first few days at Halley House with other parents and staff. We always love hearing from you, so do speak to a member of school staff at any time if you have any questions, concerns or would like to pass on some good news! We are delighted that our playground redevelopment over the summer went so well and that children are already making great use of it! Do enjoy the rest of this first week back, and I look forward to seeing you all tomorrow evening.

*Claire Syms*

**Attendance & Punctuality**

**Asteroid Class**  
Attendance: %  
Punctuality: %

**Comet Class**  
Attendance: %  
Punctuality: %

**Eclipse Class**  
Attendance: %  
Punctuality: %

**Quasar Class**  
Attendance: %  
Punctuality: %

**Galaxy Class**  
Attendance: %  
Punctuality: %

Every week we publish the attendance and punctuality figures for each class. It is **vital** that your child is in school every day and on time so that they don't miss out on any learning. Please remember to inform the school office by 9.30am if your child is absent for any reason.

### ★ SUPER STARS! ★

Our Super Stars of The Week will be published here!

Reception		
Asteroid Class		
Comet Class		
Year 1		
Eclipse Class		
Quasar Class		
Year 2		
Galaxy Class		

Well done for working so hard and being such good role models!

### Monday Mission

Here you can find suggestions for home learning for each year group, every week. Questions relate to topic or other curriculum work children are undertaking in school, helping them to broaden their knowledge and consolidate skills. Children are strongly encouraged to undertake activities with parents and carers at home, and to fit activities in and around busy home lives! We always love seeing and hearing about what you have been up to at home, so do send us your photos and videos of homework tasks and projects – as well as any creative outcomes!

### Interim Head

All families should have received an electronic letter earlier today detailing the arrangements for the Interim Head during Ms Syms's maternity leave. We are delighted that **Ms Jennifer Malone** will be starting at HHS on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October. She is already looking forward to getting to know all our children, families, staff and governors! Do come along on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October at 9.15am to meet with Ms Malone.

### School Caterers – Caterlink

As you are aware, this year we are using a new catering company, Caterlink. We are particularly pleased that Caterlink are going to be using our fabulous kitchen facilities on site. Staff enjoyed freshly prepared chicken tikka with rice, macaroni cheese, a range of salad and fresh fruit with chocolate and beetroot brownies as part of their INSET day on Friday. KS1 children really enjoyed the selection of shepherd's pie, baked potatoes, vegetarian noodles, freshly baked bread, vegetables and a choice from our salad bar and fruit options today! Full menus (which will operate on a 3 week cycle) and allergy forms will be sent to all families this week. Menus will also be available via our website. All children are expected to have a hot and healthy school meal during the school day. Caterlink are a hugely experienced catering company and are able to offer alternatives (e.g. gluten free) as necessary. A parent tasting session is also being run for all families on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September between 4-5pm so do come in to try a sample!

### FOHH Meeting – Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September

Our first FOHH meeting will be held next Wednesday at 9am. All are welcome so do come along if you can!

### Parent Governor Nominations

Our Chair of Governors, Mr Hugo Hutchison, becomes a Community Governor this year, meaning we have a Parent Governor vacancy on our Local Governing Body. Forms to express an interest are available from the school office and elections will be held w/c 11<sup>th</sup> September. Being a parent governor is another great way of getting involved with your child's school and helping to shape its direction. Meetings are held four times throughout the year; our first one is scheduled for Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October, from 6-8pm. All governors are also expected to visit the school regularly (at least termly) to check on progress towards the school's key objectives, undertake training and contribute to additional meeting or committees as necessary. Please see Ms Syms if you have any questions or would like to find out more!

### Little Stars Stay & Play

Our popular and successful Little Stars group resumes next Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> September, 9-11am. Please do come along with your 0-4 year olds and join in the fun!



### Attendance & Punctuality Reminder

School starts promptly at 8.55am, which means all children need to be in the school playground **by 8.45am** (gates open at 8.30am), ready to be escorted inside by class teachers. Parents and carers should supervise children until 8.45am and handover with the class teacher. **It is vital that children attend school every day** – good attendance and punctuality leads to a much calmer start to the day for your child, and ensures they do not miss out on any learning or activities. Children also receive special certificates and prizes every half term for exemplary attendance! **Please do inform the office** if your child has a medical appointment or scheduled reason for absence *before* the period of absence whenever possible. **Family holidays during term time will not be authorised. Please telephone or email the office** if your child is unwell and will be absent from school. Any paperwork (such as appointment confirmations) should also be handed to an office member of staff for copying and adding to your child's file.



### Uniform

Please remember to check that ALL items of uniform (including ties!) are clearly labelled with your child's name. Please also ensure book bags and PE bags are clearly labelled so that if anything is misplaced it can be easily reunited with its owner!



### Curriculum Booklets

Curriculum booklets for all year groups will be sent electronically this Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> September. Curriculum booklets provide an overview of your child's topic for the upcoming half term, ideas for how you can support learning at home, as well as days for PE, Outdoor Adventures and book change days. Please do also come along to curriculum meetings on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September to find out more. Year group timetable overviews are attached to this newsletter and will be available for reference on the school website.

### Off-site Activities

Off-site activities start for KS1 (Y1 and Y2) in Week 2 (next week, w/c 11<sup>th</sup> Sept) and for YR in Week 6 (w/c 9<sup>th</sup>



October). **We need**

**regular volunteers for all year groups.** Sign up sheets are located next to the Information Board by the main office so do dig out your trainers or wellies and come along to support one of our PE or Outdoor Learning sessions!



DIARY DATES	
Autumn 1	
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• INSET Day; children not in school</li> </ul>
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• INSET Day, children not in school</li> </ul>
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First day of Autumn 1! School starts at 8.55am</li> <li>• Reception children in school until 12noon all week</li> </ul>
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meet The Team event, 5-6pm</li> </ul>
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Curriculum Booklets sent home</li> </ul>
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Breakfast Club starts</li> <li>• After Care sessions offered for Y1 and Y2 children all week, 3.45-5pm</li> <li>• Reception children in school until 1pm all week</li> <li>• Y1 and Y2 Outdoor PE and Outdoor Adventures start this week – <b>PARENT/CARER VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED*</b></li> </ul>
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Little Stars Stay &amp; Play starts, 9-11am</li> </ul>
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Friends of Halley House Meeting, 9-10am – all welcome!</li> </ul>
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After School Clubs and After Care starts for all</li> <li>• Reception children in school full time</li> </ul>
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parent Welcome Workshops – all year groups, 4-5pm</li> <li>• Finance Committee Meeting, 8.15-9.30am</li> </ul>
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Caterlink Tasting Session for parents, 4-5pm</li> </ul>
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jeans for Genes day – wear denim and donate £1</li> </ul>
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open Morning, Admissions 2018, 9.15-10.15am</li> </ul>
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Macmillan Coffee Morning, 9-10.30am</li> </ul>
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interim Headteacher starts</li> <li>• LGB Meeting, 6-8pm</li> </ul>
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open Morning, Admissions 2018, 9.15-10.15am</li> </ul>
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meet the Interim Headteacher, 9.15-10.15am</li> </ul>
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parent Questionnaire opens</li> </ul>
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• YR Outdoor PE and Outdoor Adventures start this week – <b>PARENT/CARER VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED*</b></li> </ul>
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open Morning, Admissions 2018, 9.15-10.15am</li> <li>• Informal Parents' Open Evening, 4-6pm</li> </ul>
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deadline for Parent Questionnaire submissions</li> </ul>
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open Morning, Admissions 2018, 9.15-10.15am</li> </ul>
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• End of Autumn 1. School finishes at 2pm.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>*Please sign up on the sheets by the main school office for supporting regular off-site activities</b></li> </ul>	