



Newsletter
Date: 18.07.24

School holiday dates for 24/25

2nd & 3rd September- INSET days
 4th September- term starts
 28th Oct-1st Nov half-term holiday
 4th November-INSET day
 23rd December- 3rd January Christmas holiday
 6th January- term starts
 14th February – INSET day
 17th – 21st February – half term holiday
 14th- 25th April- Easter holiday
 5th May- Bank holiday
 26th- 30th May- half term holiday
 Term ends Friday 18th July.

Values Award Winner CARING

Week ending 12.07.24

Class		Class		Class	
1D	Sebastian	3B	Corrin	5A	Sidney
1J	Maya	3F	Miah	5H	Alan
1W	Adelaide	3FG	Wilf	5K	Athena
2B	William	4JP	Caitlin & Sophia	6DS	Megan
2H	Jaxson	4P	Ella	6GW	Lily-Mae
2N	Arabella	4R	Joshua	6W	Subhaan
				BASE	Callum

Gig Mill Uniform / PE kit

Gig Mill uniform of grey / black trousers, smart shorts, skirts, pinafores can be purchased from any retailer. The children wear white polo shirts - either the Gig Mill logo ones or plain; and green school jumpers / cardigans- which again can be the Gig Mill ones or plain. Summer dresses- green and white gingham ones, are also fine in the warmer weather.

For PE kit, the children need black shorts or joggers with a white T shirt or polo shirt and their school jumper, and a pair of trainers. On PE days, the children can wear their PE kit to school for the day. We do have some 'new to you' items of uniform in a range of sizes available from our school office from just 50p.

Please could you check that all uniform is named ready for the return to school in September.

Reminder:

We break up for the summer holiday on Friday 19th July at 2pm.

Please remember there is no after-school club on that day.

School re-opens to pupils on Wednesday 4th September.

Attendance

Week beginning 08.07.24

Class	%	Class	%	Class	%
RDS	95.67	2B	98.85	5H	93.00
RP	83.45	3F	98.33	5K	93.10
1J	96.54	3B	94.33	5A	99.33
1W	91.20	3FG	94.19	6DS	92.33
1D	97.60	4R	97.31	6W	97.24
2N	90.38	4P	94.80	6GW	93.33
2H	92.00	4JP	97.69	BASE	97.50

Attendance

Week beginning 15.07.24

Class	%	Class	%	Class	%
RP	86.55	2B	94.87	5H	94.00
RDS	91.00	3F	86.67	5K	91.38
1J	90.00	3B	81.59	5A	92.67
1W	93.20	3FG	92.58	6DS	95.33
1D	92.00	4R	91.54	6W	99.31
2N	92.31	4P	93.20	6GW	94.44
2H	95.20	4JP	89.87	BASE	98.75

In the news this week

Research company, YouGov, surveyed young people aged between 6 and 17 about which jobs they'd like to have in the future. The survey, conducted alongside Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH), found that the role of prime minister came in as the bottom choice in the survey, the least popular career option. Almost a fifth (17%) of those asked in the poll picked footballer as their preferred job, with the same amount picking gamer or YouTuber. Gaming is a popular industry, as these choices were closely followed by video game developer at 16%.

Things to talk about at home ...

- > Have you ever thought about what job you might like to do when you are older? Ask someone older at home what they wanted to do when they were younger. Are the responses similar?
- > Why do you think jobs in gaming and sports are such popular choices for young people?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments



At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit nationalcollege.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

Top Tips for...

MANAGING SCREEN TIME

According to the latest stats, people aged between 8 and 17 spend four hours on digital devices during an average day. Obviously, a new year is ideal for fresh starts and renewed efforts – so lots of families are trying to cut down their combined screen time right now, creating more moments to connect with each other and relying less on gadgets to have fun. Our top tips on reducing screen time are for everyone, so you can get your whole family involved in turning over a new leaf this year!

Buy Milk

GET OUT AND ABOUT

If the weather's decent, spend some time in the garden or go for a walk. Even a stroll to the local shop would do: the main thing is getting some fresh air and a break from your screen.

TRY A TIMED TRIAL

When you're taking a screen break to do a different activity or a chore, turn it into a game by setting yourself a timer. Can you complete your task before the alarm goes off?

GO DIGITAL DETOX

Challenge yourself and your family to take time off from screens, finding other things to do. You could start off with half a day, then build up to a full day or even an entire weekend.

LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Let your family see you successfully managing your own screen time. You'll be showing them the way, and it might stop some of those grumbles when you do want to go online.

AGREE TECH-FREE ZONES

Nominate some spots at home where devices aren't allowed. Anywhere your family gathers together, like at the table or in the living room, could become a 'no phone zone'.

HOLD A SCREEN TIME AMNESTY

As a family, agree specific windows when it's OK to use devices. This should help everyone to balance time on phones or gaming with enjoying quality moments together.

BE MINDFUL OF TIME

Stay aware of how long you've been on your device for. Controlling how much time you spend in potentially stressful areas of the internet – like social media platforms – can also boost your wellbeing.

'PARK' PHONES OVERNIGHT

Set up an overnight charging station for everyone's devices – preferably away from bedrooms. That means less temptation for late-night scrolling.

SWITCH ON DND

Research shows that micro-distractions like message alerts and push notifications can chip away at our concentration levels. Put devices on 'do not disturb' until you're less busy.

TAKE A FAMILY TECH BREAK

Set aside certain times when the whole family puts their gadgets away and enjoys an activity together: playing a board game, going for a walk or just having a chat.

SOCIALISE WITHOUT SCREENS

When you're with friends, try not to automatically involve phones, TVs or other tech. Having company can be loads more fun if your attention isn't being split.

WIND DOWN PROPERLY

Try staying off phones, consoles, tablets and so on just before you go to sleep. Reading or just getting comfy in bed for a while can give you a much more restful night.

Meet Our Expert

Minds Ahead design and deliver the UK's only specialist postgraduate mental health qualifications. They also provide training and support to education organisations and local authorities – empowering school leaders and staff with the knowledge and tools to shape their settings into inclusive communities where the mental health of pupils and personnel is prioritised.



DEVICE BOX

The National College



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday



The highly anticipated play area at Himley Hall & Park is now open for children to enjoy, just in time for the school summer holidays.

Located near the former tennis courts and pavilion at the rear left hand side of the hall, this immersive, natural-themed play area has lots of fun features for children and young people to enjoy.

Kids will be able to climb up a large wooden play tower and zoom down the spiral slide, spin around on rotating carousels, bounce on seesaws and rocking horses, and whizz down the zip line. There is also smaller equipment for toddlers to use.

In keeping with its leafy surroundings, this woodland play area is constructed using mostly timber with a mix of grassland, a loose mulch surface, and natural wood chip paths separating the various pieces of play equipment. It also echoes the history and architecture of Himley Hall through its play structures.

The play area is a perfect place for games and problem solving, making new friends, getting outdoors and experiencing the natural surroundings of Himley Park!

The installation of the play area follows a successful public consultation in 2021 and planning permission from South Staffordshire Council, whose boundaries cover the park.

Visitors to the park are welcome between 7.30am and dusk. Admission to the play area is free, but car parking charges apply.

Families visiting this summer will not only have the pleasure of the new play area, but the popular dinosaur and princess and pirate themed trails will return from Monday 22 July.

There's also the fairy 50 activity where children follow coordinates on a map in the search for 50 hidden fairy doors. This activity is available all year round.

Activity sheets for the activities will be available from the coffee lounge in the main hall.

The coffee lounge is open every day from 9.30am to 4pm and offers a range of refreshments, including hot and cold drinks, light lunches, and sweet treats.

For more information please visit: <https://www.himleyhallandpark.co.uk/playground>