



Horsmonden Primary School

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Handy Hints for a Happy Year

- ❑ Make sure your child's clothes are labelled – the lost property box simply can't cope.
- ❑ Try to be on time each morning – it starts your child's day off badly if they face the embarrassment of arriving late and punctuality is an important life skill.
- ❑ Follow the 'voluntary' one way system in the mornings: approach the school in school lane from the Maidstone Road end and in Orchard Crescent from the Oast View end; leave via Back Lane towards Goudhurst Road. Traffic flows more freely and it's safer for your children.
- ❑ Avoid parking across driveways, corners and crossing points. Blocking a small child's view of oncoming traffic could put them at serious risk.
- ❑ If you're not sure about something, ask the teacher or staff in the school office. There's no such thing as a stupid question and we're here to make your experience as smooth as possible.
- ❑ Read the newsletters – I try to make them interesting and informative and they may contain vital information.
- ❑ Remember your child learns about good citizenship primarily from you and in a village the school plays an important role in the community. Even when you don't feel like joining in, your child will mirror your level of commitment to school life, so get involved.
- ❑ Make a point of seeing the successes of your child. They love you and want your approval in all that they do, so try to get into school and see what they have been doing – don't wait for parent consultation evenings.
- ❑ Celebrate awards such as Special Mentions in a distinctive way. Anything that reinforces the school ethos helps your child's level of commitment and motivation.
- ❑ Try to make class assemblies a priority in your diary. Bring along grandparents, too – it all makes your child feel special.
- ❑ We try to be perfect every moment of the day, but please remember we're only human. Try to be understanding when we get it wrong.
- ❑ Join in with class activities wherever you can. Parent helpers provide really valuable assistance in the classroom and on trips.
- ❑ After school, if you've got a toddler, please supervise them closely and don't let them damage the plants. We do allow children to play on the premises and we do allow scooters, but no bikes.
- ❑ If after school activities are taking place, please keep your child clear of the activity area.
- ❑ Give us feedback. We want to know the bits that work really well along with problems you experience. Don't be a gate-grumbler, talk to us; but celebrate success as well.
- ❑ The school rule is kindness. Reinforce it in every way that you can wherever school is concerned.
- ❑ Let us know if we can support you and your child outside of school. We're serious about children learning for the tests of life not a life of tests.
- ❑ Be positive about enjoying the experience – your child will only get it once!