



Highwood Primary School

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Promoting Resilience, Achieving Potential

Cathy Cox – Head Teacher

Friday 15th March 2019

Newsletter 8

Dear Parents and Carers,

Hopefully the windy and rainy weather this week is the last of the winter and we can all start to enjoy the longer, lighter evenings!

World Book Day

On Thursday March 7th the school was once again filled with an amazing assortment of book characters – a huge thank you to all the parents and carers who put so much effort into helping their children put together the costumes and accessories! The children (and staff) really enjoyed the range of reading related activities organised by Mr Meyjes. These included partner reading with different classes and 'DEAR' (Drop Everything and Read) times across the day. Reading is such a vital part of children's learning and it is fantastic to be able to celebrate it in this way. A huge thank you to all of you who have donated good quality but unwanted (by you!) books to help fill our library and classroom reading corners.

Best Dressed Winners

Mrs Harte and I had the very difficult task of judging the 'Best Dressed' in each Phase. After much deliberation we awarded the certificates and £5 Book Tokens to:

Early Years – Leo as 'The Solar System'
Key Stage One – Maycie as 'Claude' (Claude in the City)
Lower Key Stage Two – Pippa as 'Violet Beauregarde'
Upper Key Stage Two – Callum as 'Bert' (Mary Poppins)

Sponsored Read

Our total raised so far for the Sponsored Read is **£1500!** This is a truly amazing response from the Highwood community and will really make a difference to the reading resources that we are able to provide. We can now start to purchase the books that are recommended by the BookTrust as the first 100 books a child should try to read while they are at Primary School. It is our aim to provide the children with 'Passports to Reading' where they will be able to record the books as they read them. Reading provides the key to learning – thank you to all of you who have supported your children to complete the Sponsored Read and to collect the money.



School Funding

Thank you to all those parents who contacted the school following the Special Newsletter regarding school funding. I really appreciate the support you have shown towards the school – our budget is becoming tighter and tighter and putting increasing stress on a very dedicated and caring team of staff who all want to do the best for the children of Highwood. I will continue to work with governors to ensure that we spend the limited resources we have in the most efficient way possible in order to continue to provide the high quality learning opportunities and welfare support that your children deserve.

Parent Forum

The Parent Forum will now be postponed until the Summer Term. The Senior Leadership Team are very keen to set this up so we remain hopeful that some of you will feel able to come forwards to join us and help to shape the future of Highwood. Please do get in touch via the office or on admin@highwood.herts.sch.uk if you are able to offer some time on a Tuesday morning once each half term.

Please remember to look at the 'Dates for your Diary' section below – additional Summer Term dates added!

Kind Regards,
Mrs Cathy Cox
Head Teacher

Head Teacher's Awards

The following children have earned and celebrated their Headteacher's Awards since the last newsletter. Congratulations to all of them for all their hard work and perseverance.

Birch 2	Ruby-May, Summer, Candice
Beech 2	Darcey, Medina
Maple 3	Ayuub, Christian
Cedar 3	Harry, George
Hawthorn 4	Lasali, Sky
Poplar 5	Nithulan
Chestnut 6	Amy, Isha, Sharmini, Scarlotte

Dates for your diary

Week 10	
Tuesday 19 March	Y2 trip to Great Missenden Y4 Athletics event
Friday 22 March	Oak Reception Sharing Assembly + Parent Reading event

Week 11	
Friday 29 March	Birch 2 Sharing Assembly + Parent Reading event Y5 visit to The Purcell School for a concert
Week 12	
Monday 1 April	Local visit to North Bushey Baptist Church for Y1 – Y6 (to be confirmed) Y4 Reading Group to Elton House Parent Consultations
Tuesday 2 April	Parent Consultations
Wednesday 3 April	Y4 Road Safety pedestrian skills
Friday 5 April	Ash Reception Sharing Assembly + Parent Reading event 2:00pm End of term for pupils
Easter Holiday (Monday 8th April – Tuesday 23rd April inclusive)	
Monday 8 April – Friday 12 th April	Easter Holiday dance/drama workshop: Starburst Academy
Week 1	
Tuesday 23 April	INSET DAY 4: School Closed to pupils
Wednesday 24 April	Start of term for pupils
Week 2	
Tuesday 30 April	Y5 Mini Police Session 1
Friday 3 May	Poplar 5 Sharing Assembly and Parent Reading event
Week 3	
Monday 6 May	Bank Holiday – School Closed
Tuesday 7 May	Y3 trip to Verulamium Museum, St. Albans
Friday 10 May	Elm 1 Sharing Assembly and Parent Reading Event
Week 4 Y6 SATS Week	
Tuesday 14 May	Early Years trip to Paradise Wildlife Park
Friday 17 May	Pine 1 Sharing Assembly and Parent Reading Event
Week 5	
Friday 24 May	Willow 5 Sharing Assembly and Parent Reading Event
Half Term (Monday 27 May – Friday 31st May)	
Week 6	
Monday 3 June	INSET Day 5- School closed to pupils
Tuesday 4 June	Start of half term for pupils
Wednesday 5 June	Year 5 Sex Education and Transition to Year 7 Meeting for Parents 6.00pm
Week 7 Phonics Screening Check in Y1	
Tuesday 11 June	Year 2 Sex Education meeting for parents 6.00pm
Wednesday 12 June	New to Reception Autumn 2019 meeting for parents 6.00pm
Friday 14 June	Maple 3 Sharing Assembly and Parent Reading Event

Saturday 15 June	Friends' Summer Fair 12.00pm – 3.00pm
Week 8	
Tuesday 18 June	Class Photos with Van Cols New to Nursery Autumn 2019 meeting for parents 6.00pm
Wednesday 19 June	6:00pm Y6 Puppet Performance for parents
Thursday 20 June	6:00pm Y6 Puppet Performance for parents
Friday 21 June	Cedar 3 Sharing Assembly and Parent Reading Event
Week 9	
Monday 24 June	Early Years Sports Day 9.30am
Friday 28 June	Hazel 4 Sharing Assembly and Parent Reading Event
Week 10	
Tuesday 2 July	Open Evening 5.30pm – 7.00pm
Friday 5 July	Sports Day for Years 1, 2 and 3 9.30am - 11.30am Sports Day for Years 4, 5 and 6 1.20pm - 3.20pm
Week 11	
Friday 12 July	Children's Reports out to parents
Week 12	
Thursday 18 th July	Y6 Leavers Assembly
Week 13	
Wednesday 24 July	2:00pm End of term for pupils