



Highwood Primary School

Mead Way, Bushey, Watford, Hertfordshire, WD23 2AW

Tel: 01923 484650 Fax: 01923 484653 E-mail: admin@highwood.herts.sch.uk

Promoting Resilience, Achieving Potential

Cathy Cox – Head Teacher

Friday 5th January 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year to you all, we hope you have had a lovely break. Thank you for all the thoughtful gifts and cards, we appreciate your kindness and generosity.

This half term our topic is entitled 'Through the Keyhole.' Within this topic we will be learning about homes in the past and how they compare to the homes we live in now. We will also be exploring toys from the past and looking at how they have developed over the past 100 years. This will link to our Science and Design and Technology learning, where we will be looking at everyday materials and identifying their properties. To enrich our topic we will be visited by 'History Off the Page' to deliver an all day workshop exploring the history of toys. Next half term, our topic will be 'Playgrounds.' In this topic we will be learning about forces (pushes and pulls), position and direction. We will visit Knutsford playing fields to experience forces in action. We will then be making our own model of a piece of playground equipment in Design and Technology.

We would like to say thank you for the time and effort given to the Home Learning last term. A new grid has been stuck in to your child's book for your child to complete this half term. We suggest that Home Learning tasks should take no more than 20 minutes. Attached is a list of the 100 High Frequency Words that the children come across in their everyday reading. Please could you practise reading these with them alongside the grid. Once your child can read the words within a phase please ensure that they are confident in spelling them. These will not be tested weekly, but are vital to help improve their Literacy development. Please also continue to practise the children's cursive letter formation as well as their phonics sounds; these are on the attached phoneme picture mat. The children need to be able to say the sounds, read them in words and use them to spell words.

Dates for your diary:

Monday 22nd January- Walk locally to observe the different types of homes found near our school.

Friday 2nd February – Pine 1 Class assembly

Monday 5th February- History off The Page: Toy Day workshop

Wednesday 7th March: Phonics workshops will be held at **9:00am** and **3:00pm** where we will discuss Phase 5 phonics and the Phonic Screening Test.

Week beginning Monday 26th March: Weaving workshop – **9.00am - 12.00pm.**

Thursday 22nd March – Year group trip to Knutsford playing fields. We will need parent helpers, if you would like to help please speak to the class teacher.

Reminders:

Please ensure that your child has:

- a named water bottle in school every day.
- a full P.E. kit, this should include trainers, a house coloured t-shirt, black or navy shorts, joggers and jumper.
- all of their belongings named including uniform, PE kit, water bottle and book bag.

Thank you for your continued support,
Emma Schumacher and Patience Nleya, Year 1 Teachers

