



# Highwood Primary School

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

Tel: 01923 256210 E-mail: [admin@highwood.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@highwood.herts.sch.uk)

Promoting Resilience, Achieving Potential

Cathy Cox – Head Teacher

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2019

Newsletter 2

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was lovely to see so many of you in the classrooms this week at the first 'Book Look' of the year. The children had plenty to share after their first 4 weeks in a new year group!

## Parent Consultations

Thank you to those of you who have already booked for Parent Consultation evenings on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October – this is a great opportunity to talk to your child's class teacher about how your child has settled into their new year group and what they will be working on in the year ahead. A representative from the Chorleywood Bookshop (from whom we purchased our copies of the 'Highwood 100 Best Books') will be at the Consultation evenings with a range of books for you to purchase. Mr Meyjes will also be available, so please do take the opportunity to chat with him if you would like any advice on books or reading with your child.

## Friends of Highwood

The Friends AGM took place on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October and the Committee was pleased to welcome some new members. The success of all the wonderful events run by the Friends is dependent on parents and carers giving up their time – for which we as a school are hugely grateful. The children benefitted from a fantastic production of 'Treasure Island' this week and enjoyed dressing up as pirates. This show was partly funded by the Friends and without this contribution and the donations from children dressing up on the day we could not have given the children this great experience.

The Friends have several events planned for later this term – if you are able to help please do get in touch either through the School Office or directly by emailing [friendsofhighwood@highwood.herts.sch.uk](mailto:friendsofhighwood@highwood.herts.sch.uk).

## Communication links

Our WhatsApp Reps are almost all up and running now – we just need a volunteer for Willow 5. A huge thank you to those parents and carers who have put themselves forward for this role; please do support them and make use of this important link between school and home. Each class will be sent the name of their WhatsApp Rep - it is then up to you to make contact and provide your phone number to the Rep as we cannot give out lists of phone numbers or names to the Reps due to GDPR. Your



Class Rep will then liaise with the class teacher and the School Office in order to pass on any messages from school and hopefully answer any queries you have about anything class related. Questions and queries about individual children will, of course, still be dealt with directly by the most appropriate member of staff.

### **Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE)**

You will see on the Curriculum Maps sent out at the beginning of term that the PSHE (Personal, Social, Health Education) Curriculum at Highwood covers themes such as Health and Well-Being, Living in the Wider World and Relationships. Within these topics the children will be taught about how to keep healthy (e.g. healthy eating, exercise, getting enough sleep, managing emotions), how to develop an understanding of people from different countries and different faiths and how to develop friendships and get on with others.

At Highwood we teach the children about changing bodies in Year 2 (a parent meeting is held before this topic is taught in the Summer Term so that all parents are fully aware of the content being taught). In Year 5 we teach the children about Puberty and Sex Education (again, a parent meeting is always held before the topic starts in the Summer Term so that parents are fully aware of what is being taught).

There has been a lot of controversy and scaremongering in the press about this issue because the government has said that from September 2020, Relationships Education will become statutory and all children will receive the Sex Education lessons. At the moment, parents have the right to withdraw their children from certain aspects of the Sex Education lessons which we teach in Year 5.

The content of the PSHE curriculum we teach at Highwood will not change substantially next year when this law comes into effect - we make constant adjustments and updates to all subjects at Highwood to improve the ways we present topics to children. We will continue to teach the children to be tolerant and understanding of others and to become good citizens.

Please refer to the Curriculum Maps on the school website, contact your class WhatsApp Rep, speak to your child's teacher at 8.45am, after school or make an appointment if you would like to know more about what the children are covering in their PSHE lessons.

**Please remember to look at the 'Dates for your Diary' section below**

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.

Cedar 3	Joshua
Hazel 4	Maisie, Poppy, Lilla, Owen, Imogen
Hawthorn 4	Tommie, Isabel
Poplar 5	Edim
Willow 5	Ashleigh
Chestnut 6	Fatima
Sycamore 6	Clara, Mihika, Nakul, Rayaan

## Dates for your diary

<b>Week 6</b>	
Tuesday 8 October	2:30 EY Phonics Meeting for parents 6:00 EY Phonics Meeting for parents
Friday 11 October	LKS2 Harvest Assembly: Maple, Cedar, Hazel and Hawthorn
<b>Week 7</b>	
Monday 14 October	3:30 – 8:00 Parent Consultations
Tuesday 15 October	3:30 – 8:00 Parent Consultations
Wednesday 16 October	Individual and Sibling Photo Day (school age only)
Friday 18 October	Sharing Assembly: Beech 2
<b>Week 8</b> Y6 Residential	
Monday 21 October	Y6 to JCA Condover Hall
Wednesday 23 October	Year 4 Egyptian Day
Thursday 24 October	Y2 Lincolnsfield Centre trip
Friday 25 October	Sharing Assembly: Hawthorn 4 Y6 return from JCA Condover Hall
<b>Half Term – Monday 28 October – Friday 1 November 2019</b>	
<b>Week 9</b>	
Monday 4 November	3:30 Parent Book Look
Wednesday 6 November	10:00 Prospective Parents Tour of the School – Please ring the Office to book 01923 256210
Thursday 7 November	Flu immunisations (Reception to Year 6)
<b>Week 10</b>	
Monday 11 November	10:00 Prospective Parents Tour of the School – Please ring the Office to book 01923 256210
Tuesday 12 November	Y6 NHS checks
Friday 15 November	Sharing Assembly: Chestnut 6
<b>Week 11</b>	
Tuesday 19 November	10:00 Prospective Parents Tour of the School – Please ring the Office to book 01923 256210
Friday 22 November	Sharing Assembly: Pine 1
<b>Week 12</b>	
Thursday 28 November	10:00 Prospective Parents Tour of the School – Please ring the Office to book 01923 256210
Friday 29 November	Sharing Assembly: Elm 1
Saturday 30 November	Friends Christmas Fair
<b>Week 13</b>	
Monday 2 December	10:00 Prospective Parents Tour of the School – Please ring the Office to book 01923 256210 Parent Book Look
Tuesday 3 December	Author visit to Y6
Friday 6 December	Sharing Assembly: Hazel 4

<b>Week 14</b>	
Tuesday 10 December	9:30 EY Christmas Production
Wednesday 11 December	2:15 KS1 Christmas Production
Thursday 12 December	9:30 EY Christmas Production
<b>Week 15</b>	
Monday 16 December	Friends Christmas Shopping Room
Tuesday 17 December	9:10 KS2 Christmas carols for parents
Wednesday 18 December	Christmas Lunch
Thursday 19 December	Christmas Parties
Friday 20 December	<b>No</b> Sharing Assembly 2:00 End of term
<b>Christmas Holiday Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2019 – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2020</b>	
Monday 6 January	<b>INSET DAY – Staff training – School closed to pupils</b>
Tuesday 7 January	Start of Spring Term Breakfast Club and Tea Time Club open as usual