



Highwood Primary School

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Promoting Resilience, Achieving Potential

Cathy Cox – Head Teacher

Friday 17th January 2020

Newsletter 6

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all enjoyed the Christmas break and are now settled into the routine of the new term. Hopefully the weather will improve soon – the constant rain means that all our areas of grass are rapidly turning to mud!

Dream Big

As always, we started the term with a whole school theme – this time it was 'Dream Big' where staff ran workshops to give children a taster of what it might be like to have particular careers when they grow up. The children worked in 'Family Groups' and I am sure they were coming home with lots of stories about being vets, lawyers, detectives, computer programmers, interior designers, architects etc! A big thank you to Mrs Harte for putting all of this together and the staff for their creativity and imagination. In the words of one of our parents: 'A great way to inspire the children.' Look out for photos and quotes in the January Round Up!

Highwood Facebook Page

At Highwood we regularly discuss the ways we communicate with parents, carers and the wider community. Our Twitter Feed has many regular followers but we have now decided to supplement this with a Highwood Facebook page. We are hoping that this will be another convenient way for you to connect with what is happening in school. Our school Facebook page will work alongside the Friends of Highwood Facebook page which many parents and carers follow regularly. Should you have particular concerns or questions relating to your child please continue to communicate in the usual ways via the class teacher or the School Office (admin@highwood.herts.sch.uk).

Uniform Policy

The Governors have reviewed our Uniform Policy which has now been updated and can be found on the website (Tabs: Parent – Policies – School Uniform Policy) and is attached with this newsletter. Please ensure that your child comes to school in the correct uniform every day; if there are particular reasons why your child is not able to wear certain items of uniform, this needs to be agreed with a member of the



Senior Leadership Team. The main issues that staff have to deal with are children with unsuitable footwear, children wearing jewellery or large/brightly coloured hair adornments. As part of the Home School Agreement, all parents and carers have agreed to ensure that the Uniform Policy is adhered to – thank you for your help in ensuring that the ethos of the school is maintained.

Lateness

January is a time for New Year’s Resolutions! There are a large number of children who arrive late to school every day – on most days the office staff are dealing with up to 20 children who are not in class for registration. School starts at **8:50am** and this is when the learning begins. Children who are late into school in Nursery and Reception miss out on ‘Busy Fingers’ – the development of vital fine motor skills needed for writing. Children who are late in Year 1 – 6 miss out on early morning activities such as the teaching of spelling or the revision of maths and English skills from the day before. This is also a time when interventions for children with SEND take place so that they do not have to be taken out of a lesson later in the day. Please ensure your children are in school on time so that they do not miss out on this important part of the day or disrupt it for the other children in the class.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Cathy Cox
Head Teacher

Please remember to look at the ‘Dates for your Diary’ section below

Head Teacher’s Awards

The following children have earned and celebrated their Head Teacher’s award since the last newsletter. Congratulations to all of them for all their hard work and perseverance.

Beech 2	Amy, Maxwell, Chloe
Maple 3	Sienna
Cedar 3	Krithik
Hawthorn 4	Dylan, Lillie-Anne
Hazel 4	Adra, Daniel, Neissa
Willow 5	Ruby, Aaron
Sycamore 6	Sophia, Roxanne

Dates for your diary

Week 3	
Tuesday 21 January	Y6 Athletics at Queens’ School
Thursday 23 January	Friends Discos: Reception and KS1 17:00 – 18:00, KS2 18:15 – 19:30
Friday 24 January	Sharing Assembly: Cedar 3 Watford FC Girls Football Event (Y6)
Week 4	
Tuesday 28 January	Y4 Athletics at Queens’ School
Friday 31 January	Sharing Assembly: Poplar 5

Week 5	
Monday 3rd February	3:30 – 4:00pm Book Look
Friday 7 February	Sharing Assembly: Birch 2
Week 6	
Tuesday 11 February	Well-being Day: YN – Y6 workshops
Wednesday 12 th February	KS2 Author Visit: Zanib Mian
Monday 17th – Friday 21st February: Half Term	
Week 7	
Whole School Theme Week : Highwood Fashion Week	
Monday 24 February	Y4 Cleaner Air Project
Thursday 27 February	Y5 Rock Up Trip
Friday 28 February	Nursery Applications Close
Week 8	
Monday 2 March	3:30 – 4:00 pm Book Look
Thursday 5 March	World Book Day
Sunday 8 March	Choir Gala Concert at the Albert Hall
Week 9	
Week 10	
Wednesday 18 March	Reception: Road Safety Workshops
Week 11	
Monday 23 March	Y1 Pine and Elm to Windsor Castle
Tuesday 24 March	Y1 and Y2 Scooter Training
Week 12	
Monday 30 March	Parent Consultations
Tuesday 31 March	Y6 K'nex Challenge Parent Consultations
Friday 3 April	2:00 pm End of Term NO Tea Time Club
Monday 6th April – Friday 17th April: Easter Holidays	