



Highwood Primary School
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Promoting Resilience, Achieving Potential
 Headteacher Mrs B Rai

Tuesday 14th April 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

WELCOME BACK!

I hope you all had a lovely holiday, with time to relax and recharge. For those who celebrated Easter, Passover or another religious festival we hope you had a peaceful and reflective time with renewed hope.

Thank you for your attendance to the Parent Consultation meetings during March. **Your support is essential towards helping your child build their resilience to all aspects of learning so that they can reach their potential.**



We are excited to begin the Summer Term, which is always a busy and rewarding time at Highwood.

It is a pivotal month as we review the curriculum and plan for the administration of statutory assessments.

These include Phonics screening tests Year 1 and for some Year 2 pupils, Year 4 Multiplication timetable check, Year 6 SATs and ongoing assessments across the school.

I want to reassure you that we will continue to guide the pupils through this process and will communicate specific dates of the testing period by next week. Our aim is to establish a calm and successful summer term for everybody.

Promoting Resilience, Achieving Potential

ATTENDANCE

Improving Attendance at Highwood Primary

Improving our Attendance

Our whole school is 93%.

Attendance Ladder
 How close are you to reaching the top?

Equates to:	100%	Perfection
4 school days off each year	98%	Impressive
7 school days off each year	96%	Good
9 school days off each year	95%	Nearly There
11 school days off each year	94%	Needs To Improve
1 month off each year	90%	Concerns
2 months off each year	80%	Serious Concerns

✗ ☹️



Attendance, Persistent Absenteeism & Lateness

As a school, we are committed to giving every child the best possible learning experience. To do this, we rely on strong partnerships with our families and one of the most important parts of that partnership is ensuring children attend school regularly and arrive on time each day.

Last term, we have seen an increase in **persistent absenteeism** and **lateness** across the school. Even small amounts of missed learning time can have a significant impact on a child's progress, confidence, and sense of routine. Arriving late also disrupts the start of the day, making it harder for children to settle and fully keep up in their learning.

How You Can Help

- Ensure your child arrives at school by 8.45am each morning for Registration.
- Book appointments and holidays outside school hours and holiday times.
- Contact the school promptly or log on Arbor if your child is unwell or unable to attend.
- Speak to us if you are experiencing difficulties. We are here to work together.

We will be arranging Attendance Plan meetings to discuss your child's attendance if it is below 90%.

Together, we can make sure every child has the best chance to succeed.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain high expectations for all our pupils.

Best wishes for the summer term ahead.
Bindu Rai, Headteacher












Please look below to see the Diary Dates for the Summer term.

Diary Dates for the Summer term

Further events will be added.

We look forward to you helping and joining us at many of these events.

13/04/26	Start of summer term	
13/04/26	INSET Day – school closed to pupils. Staff training day	
14/04/26	Pupils return	
15/04/26	FOH Clothing Drive	
17/04/26	SEND Coffee Morning 9am-10am	
21/04/26	RWI meeting for selected Reception parents (email to be sent out)	
28/04/26	RWI meeting for ALL RECEPTION parents – 2.30pm	
23/04/26	Hawthorn 4 Class sharing assembly – 9.10am	
23/04/26	St George’s Day – Patron Saint of England	
27/04/26	Book Look Day after school	
04/05/26	Bank Holiday – School closed to Pupils	
05/05/26	RWI meeting for all Y1 Parents – 2.30pm	
07/05/26	Year 5 Geography Workshop – Details To be confirmed	
11/05/26	Key Stage 2 SATs Week commences – Y6	
15/05/26	Friends of Highwood Disco – Details to be confirmed Please come along to help before or during the event. Thank you	 
18/05/26	Sycamore 6 – Mini Medics	
18/05/26	Book Look Day after school	
20/05/26	Chestnut 6 – Mini Medics	
21/05/26	Class Photo Day	
20/05/26 and 22/05/26	Safer Travel Team Scooter Safety sessions for Year 2	
22/05/25	Non-school uniform day - Break Up Half Term	
01/06/26	INSET Day – school closed to pupils. Staff training day	
02/06/26	INSET Day – school closed to pupils. Staff training day	
03/06/26	Pupils return	
08/06/26	Phonic Screening Check begins for Year 1	
11/06/26	Year 2 Trip to Ashridge Estate	
15/06/26	Book Look Day after school	
16/06/26	Y3 Knebworth House	
17/06/26	Reception trip to Willow’s Farm (information to be sent)	

19/06/26	Friends of Highwood Dads and Lads Pop Up Shopping Room all day- please come along to help before or during the event. Thank you	
25/06/26	Y4 Workshop	
26/06/26	Y1 History Toy Day Workshop	
27/06/26	Friends of Highwood Summer Fair - please come along to help before or during the event. Thank you	
29/06/26	Y5 Trip to St. Albans	
09/07/26	Year 6 to Year 7 Induction Day at Secondary Schools	
21/07/26	Non-school uniform Day Last day of academic year. School closes at 2.00pm	