



**Highwood Primary School**  
**Mead Way, Bushey, Watford, Hertfordshire, WD23 2AW**  
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**Promoting Resilience, Achieving Potential**  
Headteacher Mrs B Rai

Friday 4th June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope the children had a wonderful half term holiday with the glorious sunny weather. We are certainly moving in the right direction for our summer term of learning and enrichment opportunities.

Our June INSET Days for the school team were focused upon reviewing our Curriculum considering the government legislation Every Child Achieving and Thriving. We have commenced the summer term with staff First Aid Training.

Next week, our Phonic Screening Check will take place. We will also begin our assessments in the Early Years Profile, Y4 Multiplication Times table check( MTC), and diagnostic assessments in Maths, Reading and Writing across the school. We want the children to do well and be prepared to be the best version of themselves academically and socially.

A big thank you to all the staff who have continued to work tirelessly and to you as parents and carers for supporting the work we do.

**Please access EdShed, TTRS, RWI, and GetSet4PE. The school has financially invested heavily into these valuable resources. We use these materials in our daily teaching as well.**

If you need help regarding our curriculum map, please do not hesitate to speak to the class teacher.



**Friends of Highwood**

It is wonderful to know that we have numerous events voluntarily planned by our fantastic Friends of Highwood Committee. Please consider joining the committee so that we can share the workload, make new friends, and create amazing memories for the children.



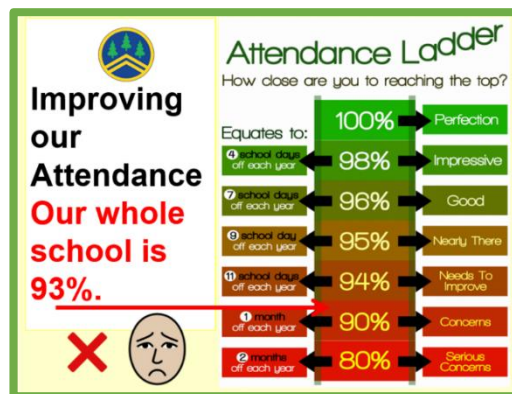
The enrichment opportunities organised by Friends of Highwood are so important to all children. I would like to take a moment to thank all parents for their financial contributions to these events as well as for volunteering. We are lucky at Highwood to have such a passionate and supportive parental community.

**A huge thank you to all those who volunteered for the Disco. We will soon be sending out information for our Summer Fair on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June, if you are able to help out for a few hours please do sign up to help.**

### ATTENDANCE MATTERS

At Highwood we place a high importance on attendance and feel every effort should be made to attend school regularly and to achieve 100% attendance.

The greater your child's attendance at school, the more likely your child is to achieve their targets. The following information gives you some idea of what pupils should be working towards, and what action might be taken if you fall below accepted levels in line with government guidelines.



**Government guidance explains that the threshold for persistent absenteeism is below 90%.**

**100% Excellent** – this is what pupils should achieve. It means they can be really successful and make lots of progress.

**95% Satisfactory** – This means a pupil has missed almost 10 school days in a year. In five years this is almost a full term.

**Below 95% is considered 'Unsatisfactory'** At this stage a pupil's absence will be closely monitored. Parents will be contacted and invited to an Attendance Improvement Meeting (A.I.M).

90% attendance means a pupil has missed almost 20 days in a school year. In five years, this is ½ a school year. This now puts a pupil in the Government category of 'Persistent Absence' and **the school is expected to put things in place to improve a pupil's attendance.**

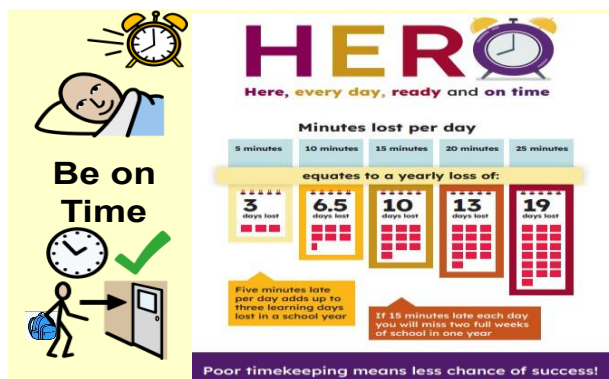
Parents will be contacted and expected to attend a meeting in school. At this stage parents can face further action such as a Fixed Penalty Notice from the Local Authority.

**85% Poor** – This means a pupil has missed almost 30 days in a school year. In five years, this is ¾ of a school year. At this stage parents face the possibility of court action.

**80% Very Poor** – This means a pupil has missed almost 40 days in a school year. In five years, this is a whole school year off school. At Highwood Primary we fully understand that there are exceptional circumstances that can impact on attendance and we will work closely with families to offer the necessary support and advice. Ultimately, we want all our children to attend for as many days as is possible to enable them to progress to the best of their ability and we hope to work with you to enable this to happen.

Also, a polite reminder to ensure if your child is absent from school, you are noting this on Arbor or via phone **by 9am.**

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



**Summer Term Uniform** The Staff and Governors of the school are justifiably proud of Highwood and expect pupils to share our pride in the uniform they wear.

Please remember that children still need to wear the school colours as part of the uniform.

**Shorts must be loose fitting, not Lycra, and sandals or Crocs are not allowed.**

**PE kits must be worn in for PE days ONLY.**

**Sweatshirt, cardigan or fleece in royal blue with school motif.**

- Polo shirt – white or royal blue
- Trousers, tailored shorts, skirts or pinafores – grey
- Socks – plain grey, black or white
- Shoes – black – **NO trainers** or markings/emblems.
- P.E. tops should be in house colour – These can be purchased from Mapac
- P.E. jumpers – Black – These can be purchased from Mapac
- P.E trainers – plain black or white
- P.E. shorts or tracksuit bottoms – plain black
- Hijabs should be of plain colour in royal blue, black, white or grey
- An optional summer uniform of blue/white gingham or striped dress is accepted.



As we move to the better weather that summer will hopefully bring, please can we politely remind you to ensure that your child brings a water bottle with them to school each day, so they can stay hydrated. Please also ensure your child has a named hat with them on the sunnier days.

Also, for those children who bring a packed lunch, a reminder that fizzy drinks, sweets and large chocolate bars **should not be included**.

Best wishes for the summer term.

**Bindu Rai, Headteacher**

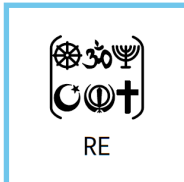
**Please look below to see the Diary Dates for the Summer term.**

**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.**

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| 03/06/26 | <b>Year 4</b> Multiplication Times table Check - Testing period commences                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 04/06/26 | Deadline for Della Allen Award nominations                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 05/06/26 | SEND Coffee Morning – Drop in at 8.50am.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 08/06/26 | Phonic Screening Check begins for <b>Year 1</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 08/06/26 | <b>Year 3 Parent/carer meeting PSHE , RSE Workshop 9.10am – 9.40am</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 11/06/26 | <b>Year 2</b> class Trip to Ashridge Estate                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 11/06/26 | <b>Year 6</b> Food Workshop                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 12/06/26 | <p>The Men's Football World Cup starts on 11th June. This is a great chance for us to learn about different countries, people, flags, time zones, climates, and cultures from around the world.</p> <p>Not everyone supports England, many people support other teams as well. Many of our families have connections to other countries, have visited places they love, or simply enjoy another team's kit or colours. We would love to hear which teams your children will be supporting so we can celebrate together in school.</p> <p><b>Non-Uniform Day – Children are invited to wear their favourite football team kit or the colours of the team they support.</b></p>  |
| 12/06/26 | <p>Watford FC's Community Sports and Education Trust have arranged a Joy of Moving Festival for the whole school.</p> <p>The sessions will last for half an hour and will take place on the field for one year group at a time. The afternoon nursery children will join Reception classes.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 15/06/26 | <p>Book Look Day after school</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 16/06/26 | <b>Year 3</b> Trip to Knebworth House                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 17/06/26 | New Nursery Parent Meeting 6.00pm                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 18/06/26 | <p><b>Early Years</b> Family Maths day</p> <p><b>Oak/Morning Nursery 9am-10am</b></p> <p><b>Ash/Afternoon Nursery 2pm-3pm</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 19/06/26 | <p>Friends of Highwood - Dads and Lads Pop Up Shopping Room</p> <p>Further information to be sent out</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

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| 23/06/26 |  <p><b>Sports Day – Details to follow in a separate letter</b></p> <p>This year's Sports Day will be organised as a <b>carousel of activities</b> to ensure maximum participation, inclusivity and enjoyment for all pupils while still allowing for healthy competition between houses.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>EYFS/KS1:</b> Morning session</li> <li>• <b>KS2:</b> Afternoon session</li> </ul> <p>Parents attend one full day and can watch children across different key stages.</p> <p>All pupils will compete in their <b>house groups</b> to earn points. 4 children will compete together, 1 from each house.</p>  |
| 24/06/26 | New Reception Parent Meeting 6.00pm                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 25/06/26 | <b>Year 4</b> Tudor Workshop all day                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 25/06/26 |  <p><b>Book Fair arrives at Highwood</b></p> <p>Details to follow in a separate letter</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 26/06/26 | Ark Farm Visit at Highwood for <b>Reception</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 26/06/26 | <b>Year 1</b> - History Toy Day Workshop                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 26/06/26 | <b>Year 4</b> Pedestrian Skills Workshop                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 27/06/26 | <p>Friends of Highwood Summer Fair</p> <p><b>Further information to be sent out. Please come along to help before or during the event.</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 29/06/26 | <b>Year 5</b> Trip to St Alban's Cathedral Victorian Day                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 01/07/26 |  <p><b>Cultural Day Celebration</b> – Details to follow in a separate letter.</p> <p>The aim of the event is to reflect on the importance of cultural diversity and how it enriches society, both culturally and as a driver of global development. It also promotes dialogue between children of different cultures, so everyone can work together to achieve important goals including peace and sustainable development.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 02/07/26 | <b>Year 6</b> Workshop with Watford School Trust – Ready for Secondary School Transition                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 07/07/26 | <b>Nursery</b> – Hartbeeps Teddy Bear's Picnic 12.15-3.15pm                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 09/07/26 | <b>Year 6</b> Transition Day at Secondary School – If you have additional days at your child's Secondary school, please inform the office team.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 09/07/26 | <b>Class swap morning</b> – All pupils will meet their new teachers<br>New to Reception will also visit their new teacher                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 14/07/26 | Pupil Annual Reports are sent home                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 14/07/26 | <b>Year 6</b> Leavers Performance to parent/ carers – Further information to be sent.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 16/07/26 | Year 6 Graduation 2.00pm                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |



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| 17/07/26 | Year 6 End of Primary School fun Trip                                                                 |
| 17/07/26 | Nursery – Walk and Picnic. Further information to be sent.                                            |
| 21/07/26 | NON SCHOOL UNIFORM DAY - £1 donation<br><br><b>Last day of academic year. School closes at 2.00pm</b> |