



Highwood Primary School

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Promoting Resilience, Achieving Potential

Headteacher Mrs B Rai

Thursday 26th May 2022

Dear Parent and Carers,

Jubilee Celebrations!



We are having a fabulous day celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee! An enormous thank you to the Herts Catering team for delivering a delicious royal lunch and to the Friends of Highwood for the ice lollies and for organising the Donut Sale after school. What a lot of lovely treats! We will publish the photos to capture the celebrations after half term.



Before we break up I want to mention a couple of things.

The government strongly recommends the use of synthetic phonics when teaching early literacy skills to children.



Here at the Highwood Primary School, we will be embarking upon using the Read Write Inc (RWInc) programme to get children off to a flying start with their English. RWInc is a method of learning based upon letter sounds and phonics, and we use it to aid children in their reading and writing.



Reading opens the door to learning. A child who reads a lot will become a good reader. A good reader will be able to read more challenging material. A child who can read more challenging material is a child who will learn. The more a child learns, the more he or she will want to find out.

All staff continue to make reading the top priority by teaching it consistently well. Where necessary, pupils receive regular one-to-one or small-group interventions. These help to make sure that they quickly catch up with their peers. Pupils are supported to read books that match their reading level. Teachers across the school promote the love of reading and ensure pupils can eagerly talk about their favourite books and authors.

On 6th June, our staff INSET day, we will be making the preparations for Read Write Inc so the school will be closed to pupils.

With this in mind, and ensuring the children make a smooth start to the day, we are making the following changes:

From Tuesday 7th June, Year 1 and Year 2 will start school at 8.50am together.

They will enter through the main Reception and walk to their class. **School will end for Year 1 and Year 2 at 3.15pm.**

Finally, I would like to share news from Mrs Marshall. She will be leaving Highwood Primary School after 16 years of dedicated service to our families, children and the school team. We are truly thankful for her support in a variety of ways.

She has brought strength to the team through demonstrating caring skills to ensure every child becomes a better reader and writer. She has provided great comfort to children who have been upset, and supported the team through the teaching assistant role in key stage 1 during her last few years.

On behalf of the staff and governors, we wish her a wonderfully adventurous future full of joy. She will be missed. Her last day at Highwood will be Friday 10th June.

Wishing you a happy half term break and I hope you enjoy the Jubilee celebrations.

Yours sincerely,

Bindu Rai
Headteacher