



# 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

Headteacher Mrs B Rai

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2022

## Newsletter 14

Dear Parent and Carers,

We hope you had an enjoyable half-term break and enjoyed the Platinum Jubilee weekend. The government has provided the school with a commemorative book dedicated to the Platinum Jubilee which has been distributed to all our Key Stage 2 children. Famous quotes from the Queen, along with details about the lives of significant Commonwealth figures such as former South African President Nelson Mandela, are featured in the book. There are also copies in each classroom and the library. We hope you enjoy reading it too.



The second half of summer term is already in full swing. Last Monday, the INSET day for staff focused upon the introduction of the Read Write Inc Programme and when the pupils returned on Tuesday, we began to implement the phonic sessions. I am pleased that the children are getting familiar with the new routines and seem to be enjoying it. We were pleased to welcome parents from Reception, Year 1 and 2 into school yesterday to attend the first workshop presented by Miss Cox and Mrs Fernandes. We continue to focus upon the school improvement priorities for the remainder of the academic year.



**GAME ON Sporting Activities Day** What a beautiful morning we were blessed with on Thursday, as all classes ventured out onto the field. Coach Joe was assisted by several Game On coaches and our wonderful team of teaching assistants to deliver a really successful day. Thank you to all of them for working so hard to make the day so enjoyable for the children. They had the opportunity to improve their skills in javelin, discus throwing, mini cricket, football and tag rugby, to name a few. The day was organised so that each child could achieve and make progress in a range of physical skills. In addition to this, the children learnt the values of the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

**The children demonstrated great sportsmanship, friendship as well as values of**

- **RESPECT**- fair play, knowing your limits and taking care of your health and the environment.
- **EXCELLENCE** - how to try your best and the importance of taking part in activities.
- **COURAGE** – not giving up, showing resilience.

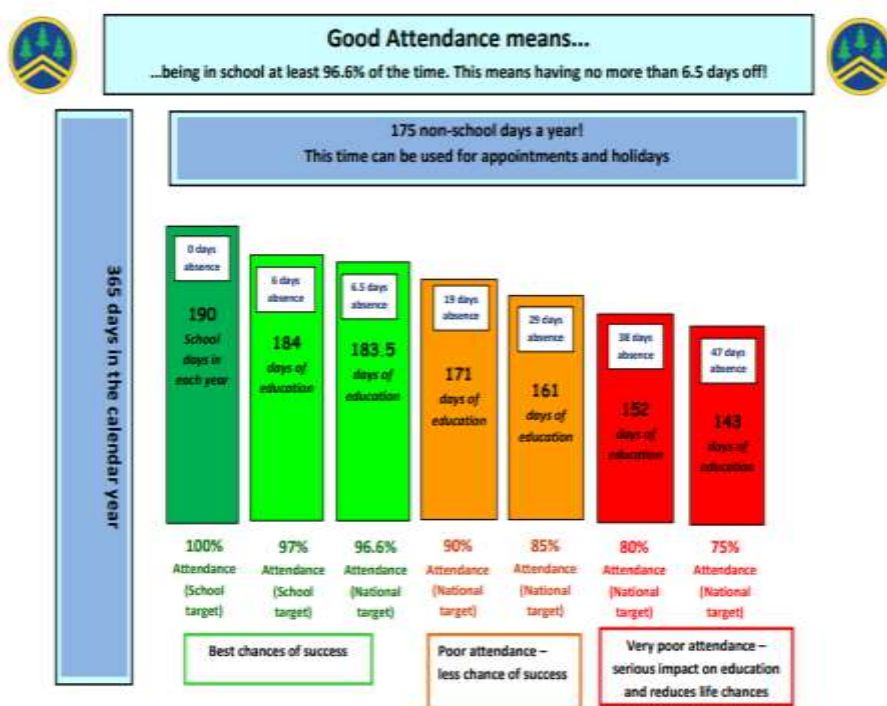


**ATTENDANCE MATTERS** I would like to remind parents that it is always best practice to tell the truth when your child is going to be absent from school. Children love to share stories of holidays or days out with their friends and our staff. Therefore, it is a shame when we find out that parents have given a different reason for their child’s absence (e.g. sickness). We do not want the children to feel pressure to keep secrets. This can make them worried and anxious when talking to adults.

We would like to remind parents that our Fixed Penalty Notices for holidays are issued after 15 sessions (7.5 days) of unauthorised absence in the current and/or previous term. This does **not** include days absent for illness or medical appointments.

At Highwood, we are committed to achieving excellent levels of attendance for individual children. Underpinning this commitment is the belief that if children attend school regularly and punctually, they will be best able to take full advantage of the educational opportunities available to them. We do all we can to encourage children to attend school. We look forward

to your co-operation and understanding as we strive to support your child. Mrs Faulkner, the Office Manager is here to help you should you wish to discuss or understand better our attendance and lateness policy.






**PUNCTUALITY** Please can we remind parents of the importance of arriving on time for school so your child does not miss out on valuable learning time.

**School Improvement Plan** As we reflect this academic year, we review our child-friendly version of the School Improvement Plan. It is set out below. **Further information can be located on the school website. Please kindly discuss it with your child about how much progress they have made this year so far.**

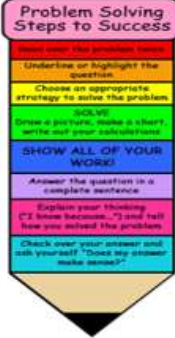
At Highwood we are trying hard to get better in our learning and make progress in the following areas:

**ATTEND TODAY  
ACHIEVE TOMORROW**



We will be on time and attend school every day.

**Problem Solving  
Steps to Success**




We will ensure that we demonstrate fluency within Mathematics so that we can apply these skills to problem solve, reason and achieve what is expected for our age and beyond. We will work on the mastery of Maths.

We will read the marking comments made in our book, respond to "live nudges" and ensure that we make steps of progress in each lesson.

We will make sure that more children make expected and exceeded progress in Reading, Writing and Maths so that everyone can achieve their best.

**Golden Rules**




We will continue to work with lots of different people, who live and work in our community, so we can understand and celebrate differences.


We will plan, do and critically reflect upon our spelling and handwriting performance. We will aim to develop more fluent handwriting so that we are able to focus upon the content of what we write. It will be a neat and cursive handwriting style.

We will read a variety of fiction and non-fiction books and become better readers in guided reading, shared reading and buddy reading. We will ensure our reading record and Go Read is used regularly.

**Pen Licence**




**writing**



We will talk about the Golden Rules and school values. We will try our best to demonstrate them each day. They will help us become a good citizen.

We will improve our reading comprehension skills so that we achieve what is expected for our age and beyond.

**Promoting Resilience  
Achieving Potential**



Our core values are  
Respect, Empathy,  
Gratitude, Honesty,  
Resilience

**The Friends of Highwood present... Highwood's Got Talent** On Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June twenty acts, which included over 30 pupils, performed on stage at The Grange Academy. Our children played a variety of instruments, sang, danced, told jokes, acted out drama skits as well as solving numerous Rubix cubes. The children showed courage and resilience throughout the evening. They enjoyed performing and were praised by their fellow classmates which was uplifting to see. The show ended with a great sing along and dance, including the parents joining the children on the stage.

Thank you to everyone who performed and thank you to our FABULOUS Friends of Highwood committee for their superb organisational skills and making it a fantastic, memorable night!



Please see the following diary dates. Remember that it is class photo day tomorrow! Please ensure all your children are in school unless unwell. We hope you can attend some of the upcoming events. Wishing you a good week ahead,

Bindu Rai  
Headteacher

## Dates for your diary

15.06.22	Class Photo Day
16.06.22	Reception classes trip to St. Albans
17.06.22	Father's Day pop up shop run by the Friends of Highwood
21.06.22	New to Reception meeting 6:00pm for prospective parents
22.06.22	New to Nursery meeting 6:00pm for prospective parents
23.06.22	Year 2 trip to Thorney Bay Beach
28.06.22	Year 1 Singing Festival at Watford School of Music
01.07.22	Non Uniform Day in exchange for a gift for the tombola for the summer fair
02.07.22	Highwood's Summer Fair
04.07.22	History off the Page visit for Year 1 'Toy Day'
05.07.22	Sports Day for KS1 and KS2
06.07.22	Sports Day for Early Years pupils – <b>NB Change of date</b>
07.07.22	<i>Reserve date for Sports Day for KS1 and KS2</i>
08.07.22	Annual reports to be sent home
13.07.22	Chestnut 6 Puppet performance for parents 9:30am – 11:00am
	Sycamore 6 Puppet performance for parents 2:00pm – 3.30pm
14.07.22	Year 6 transition day (visits to new secondary schools)
	Class swap day for the rest of the school – visiting their new classrooms and teachers
15.07.22	Attendance Assembly for children in school
20.07.22	Della Allen Awards
21.07.22	Year 6 leavers' assembly for parents to attend – 9:30am
22.07.22	End of term – school finishes at staggered times between 1:45-2:00pm

