



Highwood Primary School

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Promoting Resilience, Achieving Potential

Headteacher Mrs B Rai

Monday 3rd October 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a busy and exciting month at Highwood.

An enormous thank you to all our parents and carers who have offered positive comments about various aspects of school life:

- We are pleased that you are finding the approach to coming into school and picking up convenient.
- As you know Mrs. Khindey and I are often outside welcoming you and we are always available to have a chat. If there is anything you wish to share, please do not hesitate to approach us. If we need a longer conversation, we can plan for a meeting at a mutually convenient time.
- Class registers close at 9.00am. Therefore, please ensure you arrive on time. Children who arrive after 8.59am, will be kindly directed to the school office for their registration mark.
- It's been wonderful to have a high number of parents attend the Meet the Teacher Meetings and the Read Write Inc Phonics programme meetings.
- We were also delighted to commence class assemblies again last Friday. Chestnut 6 delivered a factual assembly about the human circulatory system, ending with a jazzy song by Glen Miller, "Hey, Mr. Miller".
- It is also great that many of you have commented positively on our more frequent use of Twitter. From now on, each week, the school team will share regular up-to-date learning with you. This will keep you in the loop of your child's learning, rather than receiving Round Up news at the end of the month.

School Council and ECO Committee.

Today we announced the new representatives for our classes in Year 4 to Year 6. They will act as a support network for other pupils. Other pupils can let the school council know about any concerns they may have about something at school or if they have any ideas on what they'd like to make happen. Pupils in Year 2 and 3 will help once the committee is established. We encourage all pupils to demonstrate pupil leadership qualities.



The first and most important job will be for the representatives is to help us create the playground they want with the support of Friends of Highwood. In the coming weeks, we will be holding meetings with various companies and sharing their ideas with the children.



We would like to thank all of the children who have put themselves forward for this important role and for being brave enough to write and present their manifesto! During the last few years, Mrs. Keith has been superbly leading all matters related to the environment. The school has been recognised for its commitment through various awards. This year, we will continue our efforts to influence a greener, more sustainable way of life within the school.



Volunteers We would like to express our gratitude to the parents who have volunteered to read with our pupils. Giving up your time each week makes a huge difference in supporting children to become better readers and writers. If you would like to volunteer your time at the school in any capacity, please send an email to admin@highwood.herts.sch.uk.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS Thank you for ensuring that your child arrives on time and attends school each day. We have the highest aspirations for all children and we are committed to enabling them to achieve and sustain the highest level of attendance, believing that every lesson counts. We kindly ask that you refer to the school's attendance policy and procedures on our website.





Thank you to those families who have started to bring in donations for our Harvest Table of Plenty. Harvest Assembly is a lovely occasion that encourages the children to think about where our food comes from and how lucky we are to live in a country where food is plentiful. We invite you to send into school any items from the list below (**watch the 'use by' dates!**) for the New Hope Trust Church. It will be much appreciated. I know that food banks up and down the country are really stretched at the moment and this is a local cause that we are very keen to support. **Please send them into your child's classroom.**

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|------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Biscuits | Foil | Tinned sweetcorn |
| Bottled water | Gravy granules | Tinned tomatoes |
| Cereals | Kitchen roll | Tinned tuna |
| Coffee | Olive oil | Tinned vegetables |
| Crisps | Salt and pepper | Toiletries |
| Deodorant | Soft drinks | Toothpaste |
| Dishwasher tablets | Squash | Vegetable oil |
| Feminine care products | Sugar | Washing up liquid |

DIARY DATES You'll see from the dates there's plenty to look forward to. There will be some additions of workshops and class trips. However, a separate letter will be sent home.

Yours sincerely,

Bindu Rai
Headteacher

03/10/22	<p>Black History Month starts – Learning to take place across the school Each year group will learn about a prominent person through a variety of subjects. We will be looking at influential people in black history. We will focus on inspirational quotes and achievements of both historic and modern-day people, with a particular focus on people from the UK.</p>
03/10/22	Listening to your child read and reading stories led by Mrs Cox and Mrs Fernandes 9.10- 9.30am. Parents in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and 2 are invited
05/10/22	Individual/sibling photos taken
06/10/22	<p>CENSUS DAY School funding allocation from the government is dependent on the number of meals ordered on this day, so we are understandably very keen for the maximum number of orders! We are facing significant cost pressures. We could lose up to £20,000 if we do not have all pupils in Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and those pupils eligible for Free School Meals take up a meal on Census Day. Please book a meal to help the school. Kindly read the letter that was sent out last week. Thank you</p> <p>Our cook has chosen the most popular options and there are seven things to choose from; beef burger, macaroni cheese, jacket potatoes with four various fillings or a ham roll.</p>
	 
07/10/22	<p>Poplar 5 sharing assembly 9.10-9.40am Maple 3 sharing assembly 2.45-3.10pm</p>
10/10/22	World Mental Health Day – we will be promoting the benefits of mindfulness, exercise, appreciation of music and creativity to help well being
12/10/22	Year 6 children departing for PGL residential trip
13/10/22	Diwali Assembly – visiting speaker to talk to the children
14/10/22	<p>Birch 2 sharing assembly 2.45-3.10pm Year 6 children return from PGL residential trip</p>
20/10/22	<p>Harvest Festival Assembly Friends of Highwood Disco event - Details to follow</p>
21/10/22	<p>Hawthorn 4 sharing assembly 9.10-9.40am Pine 1 sharing assembly 2.45 -3.10pm Pupils break up – normal time 3.15/3.20/3.25pm</p>
	Mon 24th October - Fri 28th October Half Term
31/10/22	<p>Friends of Highwood Mad Hair Day event – donation of £1.00 please There are lots of colourful and creative hairstyles to be worn. We look forward to your child participating in this event.</p>
02/11/22	Flu immunisations – details to follow
08/11/22	National Recycling Week
11/11/22	Remembrance Day/ Armistice Day. Two minute Silence Observed
14/11/22	Anti-Bullying Week Theme of 2022 is "Reach Out"
15/11/22	Parent Consultation evening 1 – details to follow
16/11/22	Parent Consultation evening 2 – details to follow
18/11/22	<p>Sycamore 6 sharing assembly 9.10- 9.40am Beech 2 sharing assembly 2.45 -3.10pm</p>
25/11/22	<p>Willow 5 sharing assembly 9.10- 9.40am Elm 1 sharing assembly 2.45 -3.10pm</p>

01/12/22	Year 2 History off the Page workshop
03/12/22	Friends of Highwood Christmas Fair
02/12/22	Hazel 4 sharing assembly 9.10- 9.40am
	Cedar 3 sharing assembly 2.45 -3.10pm
08/12/22	Hanukkah Assembly - details to be confirmed
08/12/22	Friends of Highwood Secret Santa Shopping Room Wrap Night – Please spare a few hours to help wrap up gifts. This is a brilliant way to make new friends, socialise and demonstrate teamwork. Thank you so much!
09/12/22	Friends of Highwood Christmas Secret Shopping Room
21/12/22	Pupils break up - School Ends at 2.00pm
Christmas Holidays Thursday 22/12/22 – Wednesday 4 th January 2023	
05/01/23	Start of spring term - welcome back to pupils