



Highwood Primary School

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Promoting Resilience, Achieving Potential

Co-Headteachers Ms M Green and Mrs D Harte

Friday 16th October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are nearly at the end of a marvellous start to the school year. Your teachers are in the process of contacting you all for Parent Consultations and to give you feedback as to how your child has settled back into school. As we are now officially approaching winter, please find attached an NHS letter reminding you of how to recognise whether you need to go for a test or to self isolate. Please remember that we have online work available on our Google Classrooms should your child need to isolate.

You Said, We Did....

Thank you for both the positive and constructive feedback that we are getting from our Highwood community. Our staff team are working very hard to keep the children safe whilst making school as normal as possible for them and progressing their learning! We always share supportive messages with our team and they have been really appreciated. Lots of parents have been talking to us about various parts of the school day and in response to this feedback, we will be making the following changes after half term.

Soft Starts

As the weather is getting colder, we recognise that this may be quite difficult for some parents as they have a long wait in between year group drop offs. In order to make this a bit easier over the winter, we will be introducing soft starts. This will work in the same way as we have been doing for rainy days and will reduce the need for parents and children to line up in the morning. The drawback to soft starts is that you will not see your child's teacher in the morning as they will be in class to receive the children, so please continue to email any urgent messages to be passed on. You will be able to speak to them at pick up time as usual. The table below shows the timings that each year group can arrive at school.

Early Years - Nursery & Reception	8:45am - 9:00am
Year 1	8:40am - 8:50am
Year 2	8:50am - 9:00am
Year 3	9:00am - 9:10am
Year 4	8:50am - 9:00am
Year 5	8:40am - 8:50am
Year 6	8:30am - 8:40am



Please can you ensure that during drop off and pick up that you are practising social distancing and following the one way system. We are adhering to government guidelines by having this in place and it can cause difficult conversations when we have to remind parents to follow it. Please help us to keep everyone safe by following the guidelines. We hope that the soft starts should make morning drop offs easier for everyone and reduce the congestion that we are currently experiencing.

Hot Lunches

We understand the importance of all children having a hot nutritious lunch on a cold day so after half term we will be returning to hot lunches with a limited menu. Lunches will be served in compostable boxes to the children in their designated lunch areas. Please check your emails to see the new menu.

Breakfast Club

After the half term break, we are resuming our Breakfast Club for parents who have booked sessions in advance for at least 3 days every week (no drop in facility available as numbers are limited). This is so that we can keep the wrap around bubbles as consistent as possible, in line with the government guidelines. Children will have lots of activities and fun games to play and be served breakfast by the staff. All equipment used will be quarantined each day so that they are safe to use the following week. It will be lovely to see them and have their usual happy greetings every morning!

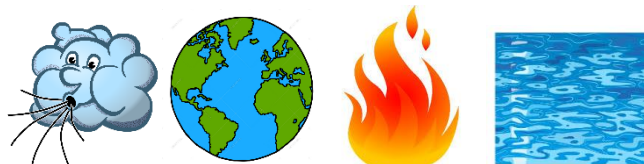
Uniform and P.E. Days

Please can we ask you to ensure that your child wears the correct school uniform on the days that they are not coming to school in their P.E. kits. We have noticed that standards are already slipping and we would like our Highwood children to represent us in the community with pride. Black trainers are not part of the school uniform unless you have notified the school office of a health reason as to why your child may need to wear them. In response to parents asking us at the gate, we have attached the uniform policy to this newsletter for you.

Friends Of Highwood

The Friends of Highwood have been busy organising some spooky events for your children to enjoy. All next week the children can pay 20p to vote for which teacher they would like to get 'splatted' on the last day of term. The results will be tallied up on Friday morning and the teacher with the most votes will be splatted in a live broadcast to all of the classrooms on Friday afternoon. Will it be Miss Denny, Mrs Kenny, Mr Marshall or Mr Willimott? Also on Friday we have our very popular Spooky Hair Day. Children will be allowed to come to school with spooky hair creations for a £1.00 donation. Check out the Friends of Highwood Facebook page for some inspiration! Every child will also be given a wooden pumpkin to take home over half term. We are encouraging them to decorate and display them in your window so the children can take part in the Great Neighbourhood Pumpkin Hunt over half term. Thank you to the Friends of Highwood for these events. All money raised goes towards enriching and enhancing your children's education so please participate if you are able.

October House Points Update



House Points	Air	Earth	Fire	Water
Total	63	82	73	91

Merit Charts

Well done to these children for their incredible resilience in completing their Merit Charts. Round of applause from us to you!



Hawthorn 4	Hazel 4	Poplar 5	Willow 5
Willow Darcey	Michael Aadi Lyla	Lily Nureena Jessica	Kayleigh

Have a great week!

Ms Green and Mrs Harte
Co-Headteachers