



Highwood Primary School
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Promoting Resilience, Achieving Potential
Headteacher Mrs B Rai

Friday 20th December 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the festive season, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the wonderful achievements of this autumn term and to thank you for your continued support for our school community.

This term has been full of highlights, for example our Harvest Festival, Pumpkin Carving, the Christmas Fair led by the Friends of Highwood, Year 5 learning to play the trombone and many trips and workshops. The children have experienced a variety of learning opportunities which contribute to making Highwood a special place for learning and growing. Your support, whether attending events, helping with home learning, or working alongside us to ensure your children thrive, is invaluable.

It has been a pleasure to see the children demonstrating resilience, kindness, and enthusiasm every day. These qualities are nurtured not just by the efforts of our dedicated staff but by the encouragement and care you provide at home.

We have some special **'Thank You'** messages. On Thursday 12th December, an enthusiastic team of volunteers planted some beautiful saplings of crab apple, hazel, silver birch, maple, hornbeam and wild cherry trees, along with a hedge, creating the foundations of what we hope will become a thriving outdoor learning environment in our Forest School area. Firstly, we would like to thank former parent Mr Ricky Roberts from R&R Gardening Services and his two young volunteers, and parent Olly Mansell and his team of volunteers from PHD Access. Secondly, we would like to thank Mrs Edmunds and her husband, who came into school on Sunday to continue with the planting, and Steve Pratt, our Forest School Practitioner, who came into school to complete the planting this week. Their contribution is planting more than just trees; they are planting the seeds of inspiration, education, and growth for our entire school community. **We cannot thank you enough for your hard work and dedication.**

This project is not only an investment in the natural beauty of our school grounds but also in the learning opportunities for our children. Over time, these trees will provide a space where pupils can connect with nature, develop important skills, and learn about sustainability. The variety of species chosen ensures a diverse habitat for wildlife, adding to the richness of the area and further inspiring curiosity and wonder.

As we head into the Christmas break, I hope you enjoy some well-deserved rest and make special memories with family and friends. On behalf of all the staff and the governing body, I would like to wish you a peaceful and joyful Christmas and a Happy New Year.



We look forward to welcoming you back in the Spring term, on Monday 6th January refreshed and ready for the exciting opportunities that lie ahead in 2025.

With warmest wishes,

Mrs Bindu Rai
Headteacher

The festive period can be a difficult time for some. If you need support during this time, please always reach out.

Mind: 0300 123 3393

Samaritans: 116 123

Childline: 0800 1111



If you have a safeguarding concern, please phone: **0300 123 4042 day or night.**
Remember to teach your child to stay safe online. Please remain safe and take care.

A poster titled "Online Safety" with a blue background. It features five rows of advice, each with a large letter in a colored box and a corresponding icon. The rows are: 1. "S" in a purple box: "Stay safe online by not sharing your personal information." with a padlock icon. 2. "M" in a green box: "Do not meet anyone who you have only become friends with online." with a handshake icon and a red 'X'. 3. "A" in an orange box: "Do not accept messages and friend requests from people you do not know." with a computer monitor icon and a person with a mask. 4. "R" in a blue box: "Not everything online is reliable. People online are strangers and you can't always trust everything they say." with a person at a desk icon and a speech bubble saying "Name: Carly Age: 10". 5. "T" in a red box: "Tell an adult you trust if anything happens online that you do not like." with a "CLICK CEOP Internet Safety" icon. At the bottom, there is a blue box with the text "Be careful what you share online! Stop and think before you share information online. Don't say or do anything that you wouldn't do in the real world!" and a small "Barnes" logo.