



Newsletter

Highwood Primary School Issue no.39

July 2019

'Where Individuals Matter'

Dear Parents/Carers,

This time last year, I wrote to parents about the progress we had made in the short time since our inspection. Our progress journey continues to be strong with the most recent Local Authority (LA) report sent to me stating:

The quality of provision, and of teaching and learning across the school, was Good. Teachers have worked hard to strengthen their classroom pedagogy and this was noticeable. Their confidence has grown over the year, and this is as a direct result of their own desire to do the best for their pupils, and targeted support given to them from the Senior Leadership Team.

LA Report June 24th 2019



Teamwork

I would like to take this opportunity to say, 'Thank You' to all the staff for their dedication and hard work in making sure we fulfil our school value of **Continual Improvement**. This has been evident all the way through this year and I am confident it will continue indefinitely.

I would also like to thank the wider school community for demonstrating another of our school values: **Trust**. You will see inside this newsletter the full results of our parent survey and the positivity of the feedback makes it all worthwhile to know that parents believe in our school ethos and support the work we do with your children. Having that close relationship between home and school is vital in continuing the positive journey we are on.

With our expansion complete and our school numbers rising, I have a genuine feeling of excitement about the future of Highwood. We have spent a significant amount of time further enhancing our curriculum for the children. What we have planned will have such a positive impact on the Highwood community and give further ways for parents to become actively involved in their child's learning. Without wishing the Summer away, the whole staff team can't wait to get started next academic year!

Have a great Summer - enjoy the rest ready for an exciting new term in the Autumn.

Matt Hickey
Head Teacher
@headhighwood



Foundation 1 News

Miss Nunn

Mrs Alleyne, Mrs Vanka, Miss Chaudhary and Miss Mair

We have had a busy second half to the Summer Term in F1. We have been continuing to explore our topic '**how are all animals different?**' and the children have also been participating in lots of activities to promote their personal, social and emotional development in preparation for the new school year.

This term we held our annual F1 sports day and I think we can all agree that the children did fantastically in all the sports activities. This was an opportunity for us to see the progress that the children have made in their physical development - experimenting with moving in different ways and showing off their balancing skills. The children are still talking about this event and were all very excited to receive their medals and certificate to celebrate their fantastic efforts.



We have rounded off our animal topic this term by learning all about reptiles. The children found this particular group of species very fascinating and it was lovely to see this area of the topic generating lots of interesting questions, allowing the children to demonstrate great curiosity. The children participated in many different reptile related activities such as making our own spiral snakes and exploring reptile sensory playdough.



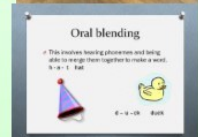
The children also demonstrated fantastic team work during this half of term when engaging in many different PSED (personal, social and emotional development) activities. They worked together to decide which scenarios were demonstrating a good friend and which ones were demonstrating a not so good friend. The children then displayed their understanding of this during learning zone, where they were all trying to be good friends to each other and were able to recognise when themselves or others were doing things to be a good friend.



The children are continuing to develop the muscles in their fingers in preparation for learning to write and gain control over mark-making tools. They have been experimenting with tweezers and orbs - trying to pick them up and place them into the dishes without squashing them or dropping them. This is such a simple but effective and enjoyable activity

for the children which helps to develop their fine motor skills.

During this half of the term, the children have been continuing to develop their phonics skills and knowledge. They have been experimenting with sound, creating their own sounds and distinguishing between different sounds in the music room using the different musical instruments. The older children have also moved onto the oral blending aspect of phonics where they are learning to hear the sounds the adult is sounding out and blend them together to make a word. They have done this through participating with many different oral blending games and activities.



The F1 team would like to take this opportunity to wish all our older children the best of luck as they continue on their journeys through education and move through to F2. We hope all the children have a fantastic summer break and we look forward to welcoming back our continuing F1s in September!

Thank you to all the parents that have supported us during this half of this term!



Foundation stage 2 News

Mrs Stroud, Mrs Perrott & Mrs Parker

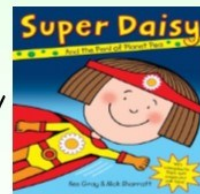
Mrs Leigh, Miss Rapley, Miss Appleton

Miss Walker, Mrs Jones, Miss Leitch

How do you become a hero?

Welcome to the Foundation Stage Newsletter for the second half of the summer term! We have been really busy continuing with our topic and with all our other learning. Come and have a look.

We have been looking at Super Heroes in stories, like 'Super Daisy' and the 'Peril of Planet Pea' and 'Superworm'. The children were able to write the lovely story of 'Superworm' and then they were able to write their own super hero story with a made up character.



We all had great fun on our super hero day, designing their own 'Super vegetable'. Everyone enjoyed the activities on offer, such as making masks, puppets and cake decorating!



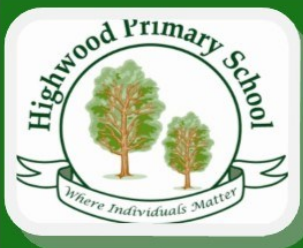
We had an amazing time at sports day and the children thoroughly enjoyed all of the different sports to try. We were so impressed with the sportsmanship and teamwork that the children displayed. They were really proud of themselves! We also had a tennis coaching session, which developed their hand-eye coordination and ball throwing skills. Hopefully some Wimbledon champions in the making!



In maths the children have loved all the practical challenges that they have engaged with. They made magic potions using ingredients like 'spider's legs' and 'bats blood'! The children have also enjoyed other problem solving activities, which has involved skills such as: weighing, estimating, measuring and representing number.

Thank you for coming to SPLAT, all the adults and children agreed that it was the best one so far!

Thank you for your support this half term, we look forward to seeing you after the summer holidays. Enjoy!



Year 1 News - Summer 2

Mrs Weir & Miss Amor

Mrs Butler, Mrs Turnbull, Miss Rajput, Mrs Padhi, Mrs Leslie

What an awesome year it has been! We are so proud of all the progress the children have made both academically and personally. We are confident that they are ready to tackle the challenges of Year 2. We hope that you have a restful and enjoyable summer holiday making precious memories.

Where do people like to go on days out?

English

We started off the half term by taking a closer look at poetry. The children enjoyed both listening to and performing poems. They even tried their hand at writing a rhyming poem. We hope that you enjoyed our performances at the Highwood Summer Picnic.

For our final piece of writing we wrote a letter to Mr Hickey to try to persuade him to allow us to go on a day out to the park. We ensured that we used a variety of persuasive writing tools such as time connectives, WOW words and rhetorical questions. The children were very creative with their persuasive arguments and thereby made it too hard for Mr Hickey to deny our request!



Maths

We tried our hand at multiplication and division. We learnt that multiplication means that we are making groups of and that division means sharing equally in smaller groups/values. We challenged the children to represent multiplication problems using arrays. It didn't take them long to realise that they could use their knowledge of counting in 2s, 5s and 10s to help them work out the answer to a multiplication problem. This will stand them in good stead for when they become a Times Table Rockstar in Year 2!



Topic and Science

We linked both our topic and science with art to sketch postcards of days out and we also created pastel artwork of a variety of common plants and flowers. Thank you to everyone who attended the Art SPLAT where we could see the children's creativity in full flow when they made their seasons trees. We looked at what plants need to be strong and healthy and we even planted our own seeds.



For regular updates and highlights, please follow us on Twitter:



@Highwoodprim1

(Mrs Weir)

@2Highwoodprim1

(Miss Amor)



Year 2 News

Mrs Eatwell, Mrs Robinson & Mrs Neilson

What is the difference between a cake and a biscuit?

I cannot believe it is coming to the end of your child's final half term in Year 2 and the time has absolutely flown.

The children's SATs results have been finalised and these will be given out to parents at the end of the year. All of the children have learnt so much this year and this has been showcased in their SATs results.



We have continued our Summer topic "what is the difference between a cake and a biscuit?" We have used this topic in all areas of the curriculum. Most recently we have been exploring Huntley and Palmers in preparation for our trip to Reading Museum. The children have learnt all about the history behind Huntley and Palmers and we have explored their tins. The children then designed their own tin in the style of Huntley and Palmer.

A huge thank you to all of the parents who came to our SPLAT afternoon. Your children loved designing Huntley and Palmer's tins and exploring pastels with you!

In maths we have continued to revisit many concepts, focusing this time mainly on number. We have revised the multiplication and division facts for the 2, 5 and 10 times tables as well as the multiplication facts for the 3s. The children seem very secure in counting in steps of 2, 5, 10 and 3 now.



In Literacy, much of our time has been dedicated to preparing for our learning reviews, ready

for you to come in and discuss with the children. Your child has thought carefully about each learning behaviour and they have written about how they have used each one this year. Some of their ideas are fantastic and I know that they cannot wait to share them with you.



In science, we have continued learning about plants and asking the question, what do plants need to grow and be healthy? We have reached our conclusions and the results were very interesting. Just look at the images and you will see how shocked we were. The children were so surprised that the plant with no light grew so long and spindly.



We wish you an amazing Summer break with your family and friends and look forward to seeing you at the start of the new academic year. Get lots of rest!



Follow us on Twitter @HighwoodPrimYr2

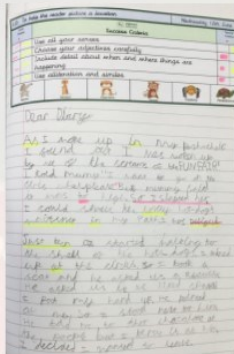


Year 3 News

**Mrs Hartgrove, Mrs Tindall
& Mrs Chintagunta**

What would happen if we ran out of water?

LITERACY



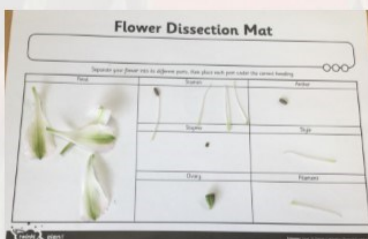
In our final term we have written diary entries imagining we have travelled somewhere. Some children chose places they have been while others created imaginary lands.

MATHS

In maths we tackled the very tricky topic of time. We had to try and read the time to the nearest minute and then convert it to digital time. We also learnt about the 24-hour clock and tried to remember how many days were in each month. We found it pretty tricky so lots of practise over the summer would be great!

SCIENCE

Science we have been looking at plants. We went looking at the different plants outside and then dissected



a flower to identify all the different parts.

TOPIC

We continued our topic of water but looked specifically at the Nile in Egypt. We learnt about how it was important to the Ancient Egyptians and the ways it influenced their lives.



Our trip took us to the River and Rowing Museum in Henley. We used practical equipment to look at the transportation of sediment down a river

and put all the key features of the Thames on a map. Then we went for a walk along the river to the lock. We had great fun watching the boats in the lock even if the footbridge proved a bit scary for some.



This term we also had our first KS2 sports day. We all did brilliantly and showed how hard we have been working in P.E to run our 200m.

© Mandy Barrow

Follow us on Twitter: [@HighwoodPrimYr3](https://twitter.com/HighwoodPrimYr3)





Year 4 News Summer 2 Mr Allaway and Mrs Anil

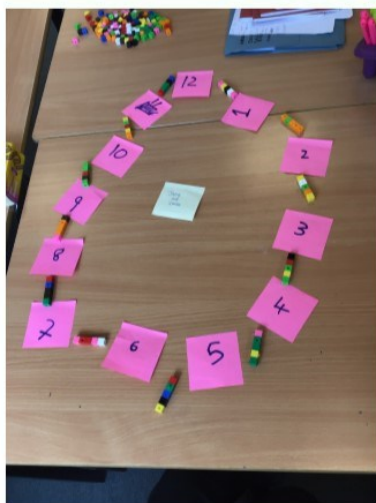
'Why would someone build a castle here?'

English - Rags to Riches

This term year 4 have been learning to write a 'Rags to Riches' narrative set in a medieval setting. They have been learning to affect the reader's opinion of characters through their use of actions and vocabulary.

This has been linked to our class novel 'Sir Gawain and the Green Knight' by Michael Morpurgo. This retelling of a traditional medieval text has helped the children to understand how characters might have acted in the past, and they have been using the books' excellent vocabulary to improve their own writing.

Maths - Time and Statistics



Year 4 have been learning to read the time this term, using both analogue and digital clocks. We have been looking at 12 and 24 hours clocks, as well as understanding how to solve problems involving durations of time.

Our last unit of the year has been to look at statistics. Year 4 have been collecting data and representing it on different graphs. They have also been learning how to analyse the data to solve problems.

Science - Electricity

This term Year 4 have been learning all about electricity, including how it



is produced, how to be safe around it and how to create a variety of circuits.

Residential trip - Sunny Swanage



Obviously, the highlight of this term was the residential trip to Swanage on the Dorset coast. The children all seemed to really enjoy themselves, especially when they were allowed to play games on the beach and paddle in the sea.

It started with a slight amble up a hill so we could walk down the other side to Durdle Door. According to several children however, we didn't walk up a hill, we trekked up a mountain.

On the Thursday we explored Swanage and the coast line in the baking heat. We took in the sights and sounds of the small town, creating detailed sketches and Pop Art seaside scenes. The children enjoyed visiting the RNLI where they got to learn all about what the organisation does, the boats they use and the rescues they make.

Finally, we spent the day at Corfe Castle, learning all about its history and how it played a pivotal role in both Norman and civil war times. Year 4 were particularly impressed during part of the trip when the tour guide explained to them that they were actually stood in a medieval toilet.

Follow us on twitter @HighwoodPrimYr4





Year 5 News

Summer 2 2019

Mrs Raines & Mrs Chaudhary

Are heroes and villains so different?

As always, the last term of the year has been jam packed with different activities and experiences. It has been hard work but also a lot of fun.

History

The main focus of the term has been Ancient Greece. We have continued learning about the Ancient Greeks, by re-searching how ordinary people lived in Ancient Greece. In particular, we found out about the design and functions of different Greek jugs before using these to create our own designs.



English



Last half-term, we read a lot of Greek myths; this half-term, we wrote our own.

The children needed to use all their learning behaviours in order to produce a minibook of their stories. These have taken pride of place in our classroom on a special shelf that Mrs Chaudhary made.

P.E.

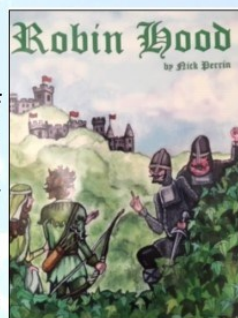
Outdoor PE has been mostly athletics this term. The children have worked on their fitness, trying to improve times and distances. We have also had a go at some Greek dancing - it took a lot of concentration to 'step, step, step, hop' in time with the music!

Bulmershe Fishbowl Day

Last week, we had the exciting opportunity to be secondary students for the day at Bulmershe School. We spent some of our day in a Science lab. Here, we had the chance to test out what happened when different metal compounds were used; this meant one thing:- using a Bunsen burner! We found out that we could tell which different metals were used in different coloured fire-works. During the PE session we played 'capture the flag'. Unfortunately, we weren't given swords and shields;; nor were we able to call upon the help of any Greek Gods! But it was still a lot of fun. In drama, we all re-told the story of the Lion King, where each group took part of the story to tell through freeze frames. We also had fun lessons in music and English.

Robin Hood Production

One of the final challenges of the term has been the Year 5 & 6 production of 'Robin Hood'. We have spent a long time learning lines, practising songs, rehearsing dances and lines, but it all paid off in the end! The pupils put on an incredible performance - all showing off their individual skills to pull together in an fabulous team. Great work everyone!



It has been a very special year and I feel privileged to have had the chance to teach your children. I am very pleased that I will be taking them with me into Year 6. Have a wonderful summer break and time together. We look forward to seeing everyone in September, fully refreshed and ready for the new challenges ahead.

Follow us on Twitter @HighwoodPrimYr5



Year 6 News

Teacher: Mr Pearce, Mrs. Haden & Mrs. Render

What is the secret to success?

Welcome to your last newsletter from Year 6 and your child's last newsletter from Highwood. The children have come a long way this year – it has been a pleasure to see them mature and grow. Although this last half term has been filled with sporting events, visits to secondary schools and the end of year production and our trip to bowling and laser quest, we have managed to fit in some more traditional classroom learning.

English

In English, we have been looking at biographical writing and the lives of people who we consider successful. We have been spending a lot of time responding to questions and each other in Whole Class Reading sessions using only our skills for talk - that means no pencils, no writing but lots of formal dialogue and it has been really effective: the main outcome that I am most pleased with is, in having to both use full sentences to respond and have a reason for an opinion, the pupils have avoided answering quickly and now take more time to think about their answers. We have also been working on how we can use our voices to reflect the meaning in what we read by using intonation - everybody has been able to show how they can do this!

Maths & Science

After studying the impact of exercise on the heart and lungs, the pupils got into teams and set about creating a scientific investigation to explore the questions: *"How does exercise impact on heart rate and do all activities impact it in the same way?"* We looked at the different variables the experiment could include as well as what we thought would happen based on what we had learned so far. The pupils then had to decide on a way of measuring, recording and presenting the data that they collected - it was a real mixture of skills and learning behaviours! After this, we investigated the human digestive system and looked at the journey that food and water take through our bodies including all of the amazing processes and organs



that all work together to help our body extract and distribute energy. We then made a non-fiction text suitable for Lower Key Stage 2 to understand explaining that journey.

Robin Hood

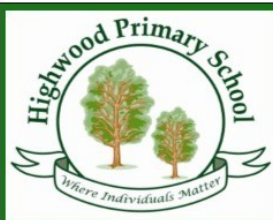
After both Year 5 and 6 have investigated the question *'Are Heroes and Villains That Different?'* We have been practising and honing our performance of our Y5/6 production *Robin Hood* - an outlaw hailed as a hero! The pupils have been undergoing rigorous singing and action workshops and this week sees all the effort and hard work made by pupils and staff alike come to a climax - we hope parents, friends and family all enjoy themselves and I would like to thank the staff and pupils for all their hard work up to this point!

Bowling and Laser quest

It was great to take the Year 6s for a fun-packed afternoon of lazerquest and bowling last week: after all their hard work in preparing for and undergoing SATs, the pupils definitely deserved a treat. I am amazed at the bowling techniques I witnessed at that bowling alley - I never knew over-arm bowling could be so effective!



Mrs Haden, Mrs Render and I would like to wish all the children the very best as they move on up to secondary school.



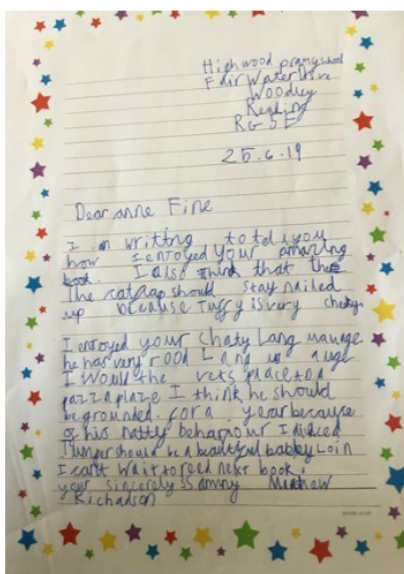
The Orchard Speech and Language Resource News

Mrs Godfrey & Mr Bevan

Mrs Payne, Mrs Wright, Mrs Jenkins and Mrs Pithiya

So we come to the end of a busy year in our new home in The Orchard and we're so proud to look back at all the progress that we've seen the children make. We'd like to thank you for all the support over the year as well as saying a fond farewell to a certain boy in Year 6. We hope you all have a safe and restful summer holiday and we look forward to welcoming you back in September. The Resource Team.

Literacy— KS2 and Y2 Tell Anne Fine Y1s Help Me!



Our older children have started to use their 'pebble books' for making notes of grammar, shape coding and improving sentences. They all had suggestions about how Anne Fine could change the story in 'The Diary of Killer Cat', so they wrote to tell her. We hope she writes back! Our Y1s wrote and posted a series of postcards from the Three Little Pigs. We hope you enjoyed reading them at home.

Maths— Measuring and Estimating and Describing Position



We have been using lots of different units of measure inside and outside, including measuring each other's heights. We have also had fun making $\frac{1}{4}$,

$\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ turns and then using this knowledge to programme the beebots. [Follow us on Twitter: @HighwoodPrimR](#)





Family Centre



I can't believe that we are now at the summer holidays. I hope that everyone has a lovely 6 weeks off school and I will look forward to seeing everyone back in September.

In September, Stay and play sessions will continue to run on a Thursday morning. From 8.45-9.30am. These are free to attend for any parent at Highwood who has younger children not yet at school. If you would like to come and join in please just turn up! It would be lovely to see some new faces.



The Family Centre coffee morning will also continue. These are held on the first Monday of every month from 8.45 - 9.15am. Alongside this Friends Of Highwood also run a second hand uniform sale. The Family Centre doors will be open and anyone from the school is welcome, including younger siblings as there are plenty of toys to play with! The next one is on **Monday 9th September**.

Next term adult education will be running a 'How to help your child with English' course. This will be focussed on helping children in key stage 1. The course will run on a Friday morning and will start on Friday 27th September. I will send out more details after the holidays. We are also looking into running another ESOL course (English for Speakers of Other Languages) but at the moment there are no tutors available. When Adult Education have an available tutor I will send a letter home.

In October Parenting Special Children will be coming into the family centre and running a Sleep course. The course will focus on giving strategies for helping your child/children to be able to fall asleep and or stay asleep! It will be run on a Friday morning for 2 weeks. They are only able to have 8 people per group. I will send out a letter nearer the time.

On a final note, if there are any groups or sessions that you would like to be held in the Family Centre please do come and chat with me. The family centre is a wonderful resource to have in our school and it would be wonderful to see it in constant use!

Michelle



PE/Sports News

Sports coach: Mr Edwards

Welcome to the last "PE & Sports News Page" of the 2018/19 academic year.

PE Lessons:

The classes have been concluding the suite of athletics events, learning cricket skills & playing full matches accumulating points week on week. Year 6 have completed their final assessments pulling all of their learning into the last 3 weeks of their primary school life, teaching their peers various activities and running KS1 Sports day. Year 2 have also had an extra session taking part in Dance with our teachers Miss Coleman & Miss King. This is still proving to be a fantastic hit with the children of all ages, boys and girls, so we are pleased to still be able to offer this opportunity to the children of Highwood.

This terms sporting stars in these lessons have been Zia, J & Omabayo (FS2), Gracie-May (Yr3), Courtney, Jaydon & Lewis (Yr4), Jayden, Hitesh, Haseeb, Ria & Sofia (Yr5), Sam, Harvey, Megan & Josh (Yr6).

Interhouse Rounders:

This half term will see the conclusion of the Interhouse Rounders competition with Falcons currently leading with 2 games to go this week.

Matches & Tournaments:

WPSC League.

This term we have been involved again in the Wokingham Schools Cricket League. We have played games against Oaklands, Robert Piggott & this week our final game against Winnersh. So far we have played 2, won 1 and lost 1.

We also entered the Wokingham Schools cricket festival held at Reddam House School. This was a beautiful sunny day that saw Highwood reach their first semi final, narrowly beaten by St Pauls yet again in a repeat of last years quarter final. A great result and we are very proud of their progress this year.

Wokingham Schools Quadkids Tournament.

Our athletics team made their way to Palmer Park Athletics Stadium to compete in this years tournament. There were some incredible individual performances to take away as memories from a great afternoon of athletics. This year was again very close but unfortunately we missed out on county finals. Maybe next year? Incidentally, Jayden Phillips in year 5 came away as the 7th best score in the tournament out of over 200 athletes and he is still only a year 5. We are hoping for him to top that list next year especially as he has now been recruited by Reading Athletics Club for extra professional coaching.

Highwood Primary 2019 Sports Day.

This year sports day looked a little in doubt due to the changeable weather. However, after a re-schedule of the KS2 event, it all ran smoothly.. Due to the fantastic comments received by parents and staff last year, I decided a repeat of format for this year. Both KS2 and KS1 had a carousel of activities plus every child being entered into a running race. Sports day wouldn't be the same without the parents and toddlers races and again they didn't disappoint. After a whole 2 mornings events across KS2 and KS1 sports days, only 8 points separated 1st & 2nd place, it just goes to prove that every child played their part and every last ounce of extra effort makes the difference. A true reflection of the day was demonstrated by Katherine Goussard in year 4 when she went to pick up a falling Holly-May sacrificing her own potential victory. True sportsmanship and the values we cherish. Once again I want to thank all of the staff, Bulmershe young leaders that ran the KS2 activities, year 6s and the parents for their support of this years sports day.



PE/Sports News 2

Sports coach: Mr Edwards



Sports Achievements out of school

After Isabella was scouted by Pinewood Gymnastics club at the schools competition, she has entered her first competition gaining a silver in beam and a gold medal in floor. A fantastic achievement on her first go. Well done Isabella.



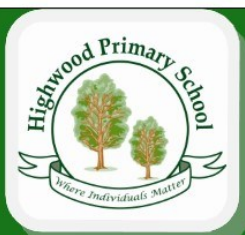
After

Logan achieved "most improved" player award last year, this year he went one better gaining the "Players, player" of the year award for his football team Woodley Zebra's.

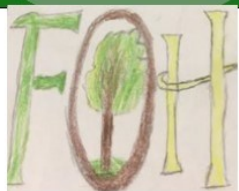
I wish you all a fabulous and sunny summer holidays.

Mr Edwards





FRIENDS OF HIGHWOOD



Friends of Highwood

What a busy year! This year we have supported a lot of school projects. We have donated money for a new sports kit; we sponsored the big man in red when he visited foundation stage at Christmas time, paid for all the crackers and drinks for the school Christmas dinner; donated money so that the Year 6 leavers hoodies were more affordable and also bought wet play boxes for all classes (these include resources such as lego, colouring books, board games, top trumps and k-nex).



Year 4 finally decided what they wanted to spend their smarties competition winning money on... ice-creams whilst at Swanage! It looked like they enjoyed them in the sunshine! Well done for raising the most money!

We have finally been lucky enough to have had good weather and be able to sell ice lollies every Friday. We know these have been a hit with the children, and they are a bargain at just 50p each. Not to mention the fact that all the money goes back to the school!



This half term is finishing with the family picnic, which at the time of this being written is still to happen. We are hoping the weather will hold and it will be a huge success with everyone enjoying themselves. Thank you to everyone who donated a tombola prize and bought raffle tickets.

It has been great to see many of you taking advantage of the second hand uniform. Remember that you can buy it via our email (foh@highwood.wokingham.sch.uk) or at the monthly coffee morning at the family centre. We have logoed jumpers and cardigans, as well as many school trousers, skirts, pinafores, shorts, summer dresses and some PE kit. Please think of FOH if your child outgrows their school clothes. Donations can be given to one of us or handed in at the school office.



Next term we are holding our AGM on Wednesday 25th September and we invite everyone to join us. Please come along and find out who we are and what we do. We are running it straight after school and there will be a DVD showing in one of the classrooms, manned by a selection of teachers so that you are free to meet us and find out all about us. We are always looking for new ideas and it would be great if people could give just a small amount of time during the year to support us.

We are also holding a film night on Thursday 17th October. We would like to extend our events to parents and are hoping to hold a fish and chip quiz night during the autumn term. Then we will be looking forward to the Winter Fair that is on Saturday 7th December, 10am - 12.

Thank you for all your support this year and we look forward to seeing you at our events next term.

Friends of Highwood (FOH)



Reminders

MEDICINES

Only prescribed medicine in the prescribed container may be administered by school staff. A form must be completed at the school office.



EARRINGS

Please note that only stud earrings are allowed and earrings must be removed for PE.



Nut-free school.

Please ensure that your child does not bring any nut products into school, or food cooked in nut oil or containing any traces of nuts.



Stay and Play



Thursdays in the Family Centre - 8.55am to 10am

ABSENCE

Please contact the school by 9.30am either by through the ParentMail APP or by phone on 0118 9265493 if your child is not well. You can also notify us on the school news app

If your child is going to be late in and requires a dinner please ensure this is ordered by 9.30am.

ATTENDANCE

All requests for leave of absence must be made on the absence form available from the school office.

Routine appointments should be made outside of school time. Please see the latest Attendance Policy on the school website regarding Penalty Notices.

PARKING



There is no parking on the school site unless you have been authorised to do so.

Please be considerate to our neighbours in Carrick Gardens and Kingfisher Drive by not parking on pavements, grass verges, across driveways and single yellow lines. We have received a number of complaints from local residents about inconsiderate parking, near misses and aggressive parents. All reported incidents have been passed to the police.

Please use the Park n Stride from the Waterside Public House.



Parental Survey Results 2019

Overview

	Parent Survey 2019 (88 surveys received = 26.3%) 1 response = 1.13% (Totals may not = 100% due to rounding)	Strongly agree	Agree	Don't know	Disagree	Strongly disagree
1	My child is happy and enjoys school	67%	25%	3%	2%	2%
2	I feel welcome when I come into school	67%	23%	3%	7%	0%
3	The school encourages parents to play an active part in school life	59%	36%	2%	2%	0%
4	I enjoy spending time with my child on the school SPLAT Days	71%	21%	7%	1%	0%
5	I would find it easy to approach the school with a question or concern and feel the school would respond to my concern	62%	26%	3%	4%	5%
6	I know how to help my child with their homework	49%	39%	5%	6%	1%
7	The support we offer parents through our Family Centre is well received.	18%	18%	63%	0%	0%
8	My child receives an adequate amount of homework	42%	38%	9%	7%	4%
9	I am satisfied with the reading books/ materials my child brings home	53%	41%	0%	7%	0%
10	I get enough information about the curriculum my child is following	53%	36%	8%	3%	0%
11	Receiving a mid year report has helped my child more effectively.	42%	45%	12%	1%	0%
12	The school communicates effectively with parents using a variety of media.	48%	40%	11%	1%	0%
13	My child is taught well and I am happy with the progress they make.	59%	37%	3%	1%	0%
14	The wrap around care (Breakfast and After School Club) is a valuable resource	46%	20%	30%	4%	0%
15	I feel my child is safe and well looked after	62%	34%	1%	2%	0%
16	I am aware of Highwood's Governing Body and its role	33%	33%	31%	1%	2%
17	The school achieves high standards of good behaviour	45%	38%	14%	4%	0%
18	The school deals effectively with bullying	35%	19%	36%	3%	6%
19	There are sufficient extra-curricular activities available	28%	34%	24%	12%	2%
20	I feel the school is well led and managed	53%	38%	3%	6%	0%
21	I would recommend Highwood to other parents	60%	29%	5%	5%	2%



Parental Survey Results 2019

Analysis

Successes:

92% of parents Agree / Strongly Agree that their children are happy in school.

95% of parents Agree / Strongly Agree that we encourage you to take an active role in school life.

80% of parents Agree / Strongly Agree that we give the right amount of homework. This is our largest ever percentage for this question!

88% parents Agree / Strongly Agree that we communicate effectively using a variety of media.

91% parents Agree / Strongly Agree that school is well led.

89% parents Agree / Strongly Agree that they would recommend Highwood to other parents.

You also said	We plan to do
36% of parent's didn't know if we dealt effectively with Bullying and 9% disagreed that we did.	Increase parental awareness of how the school defines bullying and make our procedures for dealing with it more widely understood. This will be added to the Headteacher presentation in the Autumn Term.
14% of parents said that we did not provide enough extra curricular clubs	In September, the breakfast club will move back to the play room / old IT suite. This will then free up the main hall space in the morning to facilitate additional clubs. These are likely to be provided by external providers at a cost to parents, but would also be available to children of all ages
7% disagreed that parents were satisfied with the reading materials their children bring home	Whilst this is a low percentage, we plan to significantly invest in the reading materials across the school this financial year.
63% did not know whether our Family Centre is well received by parents.	We plan to create a separate page on the school website to showcase the opportunities available through the school so that parents understand how we can support families beyond the
There were written comments that requested having greater notice about school events.	In the newsletter, we have included all the significant events in the school diary, so that parents have plenty of notice about the school events they wish to attend.



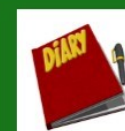
Diary Dates 1



DATE	EVENT	TIME
Tue 23rd July 2019	Last day of term - school closes at 1.30pm	1.30pm
Wed 24th July to Mon 2nd Sept	Summer holidays	
Tues 3rd September 2019	INSET DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED	All day
Wed 4th September 2019	School starts for Years 1 to 6	8.45am
Wed 4th - Friday 6th Sept 2019	Foundation closed for home visits	All week
Mon 9th September 2019	Tea and Tissues	9.00 - 9.30am
Thurs 12th September 2019	Meet The Teacher	6.00 - 7.30pm
Mon 16th September 2019	Literacy Workshop - Year 1	3.30 - 4.30pm
Thurs 19th September 2019	Literacy Workshop - Year 4	3.30 - 4.30pm
Mon 23rd September 2019	Literacy Workshop - Year 2	3.30 - 4.30pm
Wed 25th September 2019	FOH AGM	3.30 - 5.00pm
Thurs 26th September 2019	Literacy Workshop - Year 5	3.30 - 4.30pm
Mon 30th September 2019	Literacy Workshop - Year 6	3.30 - 4.30pm
Thurs 3rd October 2019	Literacy Workshop - Year 3	3.30 - 4.30pm
Mon 7th October 2019	F2 Phonics/Reading Workshop	3.30 - 4.30pm
Mon 14th October 2019	F1 Prime Areas Workshop	3.30 - 4.30pm
Thurs 17th October 2019	FOH Film Night	3.30 - 5.00pm
Thurs 17th October 2019	Year 6 PGL parent meeting	3.30 - 4.30pm
Wed 23rd October 2019	Parents evening meetings	3.30 - 6.00pm
Thur 24th October 2019	Parents evening meetings	5.00 - 8.00pm
28th October - 1st Nov 2019	Half term holiday	All week



Diary Dates 2



DATE	EVENT	TIME
4th - 8th November 2019	Year 6 PGL trip	All week
Mon 11th November 2019	Remembrance Event	10.15 - 11.30am
Tues 12th November 2019	Open Days for prospective F2 parents Sept 2020	Tours at 9.30am, 1.30pm and 6.00pm
Thurs 14th November 2019	Open Days for prospective F2 parents Sept 2020	Tours at 9.30am, 1.30pm and 6.00pm
Thurs 14th November 2019	Year 5 parent meeting for PGL 2020	3.30 - 4.30pm
Fri 15th November 2019	Non-uniform day for donations for Winter Fair	All Day
Tues 19th November 2019	KS1 SPLAT	1.30 - 3.15pm
Tues 19th November 2019	Maths Workshop - Year 1	3.30 - 4.30pm
Tues 19th November 2019	Maths Workshop - Year 2	3.30 - 4.30pm
Wed 20th November 2019	F1 SPLAT	10.00 - 11.30am
Wed 20th November 2019	F2 SPLAT	1.30 - 3.15pm
Tues 26th November 2019	Lower KS2 SPLAT	1.30 - 3.15pm
Tues 26th November 2019	Maths Workshop - Year 3	3.30 - 4.30pm
Tues 26th November 2019	Maths Workshop - Year 4	3.30 - 4.30pm
Wed 27th November 2019	Upper KS2 SPLAT	1.30 - 3.15pm
Wed 27th November 2019	Maths Workshop - Year 5	3.30 - 4.30pm
Wed 27th November 2019	Maths Workshop - Year 6	3.30 - 4.30pm
Thurs 28th November 2019	F2 Maths Workshop	3.30 - 4.30pm
Fri 29th November 2019	Non-uniform day for donations for Winter Fair	All Day
Tues 3rd December 2019	New to Nursery parents meeting for January starters	1.30 - 2.30pm
Saturday 7th December 2019	FOH Winter Fair	9.00am - 2.00pm
Wed 11th December 2019	FS Nativity	9.15 - 9.45am
Wed 11th December 2019	KS1 Nativity	9.45 - 10.30am
Thurs 12th December 2019	FS Nativity	1.45 - 2.15pm
Thurs 12th December 2019	KS1 Nativity	2.15 - 3.00pm
Fri 13th December 2019	Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children	All Day
Fri 13th December 2019	FS Nativity	9.15 - 9.45am
Fri 13th December 2019	KS1 Nativity	9.45 - 10.30am
23rd Dec 2019 - 3rd Jan 2020	Christmas holidays	
Mon 6th January 2020	INSET DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED	All day
Tue 7th January 2020	Start of the Spring Term	8.45am

PHOTOS

Year 5 & 6 production

