



# Newsletter

## Highwood Primary School Issue no.40

October 2019

'Where Individuals Matter'

Dear Parents/Carers,

It seems strange writing an end of Autumn Half Term newsletter and not needing to update the school community on any progress that has been made with building works throughout the Summer! It is such a relief that all of our expansion work is fully completed and that all of our year groups are now in the correct locations within the school. I hope you agree that the school looks great and is a fantastic environment for your children to learn.

We have been working hard as a staff, planning and preparing our new curriculum to make sure the children at Highwood have the best possible education, that is relevant to them as individuals and incorporates the surroundings in which we live.

We have modified some of our Key Questions and would love parents to be able to offer their skills in developing the enrichment activities that underpin the children's learning each term. Please do get in touch if there is something you feel you could offer. There are detailed curriculum maps available on our school website, which will give you the exact learning activities that will be taking place.

	Year group theme	Autumn	Spring	Summer
F1	Finding out about ourselves	What makes us special?	Why do things change?	How are all animals different?
F2	Finding out about our environment	Could Dinosaurs live in Woodley?	How is the World filled with colour?	Who are our local heroes?
Year 1	Understanding change	Where in the World am I?	Will we play with the same toys when we are older?	Which animal would you invite to tea?
Year 2	Expanding horizons	Was the Great Fire of London a total disaster?	Where in the world would we like to explore?	Can we grow our own picnic?
Year 3	Elements of nature	What did the Pre-historic people yabba- dabba do?	Could we exist without water?	How can we help protect our planet?
Year 4	Exploring the past	What is more precious: Water or Gold?	What did the Romans ever do for me?	Why don't all beaches have sand?
Year 5	Shaping the future	Has our planet finished evolving?	Is invasion ever justified?	Are heroes and villains so different?
Year 6	Investigating change	Does change always lead to progress?	What would a World without war look like?	What is the secret to success?

Enjoy your half-term break

Matt Hickey  
Head Teacher





# Foundation 1 News

## Miss Nunn

Mrs Alleyne, Mrs Vanka, Miss Chaudhary and Miss Mair

Welcome to our first Foundation 1 News this year. We have had a very busy start to the Autumn Term in F1. All the children have settled incredibly well and have begun making friends. We have begun exploring our termly topic '**what makes us special?**' which has allowed us all to get to know each other and explore ourselves as individuals.

We started off this half term by learning all about each other and discovering how we are all different and unique. The children painted their own self-portraits and were encouraged to speak about their own preferences and interests. They made food plates of their favourite foods and participated in circle times where they were able to use their voices to share their interests.



We have begun exploring our senses, starting with touch and sight. The children have engaged in lots of activities where they have been able to explore different textures and begin to use words to describe what they can feel. The children participated in scavenger hunts where they had to use their sight to find different objects and have even learnt how to play 'I spy'.

When continuing to explore our senses, the children learnt about what they are able to see and feel in the Autumn time. We explored lots of Autumn objects to discuss what they felt like, while learning about the different things they can expect to see as the season changes. The children engaged in many different Autumn themed activities such as making an Autumn tree, painting with conkers and making conker hedgehogs.



Throughout this half of term all the children have been trying very hard to develop their independence and do things for themselves. This includes washing and drying their own hands, putting on their own coats, feeding themselves at lunch time and even beginning to get themselves changed for P.E.

As we move into Autumn, we have been using the change in weather as a learning experience for the children. They have been out in their welly boots to explore the puddles and have also been using the soggy mud to make their own mud pies and develop their own interesting recipes.



Thank you to all the parents that have supported us during the first half of this term and we look forward to welcoming the children back after half term!

Don't forget to follow us on Twitter to see what we are up to each week! @HighwoodPrimFS1





## Foundation 2 News

### Mrs Parker, Mrs Perrott and Mrs Stroud

Welcome to our first Foundation 2 News this term! We have had a very busy first half of the term, ensuring that all our children settle into their new classrooms. We have also had some new F2 children start with us so we have been very busy making new friends!

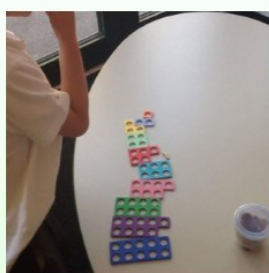
Our Topic this term is **Could dinosaurs live in Woodley?** We were all excited to go outside and discover some large claw marks in the outside area. The children came up with lots of theories, including that a giant T-rex had visited!



When exploring the outdoor area we also found a dinosaur egg! This sparked huge interest among the children and prompted them to hunt for the dinosaur who laid the egg.



The children enjoyed a fun and informative visit from Louis Taylor. He talked to the children about road safety with his puppet Billy. Once back in the classroom, they could tell us all the ways to keep safe when near a road.



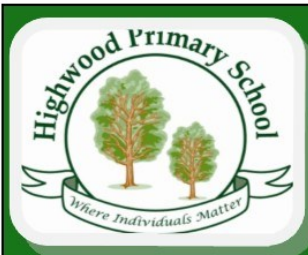
In maths we have been starting to learn numbers to 10. Our challenge now is to begin writing them! We also identified different patterns and made some of our own.

This term the children began their PE sessions with Mr Edwards. They have been perfecting ball skills. Now that the weather is getting colder, please ensure your child has a black tracksuit top, trousers and trainers in their PE kit.

Thank you.

Thank you to all the parents that have supported us and we look forward to another busy but enjoyable half-term in Foundation 2!

*Please follow us on Twitter @HighwoodPrimF2P  
@HighwoodPrimFPS*



# Year 1 News - Autumn 1

Mrs Richards & Miss Schlaefli

Mrs Lawrence, Mrs Turnbull, Mrs Kearney, Miss Rajput

All of the pupils and staff have really enjoyed the start to Year 1! It has been a wonderful experience to see the children become more independent. Every individual has produced thoroughly impressive pieces of work. Have a great half term!

## Where In The World Am I?

### Settling in

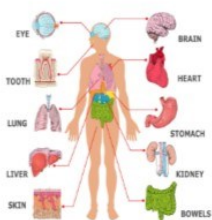
During our first week in Year 1, the children spent lots of time thinking about the learning behaviours. We showed off our teamwork skills with parachute games and quickly became independent at putting away and collecting our home time things!

### Topic and Science

The children have enjoyed learning about the world around them. We have also enjoyed using the atlases to locate the countries of the United Kingdom. The children have been creative with paper this half term and are working towards making our own collage trees. We have looked at Henri Matisse for our inspiration.



In science, we have been finding out about the body. We have been learning about the different parts and organs of the body. We have also been learning about our senses and how our bodies adapt when a sense isn't working.



Check out our new Twitter feed to be up and running after half term!



@HighWoodPrim1R (Mrs Richards)

@HighWoodPrim1S (Miss Schlaefli)

### Maths

We have been working hard to represent numbers using different resources. There has been some amazing creativity on display with these activities!



We have moved on to comparing numbers, missing number problems

and addition and subtraction. We are persevering with explaining our thinking and proving our answers are correct.



### English

This term we have been learning how to write a description. We have been busy



finding out what nouns and



adjectives are and how they are used in a sentence. The children have enjoyed a walk in Highwood woods which inspired our first attempt at a description. We have also been using "Give me 5" to help write our sentences.

Give me 5



1. Think of your sentence.
2. Say your sentence out loud.
3. Count the words.
4. Write your sentence - remembering to use capital letters, finger spaces, phonics and a full stop.
5. Read your work back.

We then introduced the sense of hearing to our second description about the school.





## Year 2 News—Autumn 1



Miss Amor, Mrs Weir,

Mrs Anil, Mrs Taylor, Miss Burrows, Mrs Butler, Mrs Padhi, Mrs Leslie

Wow! We have made a fantastic start to Year 2! The children have loved learning about The Great Fire of London and are still keen for more. We have used this historical event to inspire our writing as well as many other areas of the curriculum, culminating in our Design and Technology day where we will be making our own Tudor houses!

### Was The Great Fire of London a total disaster?

#### English

Everyone has thoroughly enjoyed reading and writing about the fire and it really shows in our writing. First, we wrote a description of the fire and the use of adjectives and expanded noun phrases brought to life what it would have been like to be there in London! Then, we wrote a chronological account of how the fire spread, how long it lasted and the impact it had upon London. To help us with this, we used our developing historical knowledge to correctly order events on our own timelines! After half term, we will be using the book 'Toby and The Great Fire of London' to help us write exciting stories. Why not read it during the holiday?



Follow us on Twitter:

@HighwoodPrim2A

@HighwoodPrim2W

#### Maths

Our mental maths skills have helped us greatly when learning about number and calculation this half term. We are now confident to count in 3s as well as 2s, 5s and 10s!

Not only that, we have responded brilliantly to using new resources such as dienes and place value counters. Mix all this together and we have worked tremendously hard to solve 2-digit addition and subtraction problems, including exchanging ones for tens!



#### Science

Our topic this half term has been everyday materials and their properties. The children made fantastic links to the materials used to make Tudor houses and why we now use more suitable materials.





# Year 3 News

## ***What did pre-historic people yabba dabba do?***



### **Reading and Writing**

We have really enjoyed reading Anthony Browne's version of Hansel and Gretel in whole class reading sessions. The children have loved using their retrieving skills to find hidden meanings in the illustrations. This text linked in brilliantly with our traditional tales unit in English where we have been writing imaginative adaptations to the story Little Red Riding Hood. We are hoping to publish these and share them with the younger children at Highwood.



### **Topic**

So, what did prehistoric people yabba dabba do? We began to answer this question by plotting some key events on a timeline. It helped some of us to realise that this period of time wasn't during the time of the dinosaurs! We have also started to put together a cave art display outside our classrooms. To create the art, we first had to collect our natural tools which included twigs, leaves, feathers and conkers, because prehistoric people wouldn't have the paintbrushes we have today. We then researched what they painted and found out there was a lot of animal, family and hunting scenes which we tried to replicate. After half term we are hoping to find out more about Stonehenge, what prehistoric people ate and where they lived.

### **Maths**

We have covered a lot in maths this term including counting in 3s, 4s, 8s, 50s and 100! We have also built on our place value knowledge by adding and subtracting numbers up to 100 with the assistance of various resources. After half term we will continue adding and subtracting using written methods.



### **Science**

Our science has linked in well with our big question and the Stone Age. We can now sort fossils into groups based on their properties and have tested their strength using different experiments. After half term, we have a trip planned to Bluecoat school where we will learn even more from the geology department.



*Follow us on Twitter;*

@HighwoodPrim3A

@HighwoodPrim3W





# Year 4 News

## Mr Pearce, Mrs Tindall and Mrs Shakeel

Welcome to the first edition of the Year 4 news! I am pleased to say that we've had a fantastic start to the school year, with lots of exciting opportunities and lots of new learning going on. Please read on to find out more!

### What is More Precious—water or gold?

Year 4 have been busy investigating rivers—the Nile in particular and have produced some lovely pop-up work all about how important the river Nile was to the Ancient Egyptians in an attempt to answer our key question!

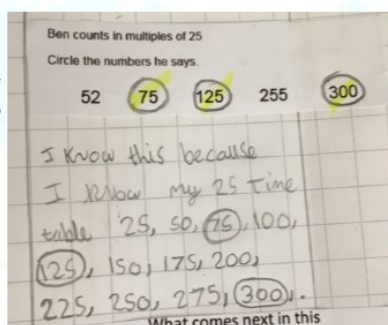


### Science

In Science, we have been looking at classifying animals scientifically and we are just about to finish creating our classification keys where we have sorted animals native to Egypt through scientific observation!

### Maths

In maths this term the children have spent a lot of time looking at numbers and place value. They learned how to round numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000, by using our knowledge of place value. The children have explored Roman Numerals and are able to use their knowledge to create numbers up to 100 (some even beyond 100). Also, not content with learning our 6, 7 and 9 times tables, we've also been doing the 25 and 1000 times tables too! Ask the children how doubling and tripling can



help you find unknown multiples!

### English

In our writing, we have written adventure narratives set in ancient Egypt inspired by Indiana Jones-style tales! In our writing, a hero has had to navigate a deadly and booby-trap laden tomb where certain death awaits the foolhardy and careless! We looked at using the senses to create atmospheric setting and how we can create a sense of character through how our characters speak. Currently, we are investigating how to write an effective newspaper article and we are taking the time to learn how authors make careful and deliberate choices in their vocabulary in order to hook a reader into a news article!

### History

In history, we have been looking at the chronology of Ancient Egypt and just how long the civilization lasted before their "end" with Roman imperial influence. We have been looking at images and artefacts and making inferences and deductions about the Ancient Egyptians based on what we can observe. Through looking at reconstructions, we have also been drawing comparisons between their society and ours - they had board games just as we do today and fabulous jewellery!



Follow us!



@Highwood  
Prim4P

*I look forward to continuing this hard work after half term! Mr Pearce*





## Year 5 News

### Team: Miss Majer, Mrs Haden and Mrs Render

#### Has our Earth finished evolving?

Welcome to the first edition of the Year 5 news! I am pleased to say that we've had a fantastic start to the school year, with lots of exciting opportunities and lots of new learning going on. Please read on to find out more!

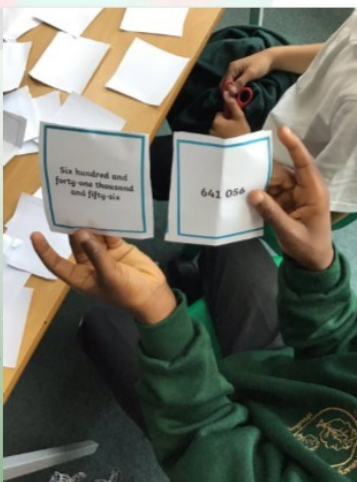
##### English

We've spent a lot of time this term writing about volcanoes! As a stimulus, we used Escape from Pompeii to learn the structure of a dilemma story, as well as creating strong banks of descriptive devices that we could later use in our stories to paint a picture for the reader. In fact, Miss Majer said that our setting descriptions were some of the best she has ever seen! Finally, during the last two weeks of the term, we've been focused on writing our own diary entries, thinking about what it would be like to live in a town where a volcano might explode.

##### Maths

This half term we have focused on place value of numbers up to a million, as well as decimals. Through this journey we have looked at place values of digits, rounding and counting in powers of 10!

We've also done lots of problem solving and reasoning around the unit too.



##### Science

Our Science topic this term has been all about properties of materials. To begin with, we learnt the scientific language to group different materials and then did a series of experiments, including how to separate materials and looking at what might be soluble or insoluble!



##### Key Question lessons

Finally, all our topic lessons this term have been around our key question: Has our Earth finished evolving. As a 'big bang' we actually made our own papier-mâché volcanoes that we set off. Other highlights include: learning about the Ring of Fire, using biscuits to learn about tectonic plates and learning about why people choose to live in volcanic areas.



*It has been a super start to the year. We look forward to continuing this hard work after half term*

*Follow us on Twitter @HighwoodPrim5M*





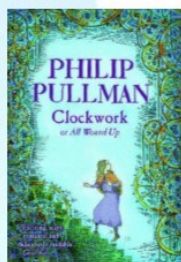
# Year 6 News

Teachers: Mrs Raines and Mrs Chaudhary

Welcome to the first newsletter for Year 6. Although we have only been back in school a matter of weeks, we have already achieved a lot. Our topic this term is, '**Does Change Always Lead to Progress?**', and we have been thinking about this through English, History and Science.

## English

In English, we have been studying a fantastic book, 'Clockwork' by Philip Pullman. It is a gothic fairy story in which invented characters come to life. The story actually has 2 separate plot lines that gradually weave into each other. Each plot has its own twists and turns, and its own element of suspense. We have thoroughly enjoyed learning the macabre and sinister vocabulary in the story, and are using it to create our own version. We have also started to read 'Cogheart' by Peter Bunzl. This book includes many of the themes we have learnt about in Clockwork.

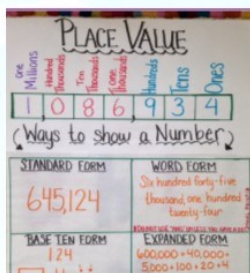


We have been using our perseverance learning behaviour to read lots of books and complete Accelerated Reader quizzes. **Don't forget, the expectation is for 20mins reading every night!**

In writing, we have taken the idea of 'inventions' in order to write explanation texts. The children were inspired by a book, 'Can I Build Another Me?' written by a Japanese author named Shinsuke Yoshitake, to create a robot version of themselves. They also invented a machine that could make their lives easier. It was amazing how many explained how a 'money machine' might work!

## Maths

So far in maths, we have been securing our understanding of place value. We have been learning how to read, write and compare large numbers (up to 10,000,000) and numbers with 3 decimal places. We have been investigating negative numbers, rounding and number sequences. We have been working hard on improving the speed and accuracy of our arithmetic. We started by solving word and



number problems that use our arithmetic skills.

## Science

In Science, we have started to answer the question, 'Does evolution lead to progress?' We have looked at how we vary and which of those characteristics might have been inherited from our parents and which might have been acquired. We are now learning about the adaptations that enable living organisms to survive in their habitats.

## History

We have been studying the Industrial Revolution and the changes that occurred between 1750 and 1900. So far we have concentrated on looking at population growth, urbanisation and technological changes. We have begun to think about the working and living conditions of factory workers during this time, and we will research this further next half term.

## PE

This term we have been lucky enough to be able to use the pool at Blue Coats School for our swimming lessons. It has been fantastic to see just how confident the children have become in the water. With Mr Edwards, the children have been learning about fitness and how important it is to exercise.

## Art

In Art, we have started to look at how different artists have drawn and painted birds. We have learnt skills of observational drawing such as how to create a 3D image by shading. Following this, we will be taking a closer look at bird feathers and skeletons. We will use our drawing skills to recreate accurate images of them.



Follow us on Twitter @HighwoodPrim6R





# The Orchard Speech and Language Resource News

Mrs Godfrey & Mr Bevan  
Mrs Payne, Mrs Wright, Mrs Pithiya & Miss Bishop

The first half of term in each new year always seems to fly past and this year it's been no different! We've enjoyed seeing the children start off the year in a really positive way and look forward to seeing you all at Parents Evening this week.

## Literacy— The Enormous Crocodile

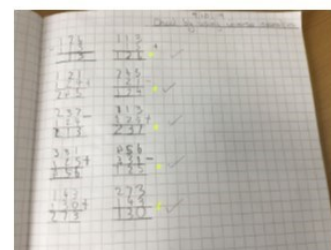


KS1 children have explored the story of The Enormous Crocodile by acting it out with the story suitcase that was delivered to our class. They have concentrated on letter formation, writing sentences to form a book to take home and using adjectives to describe. KS2 children have plotted the story on a story mountain and written each section in their own book too, to include use of past tense verbs and inverted commas for direct speech. We hope you enjoy reading the stories!

## Maths—Investigating Number Systems, Pattern Sniffing and Solving Calculation Problems



We have represented, ordered and compared numbers in different ways, found missing numbers in number patterns and solved calculation problems with mental methods, equipment (Numicon and Diennes) and formal written methods. We have done lots of work on fluency when counting forwards and backwards and knowledge of number bonds and tables. After half term, we will be moving on to solving word problems and shape, but we will keep re-visiting this important number 'groundwork' throughout the year. Keep practising at home, it really makes a difference!



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





# PE/Sports News

## Sports coach: Mr Edwards

**Welcome** to the first half term "PE & Sports News Page" of academic year 2019/20.

### PE Lessons:

This half term the children have been learning about the health, fitness and wellbeing side of PE. I have been able to test the children's overall fitness together with heart rate results. This has made very interesting reading! KS1 have learnt about the heart and its importance to keep healthy. They have also been testing out the circuits in readiness for recording their data in KS2. In KS2 the children were partnered up to encourage motivation and score keeping and to discourage inflated figures! There were 6 stations working different parts of the body to gain an overall picture of the children's fitness. All of their repetitions were recorded and input into a data sheet. The minimum targets of total repetitions are between 140 for yr3 and 170 for yr6. I am happy to share your child's individual results if you are interested.

We have also been playing football, working on the skills such as control, pass & receive, targets, positional & strategy work.

Miss Amor's class have also had an extra session taking part in Dance with Miss Coleman.

We have also continued with our swimming teaching. We have started this half term with year 6 who have done incredibly well overcoming fears and progressing technique. Year 5s have had 1 week so far and already we can see improvement. I would like to encourage our parents to take their children swimming. It is great fun for all of the family plus aiding with our overall health and fitness.

### Lunch & After School Clubs:

This term we have had:-

**Mondays:** KS2 Netball with Mrs Hartgrove & Mrs Majer.

**Tuesdays:** KS1 Multisports lunch & KS2 Boys & Girls Football, KS1 Multisports with Mrs Inwards & KS2 Hockey with Mrs Weir.

**Thursdays:** KS1 & KS2 Gymnastics.

**Fridays:** Dance Stars with Miss Coleman & KS2 Tag Rugby with Mr Allaway

### Autumn Half Term Matches & Tournaments:

This half term we have had boys and girls mixed football tournaments and WPSFA (Wokingham Primary Schools Football Association) league games. The football after school clubs have been very busy. Our first tournament was 3/4 Mixed Football at Willow Bank Junior School. This was a fantastic event with Highwood displaying some very flexible players working in many different positions including 4 different goalkeepers!

Highwood 5/6 football team have played 2 of their WPSFA matches. We won 3-0 Vs St Nicholas Hurst and lost 1-3 vs Emmbrook juniors in a really tight and end to end game. I cannot fault the boys efforts off of the ball, they are working so hard this year. Hopefully the results will come from this extra effort.

Reddam House, 5/6 Netball Tournament.

Mrs Hartgrove and Mrs Andrews took a team of girls to Reddam House school to compete in this years invitational tournament. This was the girls first tournament together this year. They performed admirably winning one of their games and narrowly losing by the odd goal in the others. A great effort and we look forward to more this year.

Unfortunately, due to the weather, we have already had 2 tournaments cancelled, KS1 Intro to Tag Rugby and the Wokingham Schools Netball Tournament. It is a real shame but we of course will keep entering to give your children as many opportunities as we can.





# PE/Sports News

## Sports coach: Mr Edwards

### Next Half Term

**PE Lessons:** - Tag Rugby & Netball.

**PE Kit required:** - **Winter Gear.** Shorts, Highwood PE T-Shirt, Black Plain Tracksuit, sturdy trainers or Football Boots not plimsolls. **No Earrings!**



**Please ensure your child has plain tracksuits, both long trousers and long sleeved top as it is too cold for them this time of year to be dressed in shorts and t-shirt! Unless**

**it is heavy rain or deep snow they will still do PE outdoors. Too many children are expecting to do PE without long sleeves and trousers.**

### Achievements outside of school:

Joseph signed himself up for a Challenge over the summer holidays. This was to ride 25 miles during the month of August. He actually achieved this quite quickly so he decided that he would up the challenge to 50 Miles. I'm pleased to say that he completed the challenge by doing 51 Miles in total! This is a great achievement showing



perseverance and determination.

Both Jayden in year 6 and Phoebe in year 4 started their athletics careers at Reading Athletics club this term. Jayden has impressed the coaches so much that he has been selected to represent the club in the Indoor Sportshall Athletics League during the half term holidays. He has been competing against, and beating children 2 years older than himself during the

testing and trials this month. Congratulations to him and good luck with the competition.



### Mr Edwards Message For The Half Term.

I am now in my 10th year teaching PE in Highwood Primary and in this time I have seen some amazing performances and achievements. This has been largely due to the children's enthusiasm and working to task. The only area I cannot help with and this is where I need children and parents help, is that children need to participate in more physical activities out of school. There are many local sports clubs from Tennis, Football, Gymnastics, Swimming, Cricket and many more. If you wish to know more about the clubs we have links with, please come and find me in school, I am always happy to help. I am convinced that if we had more children participating in sports clubs outside of school this would have a huge effect on the children's overall health and wellbeing plus even more successful when representing for Highwood in our sports fixtures. .

It just remains for me to wish you all a great half term break. Stay safe but stay active!

Mr Edwards.





# Family Centre



It's been a busy start to the year in the Family Centre. The weekly stay and play sessions are running every Thursday morning from 8.55 - 9.30am and it has been lovely to see some new families coming along. Stay and play is free to attend and refreshments are provided. If you would like to come and join in please just turn up! There is also the monthly coffee morning and second hand uniform sale held on the first Monday of every month. The Family Centre doors will be open and you can pop in once the children are in class.

A big thank you to Parenting Special Children who came to the school to run a sleep course. It was well attended and the feedback I have received was that it was a very helpful and informative course. They have already said that they would be happy to come back to the school and run another session. If this is something you would be interested in attending please come and see me.



Bike to school week was a success despite the poor weather during the week. Thank you to all the families who supported the week. There were over 240 journeys made by bike or scooter. Congratulations to 1S who won the in school competition. They had a total of 60 journeys over the week.

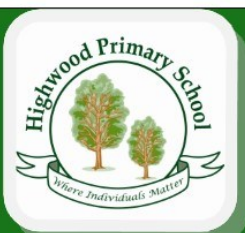


After Christmas we are hoping to run some sessions on how to help your child in English. Further details will be sent out once plans are finalised.

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 and I will see what I can do!







# FRIENDS OF HIGHWOOD



Friends of Highwood

Friends of Highwood (FOH)

What a fantastic start to the year we have had!



Film night was a huge success with 177 children attending. We are pleased to say that we raised over £300.

25% of all the money Friends of Highwood raise is being donated to the school to build a science and nature area for all of the children to enjoy.



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 ([ChairFOH@highwood.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:ChairFOH@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.



This next half term we are busy preparing for the winter fair. We are on the look out for a Santa to help in our grotto. If you know someone who can help out on the 7th of December please get in touch.



We still need volunteers to help with the fair. Sign up sheets for Friends of Highwood can be found at each classroom door. Alternatively you can email us on [ChairFOH@highwood.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:ChairFOH@highwood.wokingham.sch.uk)



We have a couple of competitions coming your way. Letters will be sent home with your child and also via email.

Have a lovely half term.

Friends of Highwood







# Governing Body News

Dear Parent and Carers,

With so much going on in the world around us, it can be hard to take everything in. This is a short introduction to the governors of Highwood Primary School.

What do we do?

A school governing board has three primary duties:

1. To set the vision, ethos and strategic direction of the school.
2. To hold the head teacher to account for the educational performance of the school.
3. To oversee the financial performance and ensure that money is well spent.

We are not involved in the day-to-day management of the school. Operational decision making is performed by the Headteacher and senior leaders.

Instead we are focused purely on the strategic and the longer term.

We are all volunteers and are dedicated to making Highwood a great school for pupils, parents, staff and the local community.

We have regular meetings every term, each with a specific focus to meeting our objectives:

Full Governing Board – To set and review the whole school's strategy, aspirations and goals

Resources – To manage finances and school spending

Teaching, Learning and Assessment – To review and analyse the school data and curriculum opportunities

What do we plan to do this year?

As governors, we also have to watch and prepare for anything that directly impacts Highwood such as the recent changes to the National Curriculum and Ofsted framework, and we have already started work on incorporating this within Highwood.

The newly appointed School Council is an excellent way for the pupils to communicate what they want to improve in the school and we are excited to work with them to achieve this.

After the success of our 1st Governors day last year, we are planning another one in March 2020 to look at key aspects linked to the School Development Plan, and use the opportunity to speak to pupils and staff to know Highwood better.

If you want to find out more information or have any questions, just check our page on the school website or email [governor@highwood.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:governor@highwood.wokingham.sch.uk)

Enjoy the half term break!

Highwood Governors



# Diary Dates



DATE	EVENT	TIME
Fri 25th October 2019	Flu immunisation Years R to 6	all day
28th October - 1st Nov 2019	Half term holiday	All week
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
Wed 13th November 2019	Photographer in school - individual & siblings	8am to 9am for siblings
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