



July 2023

Newsletter

Highwood Primary School Issue no.59

'Where Individuals Matter'

Dear Parents/Carers,

In preparation for my final newsletter, I always read the previous couple of years to remember what I usually include as my final end of year message. In doing so, I re-read my 2021 newsletter and how I had shared the challenges of the year in relation to the pandemic. It seems such a long time ago and I am so glad that we have pretty much got back to full 'normality'.

During our leaver's celebrations with children and our end of term reflection afternoon with staff, I shared the following quote:



“

We are what we
repeatedly do.
Excellence, therefore,
is not an act but a
habit.

- Aristotle

For our Year 6 pupils, I encouraged them to continue with the good habits they have had instilled in them during their time at Highwood. We also discussed the fact that if we are what we repeatedly do, then all our actions need to have positive outcomes. Hopefully, this message will go with them onto the secondary schools and we wish them all the success they deserve.

With staff, we have spent today's INSET day doing a full review of our curriculum and have made refinements to some of our approaches. I reiterated the message that our interactions with children and focus on learning have the ability to change the life chances of our pupils and their role in achieving excellence cannot be underestimated. Without wishing the summer away before it has begun, I am excited about next academic year and continuing the success of this year.

It leaves me with taking this opportunity to say farewell to those families where their children have moved on and to wish the remainder of our families a restful break over summer and I look forward to seeing you at the start of next academic year.

Have a great Summer!

Matt Hickey
Head Teacher



Governing Body News

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff and Pupils,

Well done for another successful school year! (Give yourselves a round of applause!)

What the governors have been doing...

Governor Day – In March, the governors spent the day in school participating in lessons; such as painting the seasons on trees in EYFS, writing and making jam sandwiches in the Resource unit, brushing up on our time-tables and learning about toys from our past, these were just a few of the highlights. We're looking forward to the next one.

Our Quality of Education committee, Mrs Younis has visited the school for regular Maths catch-ups; also, our vice-chair, Mrs Bridges tells us about her reading appointments across the year groups with the pupils regaling her with tales from the playground. In addition to this, in our termly meetings, we have had multiple subject presentations including PSHE and Music.

Our governors have also been involved with supporting school recruitment and we are glad to see the new additions to complement our amazing school team.

Our Resources committee chair, Mr Kamal, has been ensuring the school is held to account and using its financial resources to benefit and enhance the educational opportunities.

Earlier in the academic year, we held a consultation regarding moving towards an academy with the Orchard Learning Alliance (OLA), as did several other Woodley schools. We were aiming to be further into this journey, however, there have been a few external dependencies and considerations that have impacted the desired timeline. The governors are working with the OLA to determine next steps and we will update the school community with further information in September.

Welcome to a new member to our team:

Jen Vinton, as a parent governor. She has experience working with children and young people in her job, so we appreciate her fresh perspective joining the team.

*Thank
You*

Finally, the Governing Body would like to recognise:

The whole school team – Highwood's remarkable professionals are a credit to the school and our community. Thank you for everything that you do and encouraging the children every day.

The Friends of Highwood (FoH) – Thank you for all your events and fostering a great sense of school community!

The parents and carers – Thank you for all your support. We know it's not been easy with the constant change in the world around us.

All of Highwood's children – Well done on another year, you've worked hard and so enjoy the summer break!

Best Wishes from the Highwood Governors



Foundation 1 News

Mrs Atkinson

Mrs Vanka, Miss Mair, Mrs Bailey, Mrs Cooper, Mrs Hargreaves & Miss Wilkins

Welcome to our Foundation 1 News. We have had a great Summer Term in F1. We have continued our topic 'How are all animals different?' and have been busy getting our older children ready for their move to Reception.

The children were so excited to see the butterflies emerge from their chrysalises and watch them fly away in our garden. They've continued spotting minibeasts ever since, including worms, frogs, beetles and slugs.



The children have continued participating in lots of animal based activities while learning about our topic. They have made animal masks, looked for creatures in the garden and we also had our animal dress up day!



As the weather has been warming up the children have engaged in lots of water play to keep us cool, both indoors and out. We have explored water channelling, potion-making, washing the babies and their clothes. And when the weather gave us rain, we explored that too.



SPORTS DAY!

After lots of hard work practicing, F1 children participated in their first sports day and we all had a fantastic time. The children joined in with lots of different races. They all listened so well and showed really good teamwork skills. All the children won a medal for their participation. Well done F1, you were amazing on your first sports day and thank you to all the families that came to support and joined in the parents' races! Brilliant sportsmanship!



The children had great fun being pirates in our pirate ship. Thank you to parents who donated treasure, maps, eye patches and dressing up items. They are now all experts at swabbing the deck and drawing treasure maps.



The F1 team would like to take the opportunity to wish farewell to our children that are leaving us to move to Reception either at Highwood or other schools. We will miss you all very much but we know you will continue to be amazing, wherever you are. We look forward to welcoming back our current F1 children who are staying with us and welcoming lots of new children into the setting. We hope you all have a great summer holidays!

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

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



Foundation Stage 2 News

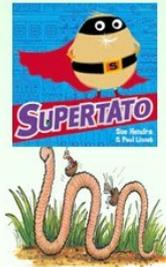
Mrs Parker and Miss Hargreaves

Mrs Newham, Miss Finch, Miss Webb, Mrs Alleyne,

Who are our local heroes?

Welcome to the Foundation Stage Newsletter for the second half of the summer term!

We have looked at superheroes in stories, such as: 'Supertato' and 'Superworm'. The children were able to write their own versions of the stories using a new and exciting colourful story board. This resource helps the children to understand different parts of the story. They loved seeing themselves as authors!



We all had great fun on our super hero day! Everyone enjoyed the activities on offer, such as making masks, superhero art, designing their own 'Super vegetable' and lots of games!!



In maths the children have been mastering number! They were introduced to a resource called Rekenrek counting frames. It is a really fun way to show our understanding of numbers, such as one more and one less; doubles; halves and number bonds to 10.



PE is always a highlight of the week! This half-term they have focussed on athletics and cricket skills. Mr Edwards has been so impressed with their effort and enthusiasm, which was demonstrated at Sport's Day!



Thank you for your support this half term. The children have been absolutely brilliant and we are all very proud of them. Enjoy the summer holiday!



Year 1 News - Summer 2

Miss Bolger, Mrs Garner, Miss Hughes
Miss Mubashar, Miss Robins, Mrs Tiwari, Mrs Wheeler

Which animal would you invite for tea?

Science

This term we have been learning a lot about plants. We have looked at what plants need in order to grow and the functions of different parts of the plant. We have also looked at how to eat healthily and what a balanced plate would look like for our tea party. We have learnt about the different diets of animals, including dinosaurs and designed a tea party plate for them.



Maths

In Maths we have been working really hard to learn about multiplication and division. We have used lots of practical resources to help us. We have learnt about halves and quarters of shapes and numbers in our first introduction to fractions. We have learnt about different units of time and really enjoyed using the stop watches to time each other to complete different activities. Our number knowledge has increased to 100 and we have learnt to partition numbers into tens and ones.



Check out our Twitter feeds at;
@HighWoodPrim.IH @HighwoodPrim.IBG

English

Our main text this term has been 'Six Dinner Sid'. We have loved exploring how cheeky Sid is and creating some fantastic word banks to describe him. We have used our creativity to think of different activities that Sid might do when he visits different houses. We have also written invitations to the animals we want to invite to our tea party.



Computing

We have started using the laptops in computing this term. This was challenging at first as we had to use our own usernames and passwords, but we showed great perseverance and we are beginning to do this more independently. We loved showing our creativity by drawing animals on Paint. We have learnt how to save correctly so that we can find them again. Some of us learnt that if you don't save something in the right place, it can be very tricky to retrieve it!





Year 2 News - Summer 2



Miss Hulme, Miss Grainger

Mrs Gale, Miss Roberts, Miss Haywood

What a year it has been! Whilst we are sad that the children are moving on to Year 3, we can't help but celebrate all the wonderful memories we have created together. We wish the children all the best for their new adventures in Year 3!

What could go in our Best British Banquet?

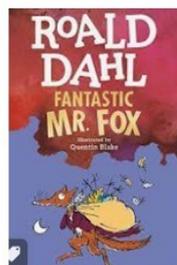
English

The children really enjoyed learning about the nonsense world of Wonderland for our last piece of writing. We loved acting out the story then we got creative and wrote our own setting description of the Mad Hatter's tea party. We then enjoyed doing some instruction writing on how to make jam tarts and finally we LOVED writing acrostic poems and shape poems! We have been very busy and have some budding poets in Year 2!



Whole Class Reading

To say that we have enjoyed reading 'Fantastic Mr Fox' would be an understatement because we have been on the edge of our seats with each new chapter! We had many amazing discussions about the different characters and enjoying voicing our opinions on if we thought Mr. Fox was a hero or a villain.



DT

We continued our 'growing' journey with a really informative and enjoyable trip to the Reading Road Allotments. To prepare for our Best British Banquet, we practised many skills such as peeling, grating and chopping. Finally, we enjoyed making jam tarts for the Queen



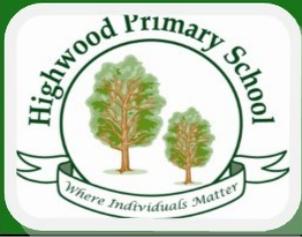
of Hearts!



Maths

To end an amazing year of being super mathematicians we have loved learning about statistics and collecting data from the classes! We then learnt about position and direction and enjoyed following directions from our friends outside on the field!

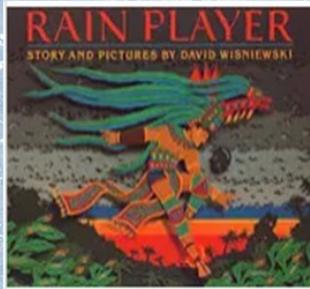
FRUIT	NUMBER OF CHILDREN WHO CHOSE IT
PEAR	5
WATERMELON	1
ORANGE	1
APPLE	1
BANANA	1



Year 3 News

Dr Read, Mrs Bolton and Miss Rumbold

How can we help protect our planet?



LITERACY

Most recently we have written speeches to explain why we must protect rainforests and our planet against deforestation. Earlier in the term, we looked at the story of Rain Player. In the story, Pik has to defeat Chac, the god of rain, in the Mayan game 'Pok-a-Tok'. We adapted the story, creating our own versions which involved new main characters and helping characters, who enabled a win for our heroes.

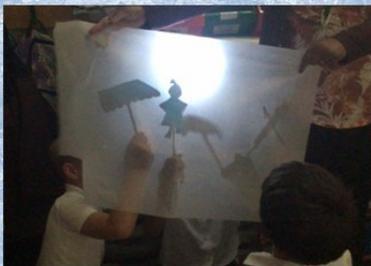
MATHS

In maths, we spent a lot of time looking at time! We learned about the difference between digital and analogue time, how to write times in both words and numbers, and about 24 hour time. We learnt about the days in a week and month, and that months have different durations. We also learnt about leap years and even how to tell the time in Roman Numerals!



SCIENCE

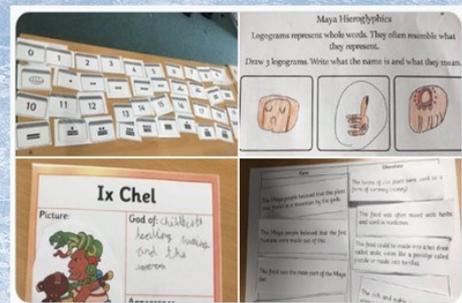
In science, we have been looking at light and shadows. We investigated materials and then made our own shadow puppets. We've also been looking at plants and animals that enjoy the dark of the rainforest.



TOPIC

We have been excited to learn about the Mayans.

We learnt about their Gods, what they ate, how they wrote and their number system. We compared their civilisation to our own and found there were lots of similarities.



Follow us on Twitter; [@HighwoodPrim3RH](https://twitter.com/HighwoodPrim3RH) [@HighwoodPrim3R](https://twitter.com/HighwoodPrim3R)





Year 4 News

Miss Barrett, Miss Clarke, Mrs Strong, Mrs Chaurasia, Mrs Panahpoori and Mr Edwards

Welcome to this edition of the Year 4 news! As we welcomed everyone back through the school doors, we have already had lots of new and exciting learning opportunities this term. Please read on to find out about the fantastic learning the children have been doing!

How have our coasts made Britain great?

This term year 4 have continued their investigation into Britain's coasts and the features that define a coast. The children have also been exploring medieval castles and replicating their engineering.

Maths

Year 4 have been very busy in maths this term, covering topics ranging from shapes and angles to co-ordinates. We had lots of fun creating our angle 'chompers' to find different right angles, acute and obtuse angles around the classroom.

We have been incredibly impressed with the timetables knowledge this year and could not believe our eyes when we saw their results for the multiplication check. We could not be prouder of all the children and their accomplishments this year!

Writing

This term year 4 have been on a fantastical adventure, exploring fantasy realms, creatures and plot lines. We started off by creating our own dragons and writing rhyming poems about them. The children loved trying out different vocabulary to create rhyming couplets.

After poetry, the children moved onto writing fantasy narratives that involved terrifying monsters, resilient heroes and evil villains. It has been lovely to watch their creativity flow in deciding what challenges their hero/heroine should face.

Our class reader this term has been Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, which everyone thoroughly enjoyed.

Design and Technology

In DT this term we have been looking at castles and how drawbridges work. The children worked in pairs to design castles, which they decorated. They experimented with how to build a suitable pulley system and then managed to incorporate this into their castle to create a drawbridge that could be raised and lowered as needed.

Music

This term we finished our 10 lessons of music. Each child has been able to learn the cornet with Mr Ransom from

Berkshire Maestros. It has been wonderful to watch the children grow in confidence and be able to play different songs in time and in tune with each other. We have been thoroughly impressed with their musical talents.



Year 4 camping trip

This year the children had their overnight camp stay on the school field. They all persevered in putting up their tents when some were broken and some had poles missing! We are so proud of the effort and teamwork they put into building their tents. They thoroughly enjoyed roasting marshmallows to make smores and drinking hot chocolate, along with becoming ninjas in the obstacle course. In the morning, we had lots of tired faces while eating their breakfast but the sunny day helped us get through!



It has been an absolutely fantastic year and we wish everyone the best when they move up to year 5.



HighwoodPrim4b
HighwoodPrim4c



Year 5 News

Team: Miss Majer, Mrs Downes, Mrs Hillier, Mrs Laksmanan, Mrs Mohammad and Mrs Shazadi

How do you build an empire?

Welcome to the Year 5 news! I am pleased to say that we've had lots of exciting opportunities and lots of new learning going on. Please read on to find out more!

How do you build an empire?

English

This term, we have been looking at persuasive writing, focusing on adverts. We started the unit by exploring a large range of persuasive texts, looking for the features, as well as thinking about the audience and purpose, before moving onto our final writing. We were inspired by Harry Potter to write an advert for the greatest new wand - an advert filled to the brim with amazingly articulate alliteration and the best examples of hyperbole ever experienced in the history of mankind!

Maths

We began by learning to compare fractions, decimals and percentages; then went on to angles - classifying, estimating, measuring and drawing. Getting used to using a protractor was a little tricky to begin with, but we soon became experts.



Key Question Lessons



Our key question this term is 'How do you build an empire?' and our focus is on the Greeks and how they have influenced the modern world. Since last term, we have moved on from looking at where Greece is, and have started focusing more on the Ancient Greeks and what legacy they left behind. We've explored lots of different battles that the Greeks had, as well as looking at the impact of key figures had such as Alexander the Great, before looking at some of the key things the Greeks left us.

We particularly enjoyed coding in computing, where we made our own Theseus and the Minotaur mazes to get Kubo the robot through.

P.E.

We have really enjoyed the summer term of P.E. The children have improved their striking and fielding skills in cricket and rounders.

It has been a super end to the year. Well Done everyone!

Follow us on Twitter @HighwoodPrim5M and @HighwoodPrim5R



Year 6 News

Teachers: Mrs Partridge, Mr Robinson, Mrs Nielsen, Mrs Nice, Ms Yu and Mr Edwards

This term we have worked hard to answer the question: **'What is the secret to success?'**

English

In English we spent time creating a dragon and used this in various pieces of writing. Our first were some epic character descriptions, which left our readers thoroughly spooked. Our second was an encyclopaedia entry that really showed off our presentation skills and allowed us to take pride in our work. Our final piece of writing was a quest story where our characters met our fearsome dragons. We really enjoyed building up imaginary worlds for one final time!

During class reading lessons, we have continued with our book, 'A Wizard of Earthsea'.

Maths

We all sighed with relief when we eventually finished the Year 6 maths curriculum. Since then, we've made sure our times table and arithmetic skills have kept up to scratch by using SumDog.

Science and PSHE

We have continued to explore the question, 'What's the secret to a healthy body?' by looking at the effect of exercise on our body and mind, and what is needed for a healthy diet. As scientists, we carried out an experiment to find out the effect of different levels of exercise on our mood and levels of concentration. We were surprised to find out that even though our bodies felt exhausted after the 'bleep test', we were more alert and had better levels of concentration. As biologists, we learnt about the 7 different nutrients needed to help us grow and stay healthy, and about the different proportions needed of each of these.

PE

We have used the learning behaviour of 'teamwork' in PE this term. Year 6 demonstrated amazing teamwork during our sports day and superb leadership when helping at KS1 sports day. We have also enjoyed playing cricket with Mr Edwards and many games of rounders and capture the flag with Mrs Partridge and Mr Robinson!



Art

In Art, we have used our observational skills and sketching techniques to draw an anatomical drawing of a lamb's heart. We really enjoyed identifying the different parts of the heart.

Music and Drama

Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies was a huge success this term. We really enjoyed learning all the songs, and having the opportunity to perform to a real life audience at last!

PGL

Our residential trip to PGL was a real highlight! Every group loved raft-building, with some having the opportunity to push their instructor into the lake! We had an amazing time away together, and were sad that not everyone was able to be there!



Goodbye and Good Luck

All the Year 6 team would like to wish the children all the very best for secondary school and beyond.

@HighwoodPrim6P @HighwoodPrim6R



The Orchard Speech and Language Resource News

Mrs Godfrey, Mrs Payne, Mrs Gale, Mrs Pithiya

Literacy: Worms!

We have been exploring the wonderful world of worms in literacy this half term. We started by collecting worm facts, making our own wormery and writing about how the worms mixed up the soil. We then read 'Diary of a Worm' and made up our own imaginary worm characters and fictional worm diaries. We hope you enjoyed hearing them at the coffee morning!



Maths: Multiplication and Division, Fractions, Position and Direction



The summer term is when all our work in maths comes together! We have been working hard on learning tables facts, subitising and finding addition facts in Mastering Number and using task plans to work independently and apply our maths knowledge to solve problems.



Other News

Our sunflowers and cornflowers have sprouted in time for the summer! What do you think we should grow in our outside area in the Autumn Term?

We wish all of our Resource leavers including Mrs Khan lots of luck in their new schools.

We have been delighted to welcome Mrs Gale to the team this half term and look forward to learning with Miss Barrett in September.

Have a safe and happy summer holiday!

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





PE/Sports News

Mr Edwards

Welcome to the last "PE & Sports News Page" of the 2022/23 academic year and what a year it has been!

PE Lessons:

The classes have been concluding the suite of athletics events. We have finished the year learning cricket skills & playing full fun matches including "Non Stop Kwik Cricket" for KS1, "Diamond Cricket" for LKS2 and full Kwik Cricket in UKS2. Year 6 have completed their assessments pulling all of their learning into the last 12 weeks of their primary school life, teaching their peers various curriculum skills. The year 6 final assessment was to run KS1 Sports day which I am pleased to say was a great success. I have received many emails from parents saying how amazing they were and a credit to our school. F2H also had an extra session taking part in Dance with our teacher Miss Coleman.

Highwood Primary 2022 Sports Days.

Due to the fantastic comments received by parents and staff the last year, I decided a repeat of the 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 a few points separated 1st (Red Kites) & 2nd place (Falcons) with Eagles and Hawks 3rd and 4th respectively, it just goes to prove that every child played their part and every last ounce of extra effort makes the difference. Once again I would like 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 days.



Matches & Tournaments:

This half term has been super busy with the remaining Wokingham school games and the cricket league matches.

Wokingham Schools "Tennis Red" Tournament.

This year we took a strong and keen team with us, 4 boys and 4 girls to Shinfield Tennis Club. They all played and scored their matches showing great respect and fair play. Lots of wins and draws with very few losses.

Wokingham Schools "Tennis Orange" Tournament.

Cantley Park played host to the year 5/6 tournament. Our 4 players played really well but in a very strong pool narrowly missing out on a semi final spot.

Wokingham Schools Quadkids Athletics.

One of my favourite events of the year took place at Palmer Park Athletics Stadium and the team of 5 boys & 5 girls sprinted, jumped, threw and ran long distance all morning with so much pride and determination.



PE/Sports News 2

Mr Edwards

Their efforts resulted in Highwood being placed 6th overall scoring 1461 points only 128 points behind the winners. Special mention to Devontae who was the overall top scoring athlete in the competition out of 184 competitors with 248 points the 3rd highest Highwood score since it began.



Sports Achievements out of school

Here are this half term's Highwood Sports stars showing us what they have been up to outside of school.

Devontae became the first Highwood pupil to represent Wokingham District FA after successfully trialling for the team. He and the team have had a very successful year winning many trophies. At the end of season awards he was also named "Trainer of the year" as he always puts in 110% on and off the field and is always the first to training and last to leave. Always respectful and professional and we wish him all the luck in the world for the future in his footballing career.



Wokingham Schools Cricket All Stars (Year 3)

Shinfield St Marys played host to a fabulous "non competitive" cricket festival. This was great fun where a carefully selected number of children represented Highwood taking part in a number of cricket based activities and skills.



2022/23 Sports Club Survey

Our previous record stood at 27/474 children taking part in a physical activity outside of school. However this year we have completely smashed that with 274 children now enrolled in clubs outside of school. 40% of which are in swimming lessons which makes me so happy. A huge thank you to the parents for giving the children such a valuable opportunity. As a majority of these numbers are in KS1, I look forward to seeing many great results in our future school teams.

Finally.....

I wish our year 6's the best of luck in the future. You have quite honestly been one of the best cohorts I have ever taught and will be missed.

I hope you all have a great summer holiday.

Mr Edwards

Wokingham Schools Cricket League.



A really competitive league this year has seen our team of 2023 win many matches losing only 2. Week on week we have improved so much and I cannot be more proud of the team. They have

really bonded as a team and worked so hard for each other. Huge thanks to Mr Robinson for their training in the after school club.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Another busy term has come to an end! It has been great seeing the pupils develop and learn over the academic year. This term, there has been a lot of work behind the scenes, to support the pupils with their transitions into their next class. The pupils have now visited their new teacher and seen their class. They have a transition booklet, they can share with you, with information about their new class.

We have included some local organisations who can provide information and support as well as ideas of local events and SEND friendly venues you may want to visit during the holidays.

We hope that you have an enjoyable summer holiday and we look forward to welcoming you back to school, in September.

Mrs Sayer, Mrs Padbury and Mrs Hall

Who we are:



Lucy Sayer – Family Support

I support the pupils in school and their families. This includes putting together a timetable of information events, training and social events that we can all, (current restrictions allowing!), enjoy as a school community. I'd also welcome any ideas you have about events, so please get in touch if there is anything you think would benefit the families of Highwood School.



Lindsay Padbury - Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCo)

A special educational need/ and or disability (SEND) can cause barriers to a child's learning. My role in school is to identify the children's strengths and manage any extra needs they may have. I liaise with teachers and Learning Support Assistants supporting the pupil's needs. If you have any SEND concerns, please initially talk to your child's class teacher.



Lisa Hall – Attendance Officer

I am here to support Highwood families with all matter around attendance and punctuality. At Highwood, we aim for a minimum 96% attendance across the school, and I will contact and work closely with families to help them achieve this. Please contact me if you have any attendance or punctuality concerns.

SEND Support

	<p>Local Offer information Local support for 0 - 25 year olds with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND)</p> <p>Local Offer for 0 - 25 year olds with additional needs - Wokingham Borough Council</p>
	<p>An anonymous text messaging service for parents of 5-19 year olds and 11-19 year olds to get confidential advice and support from qualified health professionals.</p> <p>Home Page - ChatHealth</p>
	<p>Link to resources to information and support of mental health and well-being.</p> <p>Mental health and well-being UNICEF Parenting</p>
	<p>Wokingham SENDIASS Free, confidential, impartial SEND advice, guidance and support.</p> <p>https://www.sendiasswokingham.org.uk/</p>
<p>CAN</p>	<p>Children with Additional Needs (CAN) Network Wokingham An information and support service for children and young people (up to age 25) with additional needs and their families.</p> <p>Children with additional needs (CAN) network - Wokingham Borough Council</p>
	<p>Parenting Special Children Specialist support for Berkshire Families who have Children and Young People with Special Needs</p> <p>Home Page - PSC (parentingspecialchildren.co.uk)</p>
	<p>ASSIST Team Autism Spectrum Service for Information Support and Training</p> <p>Wokingham Directory ASSIST Team (Autism Spectrum Service for Information Support and Training)</p>
	<p>SEND Voices Independent voice of families, representing their experiences with the aim to improve lives.</p> <p>Parent Carer Forum for Wokingham Borough SEND Voices Wokingham</p>

	<p>Short breaks and respite care services Short Breaks and respite services - Wokingham Borough Council</p>
	<p>Camp Mohawk A multi-functional day centre for children with special needs and their families. Home Camp Mohawk</p>
	<p>SEN Local Support Local SEN support list compiled by SENDIASS Other sources of support (sendiasswokingham.org.uk)</p>

Local Holiday Activities

	<p>Walks around Woodley: woodley.gov.uk/walks </p>
	<p>Parks and open spaces in Woodley: woodley.gov.uk/parks-facilities/parks </p>
	<p>Woodley Town Center Events Woodley Town Center (woodleytowncentre.co.uk)</p>
	<p>Wokingham Activities What's On in Wokingham - Summer Holidays (wokinghamrocks.co.uk)</p>
	<p>Cinema Autism Friendly Screenings Showcase Cinemas</p>
	<p>Wokingham SEND Holiday Activities SEND Provisions - Wokingham Borough Council</p>

Your Holiday Challenge

How many of these free activities can you do in the summer holidays?

Find a giant redwood tree in Highwood.

Spot a drake at Southlake.

Visit somewhere new.

Kick a ball at Bulmershe Park.

Visit the playground at Woodford Park.

Visit a museum:

<https://www.readingmuseum.org.uk/>

<https://collections.reading.ac.uk/cole-museum/>

<https://merl.reading.ac.uk/>

Visit the library [Search results | Wokingham Library Service \(spydus.co.uk\)](#)

Visit all these playgrounds in Woodey:

Ashenbury Park	Badgers Rise play area	Blanchard Close play area
Bulmershe Park	Crescent play area	Enstone Road play area
Hearn Road play area	Malone Park	Mollison Way play area
Redwood Avenue play area	Sandford Park Southlake	Vauxhall Drive play area
Wheble Park	Woodford Park	Woodley Town Centre play area

Reminders



SCHOOL UNIFORM

School uniform can be purchased direct from our supplier Michael Hope at the following [link](#)

We now only have cardigans and a few larger size jumpers left and small size PE tops available to order via SCOPAY.



School dinners

Children in Reception, Years 1 & 2 are entitled to universal free school meals, funded by the government. If your child would like a school dinner please let the class teacher know and this will be booked for them.

Children in Nursery, Years 3 to 6 are required to pay for dinners. The price of a school dinner is **£2.53 per day**. Payment should be made via SCOPAY in advance.

If you think your child may be eligible for benefits related free school meals please contact the school office for a form.

Please note that we are a NUT-FREE school.



ABSENCE

Please contact the school office by 9.30am if your child is absent stating the reason for the absence. This can be done via the Arbor Portal/APP or by phone on 0118 9265493.

If your child is going to be late and requires a hot dinner this must be booked by 9.30am.

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.

EARRINGS

Please note that our school policy is for earrings to be removed for PE, for the health and safety of the children.



It is recommended that ear piercing is only done in the first week of the summer holidays to allow the time for them to settle.

Please ensure that your child has practised taking them out as well.

Only stud earrings are allowed in school.

Diary Dates & Attendance



Friday 1st September 2023	Inset Day - School closed for staff training
Monday 4th September 2023	School starts for all children
Monday 4th September 2023	Welcome to Highwood for new F2 parents - 9am
Thursday 14th September	Meet the Teacher - 6pm to 7.30pm
Friday 29th September	Literacy Workshops - Recordings to be sent to parents
Monday 9th October	Year 3 Maths SPLAT - 1.30pm to 3pm
Tuesday 10th October	Year 1 Maths SPLAT - 1.30pm to 3pm
Wednesday 11th October	Year 5 Maths SPLAT - 1.30pm to 3pm
Thursday 12th October	F2 Maths SPLAT - 1.30pm to 3pm
Tuesday 17th - 31st October	Travelling Book Fair in school
Wednesday 18th October	Parents' Evening - 5pm to 8pm
Thursday 19th October	Parents' Evening - 3.30pm to 6pm
Mon 23rd - Fri 27th October 2023	Half term
Monday 30th October	Year 4 Maths SPLAT - 1.30pm to 3pm
Tuesday 31st October	Year 2 Maths SPLAT - 1.30pm to 3pm
Wednesday 1st November	F1 Maths SPLAT - 10.30 to 11.30am & 2pm to 3pm
Thursday 2nd November	Year 6 Maths SPLAT - 1.30pm to 3pm
Tuesday 7th November	Prospective new parent tours - 9.30am, 1.30pm & 6pm
Thursday 9th November	Prospective new parent tours - 9.30am, 1.30pm & 6pm
Friday 10th November	Remembrance Event at Woodley Memorial
Friday 17th November	Children in Need Day
Friday 1st December	Maths Workshops - recordings to be emailed to parents
Monday 4th December	New to Nursery parents meeting for January starters - 1.30pm to 2.30pm
Tuesday 5th December	FS Nativity (morning)
Tuesday 5th December	KS1 Nativity (morning)
Wednesday 6th December	KS1 and KS2 Christmas Party Day
Wednesday 6th December	Christmas Jumper Fundraising Day
Thursday 7th December	FS Nativity (afternoon)
Thursday 7th December	KS1 Nativity (afternoon)
Friday 8th December	FS Nativity (morning)
Friday 8th December	KS1 Nativity (morning)
Thursday 14th December	Parent Book Look in classrooms - 3.15pm to 3.45pm
Thursday 14th December	F1 and F2 Christmas Party
Friday 15th December	Last day of term - school finishes at 1.30pm
Monday 18th to Friday 29th December	Christmas Holidays
Monday 1st January 2024	Bank Holiday
Tuesday 2nd January 2024	Inset Day - School closed for staff training
Wednesday 3rd January 2024	School starts for all children



Friends of Highwood

Friends of Highwood are busy putting together a calendar of events for next term so please keep an eye out for more information next term.