



Dear Parents/Carers,

As we come to the end of another successful school year, I would like to reflect on all that our children have achieved. It has been a year of learning, growth, perseverance and memorable experiences and I am incredibly proud of our whole school community.

On a personal note, this has also been a year of learning for me. Taking on the role of Executive Headteacher has brought new opportunities and challenges, and I have been fortunate to work alongside such a dedicated leadership team. They have embraced change with professionalism and commitment, stepping up to new responsibilities while keeping our children at the heart of everything they do. I am immensely proud of what we have achieved together and grateful for the support of our staff, governors, parents and children.

As you read through this newsletter, you will see just how much has been packed into the final term. Our children have embraced new challenges, celebrated successes and demonstrated our school values every day. Whether through learning, sport, music, educational visits or acts of kindness, they have represented Highwood with enthusiasm and pride.

A particular highlight was our Year 6 production, Star Wars: The Umpire Strikes Back. Their confidence, talent and teamwork shone through every performance, providing a wonderful celebration of their time at Highwood and the friendships they have built along the way.

As we prepare to say goodbye to our Year 6 pupils, we do so with immense pride. They leave us as confident, capable and caring young people, ready for the next stage of their education. We wish them every success and know they will continue to make us proud.

Farewell, Congratulations and Thank You!

This time of year, also brings changes to our staff team. We say farewell to Miss Bicheno, Miss Barrett and Mrs Kaur, thanking them for the positive impact they have made on our children and school. On a personal note, Miss Bicheno and Miss Barrett share something rather special – at different points during their time at Highwood, they have both held the title of my daughter's favourite teacher! We wish all three every success in the future.

We are also delighted to officially welcome Mr Whittle to our staff team. Although he joins us permanently from September, he is already a familiar face to many of our children and families, and we look forward to all he will bring to Highwood.

Looking ahead to September, we will be introducing a new class organisation across Foundation Stage 2 and Year 1. Like many schools locally and nationally, our pupil numbers have gradually reduced, and after careful planning these year groups will be organised into three mixed Foundation Stage 2 and Year 1 classes rather than four separate classes. Parents of the children directly affected have already attended an information meeting, and I will share further information with the wider school community in September.

Thank you for your understanding and support during the recent spell of hot weather. Your flexibility helped us keep the children safe, comfortable and enjoying their learning.

Finally, thank you to all our families for your continued support and for taking the time to complete our recent parent survey. We value both your positive feedback and your suggestions for improvement, and we will consider these carefully with our governors before sharing any next steps in the new academic year.

The partnership between home and school is invaluable, and together we have helped our children achieve so much. Thank you for your continued trust and support. I wish you all a happy, safe and restful summer, and I look forward to welcoming everyone back in September for another exciting year at Highwood.

Matt Hickey



Governors Summer 2026



Fond Farewell to 2 amazing governors

We say goodbye to **Dr Lois Beaver & Mrs Kay Bridges**, 2 governors who finished their service this term.

Mrs Bridges was an advocate of reading and regularly supported the book fairs, reading with Year 2 (she became an agony aunt hearing their stories and playground antics). As our SEND & Safeguarding link governor, **Dr Beaver's** knowledge has been highly valued and her keen eye for detail reviewing our policies. You will both be missed!

Could you be our next School Governor?

We are looking for enthusiastic volunteers to join our friendly governing board!

You don't need to be an education expert—or even a parent at our school—as full training and support are provided.

We welcome all backgrounds, but we are particularly keen to hear from anyone with an interest or experience in:

- SEND
- Health & Safety
- or Stakeholder and Community Engagement.

If you want to play a key role in helping our children thrive and can spare a few hours a term, we would love to hear from you.

Even if this isn't for you, please share this with your local networks, friends, and family!

For an informal chat or to find out more, please email: admin@highwood.wokingham.sch.uk

Parent & Carer Survey 2026 – Thank You for Your Feedback

Thank you to all the parents and carers who completed our recent survey. Your feedback is incredibly valuable and helps us celebrate what is working well whilst identifying areas where we can continue to improve.

Highlights

We are pleased that many families emphasised the **quality of teaching**, the **care provided by staff**, and the positive relationships that help **children feel happy, safe and supported** at Highwood. Reading was identified as a particular strength, with many families reporting that their children enjoy reading regularly. Many parents also shared positive comments about the dedication and commitment shown by staff.

Improvements

Alongside these strengths, parents identified several areas where they would like to see further progress. **Communication** was the most frequently raised theme, with families asking for clearer information and greater responsiveness. Some parents also expressed concerns about **behaviour management** and **support for children with special educational needs**. Parents also suggested opportunities to further strengthen the school experience, including providing greater challenge for higher-attaining pupils, sharing more information about the curriculum and home learning, and expanding extracurricular clubs and enrichment opportunities.

Next Steps

The Governors and school leaders have carefully reviewed the feedback and will use it to help shape future priorities. Areas for ongoing focus include improving communication, strengthening confidence in behaviour management, enhancing engagement with SEND families, and increasing curriculum visibility. We would like to thank all parents and carers who took the time to share their views. Your feedback helps us work together to provide the very best educational experience for every child at Highwood.



F1

Summer 2026

Mrs Alleyne
Mrs Cooper



As we come to the end of a wonderful year in Nursery, we would like to thank you for your continued support. It has been a joy to watch the children grow in confidence, independence and friendships. They have embraced new experiences, enjoyed learning through play and made fantastic progress. We are incredibly proud of all they have achieved this year. 🌟 😊



🦋 WOW Moment!



The children were fascinated watching the butterflies grow from tiny caterpillars to chrysalises and then beautiful butterflies. This exciting experience sparked daily conversations, helping to develop curiosity, communication, and language skills. ✨ 🦋



Making sushi and flags on world diversity day

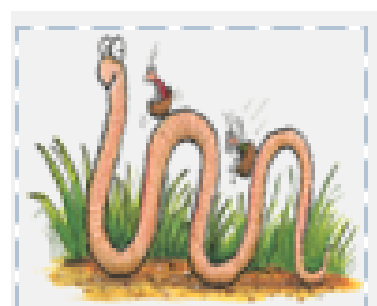
The day the farm and reptiles came to school



To those children moving on to new adventures, we wish you every success and happiness in the next stage of your journey. To those returning, we look forward to welcoming you back after the summer break. We hope you all enjoy a safe, relaxing, and fun-filled summer. Thank you for being part of our nursery family, and we look forward to seeing you again soon. With best wishes, The Nursery Team



Who protects our environment?



This 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 an exciting colourful story board. This resource helps the children to understand different parts of the story. They were extremely proud of their stories!

Everyone has enjoyed the Superhero activities on offer this term, such as making masks, superhero art, and making their own 'Super-tato' Superhero.



In maths the children have been looking at positional language, mapping skills and patterns and relationships. We have made repeating patterns using materials. We drew maps and plans of the classroom and other places.



WOW Moment!



We had a fun-filled rainy day at Wellington Country Park



Sport's Day was one of our highlights – such amazing teamwork. The children have been absolutely brilliant, and we are all very proud of them. Thank you for your support throughout the year. Enjoy the summer holiday!



Year 1

Summer 2026

Mrs Ahmed, Miss Bolger, Mrs Garner
Mrs Aswal, Miss Mubashar, Mrs Wheeler,
Mrs Kaur, Mrs Rudroju



Which animal would you invite for tea?

We have had a great year in Year 1 and have been so impressed with how the children have grown in confidence and independence. The year has gone so quickly but the children have worked hard in all areas of the curriculum. We know that they will be amazing when they move into Year 2!

In English we have done some fantastic descriptions of dragons. We designed them, drew them and then used adjectives to describe them. We also made our sentences longer by using the conjunction 'and'.

In Science we have been learning about plants and trees. We have learnt the names and functions of different parts of flowering plants. We also know what they need to grow. We planted beans to see how they germinate.



WOW Moment!



Animal Day

We loved Animal Day! We got to meet and feed lots of farm animals outside and even got to brush Dennis the Donkey! We loved seeing the reptiles inside. Lots of us help a chameleon, snake and even a big tortoise!

In art we created some pictures inspired by William Morris. We used a printing technique to print the background in a repeating pattern and then added the details.





Year 2

Summer 2026

Miss Rumbold and Miss Anderson
Mrs Yu, Miss White



Is there really a Climate crisis?

Our exciting Summer Term:

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 Year3!

In English this term we have been hard at work developing our storytelling skills. One of our key focuses has been writing a detailed recount of our school trip, using time adverbials. The children have also impressed us with their use of expanded noun phrases. Recently we have enjoyed reading 'The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch' and the children enjoyed writing a letter as one of the characters.

In Science we have enjoyed learning about plants and bees understanding the importance they play in our environment. We even planted lots of bee friendly plants in our school grounds!

Bucklebury Farm

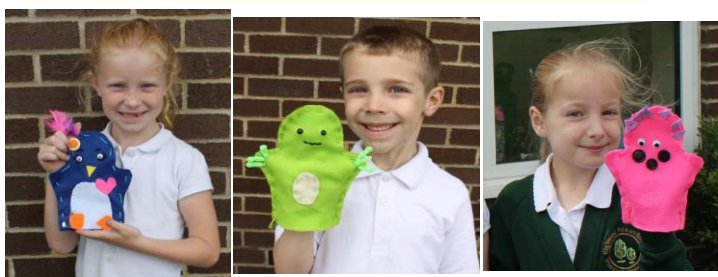
We all had a fantastic day at Bucklebury Farm and Deer Park. It was lovely to see the children so enthusiastic about the animals and enjoying the experience. In particular, the children enjoyed feeding the deer by hand and getting to pet so many baby animals!



WOW Moment!



**Planting lots of flowers
on the school ground!**



Computing

We have thoroughly enjoyed our computing lessons this term. The children have been very busy composing music using technology, developing their creativity and digital skills along the way.

SPLAT – Our puppets

Puppet-Making Fun at SPLAT!
We had an absolutely fantastic time sewing and creating our very own hand puppets during SPLAT! With the wonderful support of our adults, we brought our imaginative designs to life.



Year 3

Summer 2026

Miss Hughes, Mrs Inwards, Mrs Farooq,
Mrs Hartgrove
Mrs Kamath and Mrs Swamiraj



How can we help protect our planet?

Our exciting Summer Term:

We all had a fantastic time learning about the rainforest in all of our subjects! From making dioramas, to learning how the different plants and animals survive depending on which layer they are in, we have discovered why the rainforest is such an important habitat which needs to be protected. We also learnt about the Maya and compared their civilization to our own.

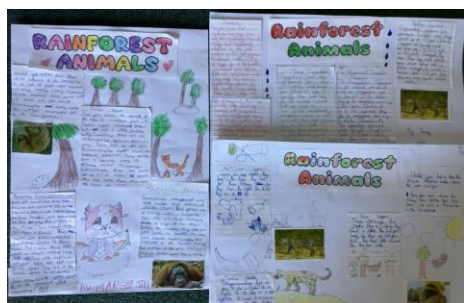
In literacy, we have written letters to persuade our local MP why we must protect rainforests and our planet against deforestation. Earlier in the term, we wrote fact sheets about animals and looked at the story of Rain Player. In the story, Pik has to defeat Chac, the God of rain, in the Maya game 'Pok-a-Tok'. We adapted the story, creating our own versions which involved new characters, who helped enable a win for our heroes.

In maths, we learned about money, time, shape and statistics! The children worked very hard to understand time in many different contexts and were also introduced to the 12-hour digital clock.



SPLAT – Our puppets

Puppet-Making at SPLAT! As part of our DT, the children really worked hard to create functioning puppets.



Art

We looked at the artist Eduardo Kobra and inspired by his colourful street art made our own collage of an animal using tissue paper



WOW Moment!



Trip to The Living Rainforest!

Science

We have been exploring the exciting topic of light and shadows. We investigated how light is needed to see things and that darkness is the absence of light. We also explored how the size and shape of shadows change depending on the object's distance from the light source. We also have been learning lots about plants and their life cycles.

Summer Term with Castles, adventures and sunshine!



Year 4 have been very busy in maths this term, covering topics ranging from shapes and angles to co-ordinates. We have finished the term with some very exciting maths-themed Taskmaster challenges!



We had a wonderful time on our trip Oxford Castle. The children were excited to explore the ancient crypt and to climb the steep steps of the tower. They showed great teamwork to build trebuchets during our workshop sessions. It was amazing to be visit the remains of such an ancient motte and bailey castle, and it really helped to bring our topic lessons to life!

In English this term, year 4 have been on a fantastical adventure, exploring fantasy realms, creatures and plot lines. We started off by creating our own creatures and writing 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 fantastical worlds.



WOW Moment!

**Using AI to make
images of our
character
descriptions!**





Year 5

Summer 2026

Mr Williams, Mr Robinson
Mrs Strong and Miss Briggs



What was the greatest legacy of Ancient Greece?

During our whole class reading lessons we have been enjoying reading 'Who let the gods out'. We used our knowledge of the book to help us write a character description on a Greek god! We then got creative with our writing and designed our own Greek mythical, which we published using the laptops and created an AI generated image – they were so spooky and cool! We then referred back to 'Who let the gods out' and wrote our own Greek myth! Everyone particularly liked using Perseus and Medusa to inspire their own writing! To finish we our year 5 writing, we used Pandora's box to write an abstract poem!



Maths this term has been jam-packed again! We have covered so many topics:

- Shape
- Co-ordinates
- Decimals
- Converting Units
- Negative Numbers
- Volume!

So many new skills and everyone did so well persevering with the learning!

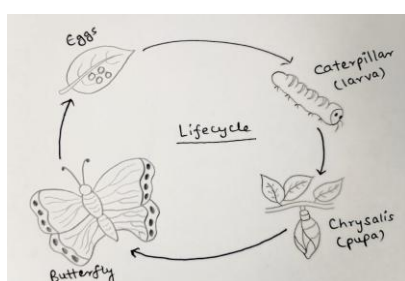
★ **WOW Moment!** ★

Designing and creating a Greek inspired clay tile!



We made sure to keep on revisiting our skills based on the four operations!

We have been lucky this half-term as we welcomed our parents in for our SPLAT session. It was a great turnout, and we loved showcasing our knowledge of life-cycles!



During our afternoon lessons, the children have explored what the greatest legacy of Ancient Greece is. This included looking at the Minions, city states, the Persian invasion and more!

Despite the extremely hot classrooms, the children have applied themselves fantastically! We are all very proud of their resilience!

We have had a great year, and all the children should be proud of themselves! We hope everyone has a lovely Summer!



Year 6

Summer 2026

Mrs Hind and Miss Bicheno
Mrs Lakshmanan



What is the secret to success?

What a fun year it has been in Year 6! Although we will be sad to see the children go off to secondary school at the end of the term, we would like to celebrate all of the wonderful memories we have made this year.

Year 6 took part in the Primary Engineers project again this year and, once again, had some successful entries. Most children who entered received a Pass, Merit or Distinction. Some children's designs were even shortlisted for the winners! We are very proud of you all.

Year 6 were also asked by Mr Edwards if they could represent the school in the Dance Festival as part of Woodley Sports Week. They all worked hard to learn the dance (choreographed by our very own Mrs Hind!), with those who wanted to take part showcasing the dance at the festival in front of other schools and their parents. A huge well done to everyone who took part.



WOW Moment!

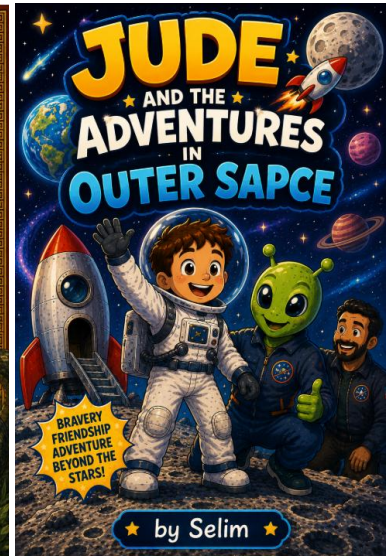
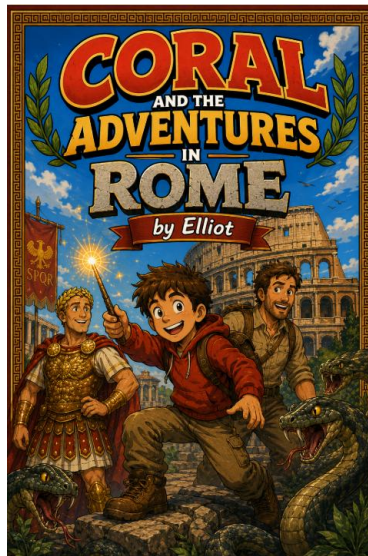


Our wonderful Year 6s have worked incredibly hard on their production; learning songs and dances, as well as all their lines. Their perseverance, determination, creativity and hard work is commendable, and Mrs Hind and Miss Bicheno could not be any prouder of them. They absolutely smashed their performances! You will all certainly be missed next year!

Final Sports Day for Year 6s was a success. We are incredibly proud of their encouragement and enthusiasm with helping their peers, as well as their leadership qualities shining through when helping with KS1 Sports Day. We had some very positive feedback from parents and staff alike.

Marcy and The Riddle of The Sphinx

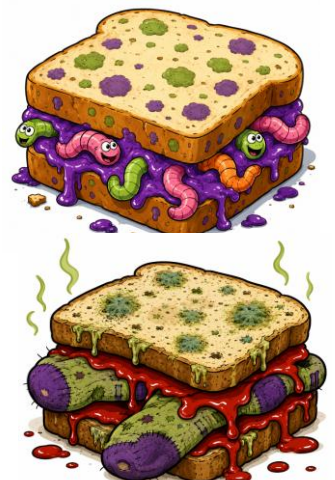
Year 4 and Year 6 have created their own story based on Marcy and The Riddle of The Sphinx. They included some incredible expanded noun phrases, similes and uplevelled their verbs. We then made them into comic books which look so professional! We have some authors in the making!



Instructions



Year 1 and Year 3 have been focussing sequencing, following and writing instruction. They started with jam sandwiches and have now made some fantastic instructions on how to make a monster sandwich.



Thank you!

It has been a pleasure to be a part of resource and join all your children on their journeys. I am so proud of all the children within The Grove and the progress everyone has made. I will miss you all and good luck next year!

Miss Barrett



PE News

This term the children across the school have been learning the following curriculum skills/sports

- **FS2** – Athletics, Dance & Ball games
- **Year 1**-Athletics, Fundamental Skills & Striking Skills/Tennis
- **Year 2**- Athletics, Yoga, Striking Skills/Badminton
- **Year 3**-Athletics, Dance, Cricket & Rounders
- **Year 4**-Athletics, Dance, Cricket & Rounders
- **Year 5**-Athletics, Basketball, Cricket & Rounders.
- **Year 6**-Athletics, Dance, Cricket & Rounders.

Berkshire School Games 2026

This year Highwood were chosen to represent Wokingham Schools in the annual Berkshire school games. It was a real honour and a team of 12 keen, excited and talented children took part in a number of cricket based skill activities plus Circus Skills, Archery and a picnic lunch. Here are some photos of our fabulous day out.



★ WOW Moment! ★

Hanna in 6B became only the 6th pupil and 2nd girl in 16 years to achieve the “Golden Nugget” 200+ points in quadkids (Athletics)

Autumn PE Kit required:- Shorts, Highwood PE T-Shirt, Tracksuit & trainers.

No Earrings! Please remember 1st week in summer holidays only for new piercings

Pupils Gallery

Here are the children this term that have shared their experiences and achievements in their physical activities outside of school.

Ella in **4D** receiving her medal from **Reeves Rangers Football Team**. Well done Ella.



Thomas in **5R** took part in his very first **swimming gala** and came **2nd** in his heat with a personal best time against other children who were stage 6 or above

Congratulations to **Daisy** in **5W** on qualifying for both the in November **Blackpool Finals 2026** and the **ISTD National Finals in Bournemouth** in February 2027, following outstanding performances in two **Ballroom** and **Latin** competitions this term.



Willow in **1G** and **Holly** in **3IH** have had a very successful few weeks achieving success in both their **swimming** badges and their new **gymnastic** skills. Fantastic work girls!

Lastly, here is **Daisy** in **2A** receiving her Level 7 certificate in **gymnastics**. Well done Daisy.





Library News

Summer 2026

Mrs Yule



Library

I set a challenge earlier in the year to read books by recommended authors, for Years 3 to 6.

A certificate was awarded if they achieved 60% or more on a quiz and let me know that they had done so. Years 3 and 4 received the most certificates with one pupil in Year 3 achieving 8 certificates. In September I will continue the 60% target, but I am changing the challenge to make it more individual. I will tell the children more when they return in September.

Once again, thank you to anyone who has donated books to the library.

If you wish to donate books your children no longer need, **PLEASE** send me a list or photo to my email address first:

[\(iyule@highwood.wokingham.sch.uk\)](mailto:iyule@highwood.wokingham.sch.uk).

I may not be able to use all the books you have, and I have limited storage space.

If your child receives a letter because they have lost a book, please try and find a second-hand copy to replace it, if you can, as new books are very expensive. Thank you to all children and their families who take good care of our books and always return them. A book lost means someone doesn't get the chance to read that great book.

★ WOW Moment! ★

The Book Fair was a great success. We now have another **£700** in reward points to spend on new books and I purchased a few from the book fair itself (see photo below). I will wait until the October Book Fair and then combine our rewards to buy the books we really need. Thank you to all the children and parents/carers who purchased items at the book fair or online; I really appreciate your support as this is a major resource for obtaining new books for the library.



Have a great summer

Please feel free to email me with any queries you have about the library or how the children can access the books



SENCo

Summer 2026

Lindsay Padbury



Dear Families

As we come to the end of another busy year, I would like to take a moment to celebrate the achievements of our pupils with SEND. It has been wonderful to see so many children thrive, grow in confidence and achieve their potential through the dedication of our staff and the reasonable adjustments made to meet their individual needs.

This would not be possible without the commitment of our whole school team. My sincere thanks go to our teachers, Learning Support Assistants, Family Support Officer, Attendance Officer, reception and administration teams, and every member of staff who works tirelessly each day to ensure our children feel valued, included and supported. Every role makes a difference, and your care, patience and teamwork are greatly appreciated.

I feel incredibly privileged to work in a school that is so proactive in ensuring every child has the opportunity to succeed. Our ethos of "Where Every Child Matters" is evident, and I am proud to be part of a team that continually puts children at the heart of our work.

We have also been delighted to receive positive feedback through our Orchard Learning Alliance visits and our involvement in the PINS Project, recognising the inclusive practice taking place across the school. While we are proud of these achievements, we know there is always more to learn. We remain committed to reflecting on our practice, developing our provision and continuing to improve the support we provide so that every child can flourish.

Thank you to our families for your continued support and partnership throughout the year.

Wishing you all a happy, restful summer break!

Lindsay Padbury

Lindsay Padbury
Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCo)



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 (LSAs) to help support the pupil's needs and discuss appropriate actions that will help reduce any barriers to their learning. If you have any SEND concerns, please initially talk to your child's class teacher.

Here are some services you can access for additional SEND support.

Holiday Support and activities

[Holiday, Activities, and Food programme \(wokingham.gov.uk\)](https://www.wokingham.gov.uk)

[Places to Walk Archives - Berkshire Mummies](#)

[Home | Camp Mohawk](#) a multi-functional day centre for children with special needs and their families.

Supporting SEND

[Seven techniques for helping kids keep calm - CBeebies - BBC](#)

[Events | SEND Voices Wokingham](#)

Speech and Language support

[Home - Afsic](#)

[Words for Life | National Literacy Trust | Words for Life](#)

[Learning to talk 3 to 5 years - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

F1 SALT: [Communication and hearing | Children Young People and Families Online Resource](#)

Sensory Processing

[What is Sensory Processing? - YouTube](#)

[Sensory Processing: The Tactile \(touch\) System - YouTube](#)

[Sensory processing: Body awareness \(proprioception\) - YouTube](#)

[Sensory processing: movement and balance \(the vestibular system\)](#)

[Sensory Processing: Alertness Levels - YouTube](#)



SENCo

Summer 2026

Lindsay Padbury



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[Sensory processing: movement and balance \(the vestibular system\)](#)

[Sensory Processing: Alertness Levels - YouTube](#)

Local SEND Support

[Local Offer for 0 - 25 year olds with additional needs - Wokingham Borough Council](#)

[Homepage \(sendiasswokingham.org.uk\)](#) free, confidential, impartial advice, guidance and support

[Children with additional needs \(CAN\) network - Wokingham Borough Council](#)

[Home Page - PSC \(parentingspecialchildren.co.uk\)](#)

[Events | SEND Voices Wokingham](#)

Family and adult Support

[Wokingham Borough Council family support](#)

[Young Sibs](#) for siblings

[Talking Therapies](#) self-refer for support with emotional and mental health (17years and above)

[Samaritans are available 24/7](#) to listen, even if you just need someone to listen whilst you offload, they don't have to provide advice unless you ask for it.

[Parenting and mental health](#) – the Mental Health Foundation

Mental Health

[little-blue-book-of-sunshine.pdf \(berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk\)](#)

Sleep Issues, Anxiety and Behaviour Support

FIRST [Wokingham Directory | Family Intervention Resources & Support Team \(FIRST\) - supporting families with sleep and behavioural issues](#)

First Video: [Supporting children with disabilities - YouTube](#)

Autism and ADHD Support

[Autism+Facts+for+Kids.pdf](#)

[Talking to your child about autism - CBeebies - BBC](#)

[Waiting times for ADHD and Autism Assessments](#)

[Right to Choose - ADHD UK](#)

[Centre for Autism - University of Reading Centre for Autism](#)

ASSIST Team [Wokingham Directory | ASSIST Team \(Autism Spectrum Service for Information Support and Training\)](#)

Assist video [Supporting autistic children and their families - YouTube](#)

[Neurodiversity Hub - Resources for Students, Employers & More](#)

[Autism Berkshire Reading - Autism Berkshire](#)

[Neurodiversity News September 2023 \(newsweaver.com\)](#)



SENCo

Summer 2026

Lindsay Padbury



Mrs Padbury's Holiday Challenge

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

- Climb a tree in Highwood.
- Skim a stone at Southlake.
- Count the Ducks at Dinton.
- Kick a ball at Bulmershe Park.
- Try Woodford Park's new play equipment.
- Visit a museum:

(<https://www.readingmuseum.org.uk> <https://collections.reading.ac.uk/cole-museum/> <https://merl.reading.ac.uk/>)

- Visit the library
- 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





Family Centre

Summer 2026

Lucy Morris (FSW)
Lisa Hall (Attendance Officer)



MHST Year 6/7 transition support

In June, our Year 6 pupils took part in an MHST assembly to help them prepare for the move to secondary school. The session reassured children that their worries are shared by others and gave them practical strategies to build confidence.

A small group also completed a four-week programme with an MHST practitioner. It has been wonderful to see their confidence grow, with pupils sharing that they now feel much more positive about starting secondary school.



WOW Moment!



This year we have run fortnightly family playgroup sessions, Little Saplings. Read what one of our parents had to say:

I honestly can't recommend Little Saplings enough. When my son first started, he was so shy and would cling to me every session and cry. Seeing his confidence grow over the months has been amazing, and he's really come out of his shell. Lucy creates such a lovely, relaxed environment, and I truly believe Little Saplings has made starting nursery so much less daunting. I'd highly recommend it to any family with a child starting at Highwood Primary.



Attendance

Our overall school attendance for this term was **95%**.
Thank you for your support.

This term, we've supported families with a wide range of topics, including sleep, behaviour, screen time, attendance, and managing worries and anxiety.

We're always here to listen, offer advice, and provide support whenever it's needed. Thank you for working in partnership with us this year – we wish you all a happy and restful summer!



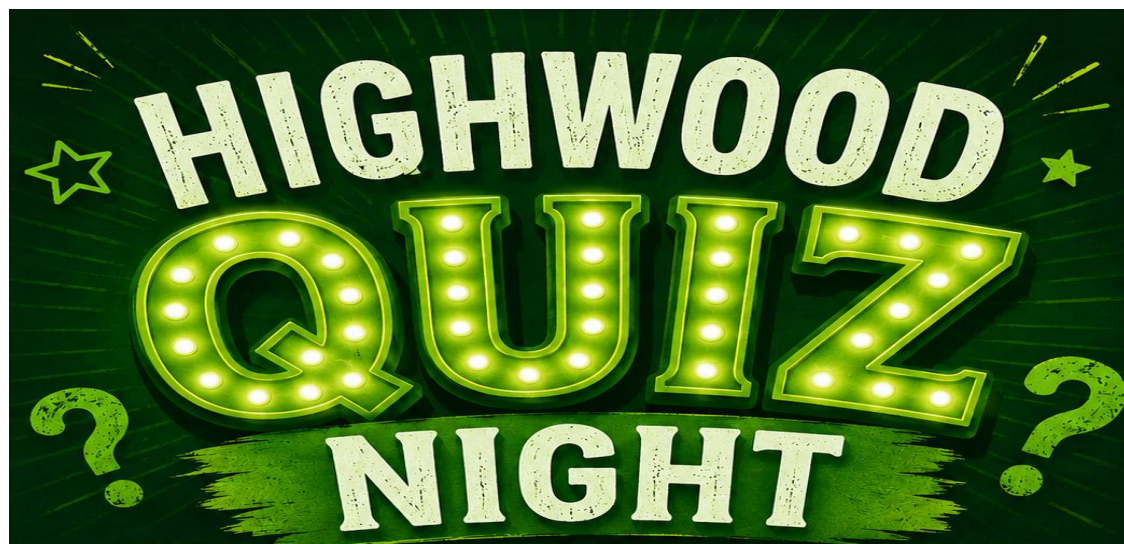
Friends of Highwood



Save the Date

Parent/Carer Quiz Night!

Saturday 19 September: 7.30pm-10pm



SAVE THE DATE

Winter Fayre

Saturday 28th November '26

More details to follow



Important Reminders!



ABSENCE

Please contact the school office by **9am** 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 926 5493**.

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.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

School uniform can be purchased directly from our supplier Michael Hope through this [link](#).

Delivery to school is currently free. Any orders placed over the summer holidays must be done by **Sunday 2 August at the very latest** for delivery in time for the start of term in September. This date is for both home & school deliveries and does not guarantee enough time for any exchanges.



SCHOOL DINNERS

Children in Reception and Years 1 & 2 are entitled to universal free school meals, funded by the government. If you think your child is eligible for benefits related free school meals please contact the school office. Children in Nursery, Years 3 to 6 are required to pay for dinners. The price of a school dinner is to **£2.85 per day**.

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

Please remember that we are a NUT-FREE school.



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.



Dates of forthcoming events happening at Highwood!



Tuesday 1 September	Inset Day – school closed for staff training
Wednesday 2 September	School starts for all children including F2 (unless agreed staggered start) and existing F1 children.
Wednesday 2 September	Welcome to Highwood coffee morning for new F2 parents (and new parents in other year groups) - 8.45am-9.45am
Wednesday 16 September	Meet The Teacher meetings - 6.00-7.30pm
Saturday 19 September	FOH Parent/Carer Quiz Night - 7.30pm -10pm
Friday 9 October	Hello Yellow Day (wear yellow for World Mental Health Day)
Monday 26 - Friday 30 October	HALF TERM, school closed
Monday 2 November	Inset Day – school closed for staff training
Friday 6 November	Non-uniform day for 'Elfridges' gift room donations for Winter Fair
Tuesday 10 November	School Photos Individual and Sibling
Wednesday 11 – Friday 13 November	Scholastic Book Fair available in school
Wednesday 11 November	Parents' Meetings - 3.30pm-7pm
Thursday 12 November	Parents' Meetings - 3.30pm-6pm
Friday 13 November	Children in Need Day (wear spots or merchandise)
w/c Monday 16 November	Year 6 Bikeability Levels 1/2
Friday 27 November	Non-uniform day for chocolate and bottle donations for Winter Fair
Saturday 28 November	FOH Winter Fayre – Time TBC
Wednesday 9 December	Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day
Thursday 17 December	Parent Book Look in classrooms - 3.15-3.45pm
Friday 18 December at 1.30pm	End of term

SPLAT and Nativity dates will be confirmed in September.

Coffee mornings

Friday 11 September	Open to all parent/carers coffee morning - 8.45am-9.45am
Friday 25 September	SEN support coffee morning - 8.45am-9.45am
Friday 9 October	FIRST attending for parent workshop on behaviour/emotions - 8.45am-9.45am
Friday 13 November	Open to all parent/carers coffee morning - 8.45am-9.45am
Friday 27 November	SEN support Parent/carers coffee morning - 8.45am-9.45am
Friday 11 December	Open to all parent/carers coffee morning - 8.45am-9.45am