



Highworth Combined School & Nursery

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Newsletter – 3rd May 2019 Issue 18

Letters sent home & e-School messages this week Y2 SATS letter, Highcrest Academy
BandingTests (Y5)

Dear Parents and Carers

Each week in this newsletter, we let you know about the attendance of pupils for the previous week. If you have been observant, you will have noticed that the figures have been dropping! This is a cause for concern. Primarily because there is a clear evidential link between good attendance and attainment as found in a DFE report from March 2016: **'in general, the higher the overall absence rate across the KS, the lower the likely level of attainment at the end of KS2'**. I do understand how tempting it is to take advantage of cheaper flights outside of school holidays, but please, when considering taking your child out of school, think about the impact upon your child's attainment.

You may remember that 2 years ago, we had to make some changes to the running of the school in order to address a significant financial deficit. Having received the final accounts for the last financial year, I am delighted to be able to tell you that the efforts of all staff, governors, PTA members and parents have led to the school now having a healthy surplus to carry forward to the new financial year. Thank you for your support in returning the school to a secure financial footing; it has put us in an excellent position to continue our mission to deliver the very best of educational opportunities to your children.

I know that lots of you will be preparing for Ramadan and I send my very best wishes to you all during this important and significant time.

Have a very happy Bank Holiday weekend; we look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday!

Clare Pankhania

ATTENDANCE

The display board at the front of the school shows each year group's weekly attendance.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE TARGET IS 96%

**BEST ATTENDANCE 99.7% (CLASS 3MP)
WELL DONE!**

**OUR WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IS
ON TARGET AT 96%**

PUNCTUALITY:

Gates open at 8.45am and close at 8.55am. PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOUR CHILD IS IN SCHOOL ON TIME.

Dates for the Diary

Monday 6th May

Bank Holiday – School Closed

Tuesday 7th May

School re opens

Wednesday 8th May

Time out for parents with children with ADHD course 12.30 -2.30pm in Scout hut

Friday 10th May

Class Assembly - 1B 10.10am

Multi skills festival hub event Y1 HGSS – 12.45 -2.45pm

Parent Zone

Chiltern Families Magazine



I am hoping that you all enjoyed the last edition of the Chiltern Families magazine. This week you should receive the latest copy. As well as the fantastic information of things to do in May and June, there are some really interesting articles that I wanted to draw your attention to.

Enjoy Wild Time Outdoors pg.12 – Looking at the importance of letting children have time outside with nature. Apparently British children are spending less time outside than adult prisoners!

Demystifying Phonics pg.16 – Helping you to understand how important your role is as a parent in helping your child get to grips with their phonics.

Promoting Speech and Language Development in Young Children pg.20 – An article giving you ten top tips to promote speech and language development with your child as there an increasing number of children starting Nursery's and School's with a delay.

My Kids Can't Eat that! Pg. 25 – Some useful information if you believe your child may have food allergies and intolerances.

YOUunique

YOUunique is a monthly coffee morning and support group for parents of children with additional needs. It meets every 2nd Wednesday of the month. 9.30-11.30am in the church centre at Christ Church, Chapel Road, Flackwell Heath, HP10 9AA.

The next one is Wednesday 8th May where they have a speaker from Bucks Family Information Service coming.

On Wednesday 12th June CAMHS will be coming to talk about anxiety in children. You are welcome to just turn up on the day.

If you would like further information please call 01628 533004 or younique@ccfh.org.uk

Beccy Hatch

Parent Support Worker

PTA News

Following a good turn-out at the Easter Fayre at the end of last term, we can announce that we made a super profit of £684! So far this school year, we have donated over £10,000 to school as a result of our fundraising efforts. This money has been used to provide many items which enhance your children's education, one example being the new tables and chairs which are in daily use for lunch in the hall. Thank you for your continued support at our events.

Our Friday ice-cream sales, "Treats 4 Eats", started up again last Friday and we sold lots of ice-creams despite the rain! We will be holding these sales every Friday from now until the end of the Summer Term – come and find us in the Quad at 3.20pm on Friday and treat yourselves and your children! All ice-creams are 50p