



Highworth Combined School & Nursery

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Newsletter – 13th September Issue 1

Letters sent home & eSchool messages this week: Young Voices (Y4), Accelerated Reader (Y6), Health Screening Programme (Y6), Healthy Packed Lunch, Karate Club, Secondary Transfer Tests (Y6), SATs (Y6), Support Group for SEN Parents, Parents & Friends Meet & Greet (Rec)

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to the first newsletter of the new academic year. I hope that the transition to a new class, or new school in the case of new Nursery and Reception children, has gone well for you and for your child. If you have any concerns, please discuss them with your child's new teacher. If your concern persists, please ask to speak with Mrs Day or myself.

Our wonderful PTA have their first event of the year next week. They would be grateful for your support in coming along to the 'Meet and Greet' session where you can find out more about how to be involved in the amazing fund raising that they do. There are further details at the end of this newsletter.

During the holidays, Mrs Clayton, one of our Nursery Key Workers, confirmed to me that she would not be returning as a member of staff at Highworth. After a great deal of hard work and studying, Mrs Clayton has been successful in securing a position that allows her to start a new career, one she has aspired to for some time. For this reason, as well as feeling great sadness at our loss, I know that you will join me in wishing her every success in her new role.

I am thrilled to tell you that work we completed last year to improve all aspects of Science teaching and learning at our school has led to us being awarded the Primary Science Quality Mark. Much credit for this significant achievement must go to Miss Barr, our Science Lead Teacher for last academic year, but all class teachers participated and we are very pleased that all our hard work has been recognised. Further information follows below.

The weather forecast seems to suggest a return of summer this weekend so, as ever, have a wonderful weekend with your families.

Best wishes

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: 100% (CLASS RWB)

AN EXCELLENT START.

WELL DONE!

OUR WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IS

JUST ABOVE TARGET AT 96.4%

Dates for the Diary

Monday 16th September

Women's Health and Wellbeing course – 9.30-11.30am

Tuesday 17th September

PTA new parents event 7.30-8.30pm

Wednesday 18th September

Open Afternoon for prospective parents 1.30-2.30pm

Karate Club starts 3.20-4.20pm

Thursday 19th September

Open Morning for prospective parents 9.15-10.15am

Parent Zone

Welcome to the Parent Zone!

For parents that are new to the school I wanted to introduce myself and explain a little about my role. My name is Beccy Hatch and I am the school's Parent Support Worker. I work with parents in the 3 ways:

- With providing information to all parents in the school via the Parent Zone in the weekly newsletter, parent coffee mornings (more details to follow) and via whole school/class events and evenings.
- Supporting smaller groups of parents either through support groups, parenting courses and providing training courses for parents on specific topics.
- 1:1 support for parents offering Information, Advice and Guidance on an individual basis. This can be anything from positive parenting to helping parents get back into work.

If you would like to more about my role or would like to speak to me, please contact the office and I will be in touch.

Aldi Stickers

This term we are collecting the Aldi stickers so that we can be entered into the prize draw to win £20,000 to spend on sports kit. Please send in any stickers that you get so that we can fill our poster.



From 6 September, when a member of your school community spends £30 in any Aldi store, they'll receive a special Team GB athlete sticker to send in to school. Complete a poster with 300 stickers to receive a school sports kit, and be entered into our prize draw to win one of twenty **£20,000 cash prizes!**

Kind Regards
Beccy Hatch
Parent Support Worker

Highworth Friends

Please join us on Tuesday 17th September at 7.30pm in the hall for Parents Meet and Greet. It's a great opportunity to meet our head mistress and the PTA, to see how we raise funds and how we spend it!

If that isn't enough to entice you then maybe free nibbles and refreshments might do it?



**HIGHWORTH FRIENDS
PRESENTS**

PARENTS MEET & GREET



**A GREAT CHANCE
TO MEET THE HEAD AND OTHER PARENTS**

Find out about our Fantastic PTA!
See how we raised funds in 2018/19 and how it was spent.

- **TUESDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER** •

7:30PM IN THE HALL
LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED



Highworth Combined School and Nursery Awarded Primary Science Quality Mark

Schools Awarded Primary Science Quality Mark

Primary Science Quality Marks have been awarded to 200 infant, junior, primary, middle and special schools to celebrate a commitment to excellence in science teaching and learning. So far, since its national launch in 2010, over 3500 schools across the UK have achieved a prestigious Primary Science Quality Mark.

The Primary School Quality Mark programme ensures effective leadership of science, enables schools to work together to share good practice and is supported by professional development led by local experts. It encourages teacher autonomy and innovation while at the same time offering a clear framework for development in science subject leadership, teaching and learning. Schools that achieve PSQM demonstrate commitment and expertise in science teaching and leadership.

The Primary Science Quality Mark is led by the University of Hertfordshire, School of Education in collaboration with the Primary Science Teaching Trust.

Jane Turner, PSQM National Director said: *“Gaining a Primary Science Quality Mark is a significant achievement for a school. The profile and quality of science teaching and learning in each awarded school is very high. Children are engaging with great science both in and outside the classroom, developing positive attitudes towards science as well as secure scientific understanding and skills. Science subject leaders, their colleagues, head teachers, children, parents and governors should be very proud.”*