

# Highworth Combined School

Dear all

Fortunately, as I write this, we have had a week with a little less disruption. Let's hope for more of the same as we enter the last couple of weeks of the year.

Mrs Dimishky and I have had the great pleasure of meeting with Teachers to discuss the progress in learning of your children. Once again, your children and our staff have done a remarkable job of closing gaps in learning. The vast majority of pupils have been able to make considerable progress and are now back on track, despite missing out on so much time at school this academic year. In all cases, there is a plan for what is needed next, with thorough handovers to new teachers.

I'm sure you know that the Government announced its plans for the operation of schools for the new academic year on Tuesday this week. I have started to work through the guidance, consulting with staff and governors, to determine the details for Highworth. When this process has been completed, I will write to you to let you know of the changes.

Sadly, we will be saying goodbye to some staff at the end of term:

Mrs Mills, who has worked with deaf children in the Hearing Impaired Department for almost 23 years, is starting a well-earned retirement. She has taught, supported and inspired so many children in her time here, but quite rightly, is now looking forward to more time with her family.

Mrs Lapham has been successful in securing a new role as a teacher at a local school where I know that her many skills and attributes will be much appreciated. As she is also a parent with a child at Highworth, I am pleased to say we will most definitely stay in touch.

Mr Hawkes, who has had a long commute to Highworth each morning for the last 2 years, has been offered the opportunity of a new role nearer to home. I know that your children will miss him very much, as will the staff team. Mr Hawkes has an amazing ability to spread happiness and our school will not be the same without him.

Miss Long, one of our Learning Support Assistants in Year 5, is moving on to train as a teacher. We wish her every success in this new chapter of her life.

New members of staff will be joining our team over the next few weeks and I will write to introduce them nearer their start dates.

I have attached some documents from various agencies, I hope you find them useful:

- A compilation of Holiday activities and clubs put together by Elly Baskerville, our Parent Support Worker
- 3 documents from the Family Information service about services offered
- Suggestions for learning together from Bucks Council Early Years team

Finally, COME ON ENGLAND! Let's hope it is coming home.

Have a wonderful weekend

Clare Pankhania



# Early Years Learning at Home Together

## Parents Behaving Powerfully

### Welcome

Wednesday 7th July 2021

Welcome to the Summer 2 edition of Learning at Home Together sent out half termly with resources and ideas to help you to support your parents with learning at home.

The resource cards are for you to share directly with parents or use to supplement your own learning at home initiatives. They contain simple, fun activities which can be easily recreated at home. The focus remains on social mobility supporting vulnerable parents. All resource cards will have a strong element of communication and language and contain focus vocabulary to support parents with interactions.

### Ideas to Share with Parents

This half terms resource cards link learning within a theme.

We are resending three activity cards which support transition, they are all linked, the activities are interwoven and the cards can be used separately or all together.

[Transitions 1](#) - simple, fun ideas and activities to help you prepare your child specifically for the move to nursery or school.

[Transitions 2](#) - activities and fun ideas to try out transitions from setting to school.

[Transitions 3](#) - use your mini me to play and pretend what it will be like to be at school.

There are six activity and spotter cards below for you to share with your families .

[Games](#) - a selection of easy games to play with children.

[Water](#) - fun activities to carry out near water.

[Treasure Baskets](#) - advice and support around setting up treasure basket activities at home.

[Free Days out in Bucks](#) - ideas for different places to visit across Buckinghamshire.

[Road Safety Awareness Spotter](#)

[Exploring my World Spotter](#)

Story, songs and information links which reflect the theme, you might like to share with parents.

[Independence skills for starting school - CBeebies - BBC](#)

[Go, Go, Pirate Boat with Katrina Charman and Nick Sharratt - YouTube](#)

[Hairy Maclary from Donaldson's Dairy | BookTrust](#)

[Cress - CBeebies - BBC](#)

[CBeebies Grown-Ups: Hoof and Safety Tips for Crossing Roads - Bing video](#)

[CBeebies: Minibeast Adventure with Jess - Waterboatman - Bing video](#)

Your key contacts would love to hear any feedback you have from your families.



# Join us for our Summer Fun Festival

for young people 11 years plus

**Looking for something to do this summer holiday?**

**Want to feel better about going back to school, college or work in September?**

Why not come along to one of our **free** virtual or face-to-face fun events.

## Get involved in

- fun activities
- meeting new people
- learning how to feel good about yourself



**Scan the QR code  
to find out more.**



Book your place before **Tuesday 20 July 2021**  
email [earlyhelpduty@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:earlyhelpduty@buckinghamshire.gov.uk)

For more information please visit  
[familyinfo.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/outh](http://familyinfo.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/outh)



Our free, online Family Events will cover a range of different topics and activities. Our experts will be on hand to answer your questions and make sure that everyone has a good time. You'll meet other families and have a chance to chat too.

### **Who these events are for?**

These events are for deaf children aged 16 and under and their families. Each event lists the age of children it is best suited to.

<https://www.ndcs.org.uk/our-services/our-events/events-for-parents-carers-and-families/family-events/>

### **Buckinghamshire Holiday Activity Fund – FREE activities**

Our HAF Programme is funded by the Department for Education and will deliver daily free holiday activity sessions and a healthy hot meal for children aged 5 to 16 who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals.

The programme will offer free holiday activities in the Easter, summer and Christmas school holidays in 2021 for school-aged children, aged 5 to 16 years.

If you do not currently receive benefits-related free school meals, but think you may be eligible, our [support at school for low-income families](#) gives information on who is eligible and how to apply.

<https://familyinfo.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/advice-and-support/buckinghamshire-haf/haf-summer-activity-providers/>

### **Buckinghamshire Family Information Service**

Information, support, childcare and things to do for families, children and young people aged from birth to 19 years (up to 25 years with a disability/additional need) Link below to the Summer holiday activity list.

<https://directory.familyinfo.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/?categories=holiday-activities&collection=things-to-do&page=1>

### **FREE Fun Family activities**

#### **Wycombe Family Centre Open Days in the Summer holidays.**

Mapledean FC- Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> Aug 10am till 1pm

Castlefield FC – Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> Aug 10am till 1pm – LOTS OF FUN FOR 11+ YRS

Hampden Way FC – Monday 9<sup>th</sup> Aug 10am till 1pm – LOTS OF FUN FOR 11+ YRS

Hithercroft FC. -Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> Aug 10am till 12pm

Marlow FC – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> Aug 10am till 12pm

Follow us on Facebook



For local info Follow and Like your local Family Centre:

@Mapledeanfamilycentreplus

@Southcourtfamilycentreplus

@Marlowfamilycentre

@elmhurstfamilycentre

@Risboroughfamilycentre

@wingfamilycentre

@Hampdenwayfamilycentre

@buckinghamfamilycentre

@Hithercroftfamilycentre

@berryfieldsfamilycentre

@Castlefieldfamilycentre

@amershamfamilycentre

@newtownfamilycentreplus

@theiversfamilycentre

@burnhamfamilycentre

@beaconsfieldfamilycentre

Don't forget to also "like" our Buckinghamshire Family Information Service page

@bucksfamilyinfo

# Youth Drop-In

help and support for 11-19 year olds  
(up to 25 with SEND)

## How we can help

- being healthy and happy
- options after year 11
- activities and things to do
- one-to-one or group support when you need it the most
- ways to get your voice heard on issues that matter most to you

**Based at these locations across Bucks, just turn up! Phone appointments also available**

**High Wycombe:** Tuesdays 3.30-5.30pm, The Roundhouse HP11 2HE

**Aylesbury:** Thursdays 3.30-5.30pm, Southcourt Family Centre Plus HP21 8PD

**Chesham:** Thursdays 3.30-5.30pm, Chesham Youth Centre HP5 2HA

[earlyhelpduty@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:earlyhelpduty@buckinghamshire.gov.uk) | 01296 383293

