

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
Education Department

Highworth Combined School & Nursery

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Newsletter – 18th October Issue 5

Letters sent home & eSchool messages this week: Flu Vaccination Consent Reminder (YR-Y6), Fireworks Night Helpers Required, Secondary Transfer Test Results (Y6), Half Term Break & Term Dates

Dear Parents and Carers

31 children and 7 adults set out in the rain last Friday for the year 6 residential trip to Marchants Hill in Surrey. It remained rainy for most of the weekend, but this did not dampen our enthusiasm! The children were wonderful representatives of our school with one of the instructors telling me that our group was the best bunch of children and adults that he had worked with.

This week saw the start of our work in partnership with local environmental group Chiltern Rangers. 15 children from Year 4 spent Tuesday morning being junior rangers, which involved lopping and sawing of young trees to clear a Forest School site within Kingswood. This was followed by toasting of marshmallows on a fire, lit to burn the cleared wood. We hope that this will be the first of many such opportunities for children across the school. In the afternoon, all of Year 5 helped with the next step of creating our wild flower meadow: raking the grass that had been cut for the first time in 6 months! This is a big job and we will have a further 'raking day' later this term when more children will have the opportunity to join in.

By the time you receive this letter, our Harvest Assembly will have taken place. Having seen the rehearsals earlier this week, I know that you will have found the event very enjoyable. I would like to thank both children and adults for working so hard at a busy time of year to put together such wonderful performances.

Don't forget that our annual firework event takes place next Thursday. Further details follow at the end of this newsletter. As ever, we are desperate for people to help with the preparation and running of the event so if you are able to help, please send back one of the 'helper' letter responses or contact Jasmin Ferguson using the Highworth Friends site.

With very best wishes for an enjoyable weekend.

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 1LM)
WELL DONE!**

**OUR WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IS
JUST ABOVE TARGET AT 96.9%**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Monday 21st October

Women's Health and Wellbeing course – 9.30am - 11:30am

Tuesday 22nd October

Flu vaccination – YR to Y6

Wednesday 23rd October

Phonics session for invited parents 2pm-3.15pm
District Cup match 3.30-4.45pm – Hamilton school

Thursday 24th October

Firework event – 6.30pm-8pm

Friday 25th October

Yr 4 Netball 12.15pm-2.45pm HGSS

PARENT ZONE

Lunch boxes

It is really important that your children are eating well at lunchtimes as they are working so hard during the school day. Whilst the majority of children are bringing a varied, healthy packed lunch we are still seeing some children bringing in items that we do not allow in school. Over the past couple of weeks, we have seen cold burgers and chips, some children having more than one sweet treat in their lunchboxes and others who only have crisps and sweet treats with nothing else. Please don't forget that you can send in a thermos flask with hot rice, pasta etc so this should hopefully help parents with fussy eaters. There are also a number of children who do not have a drink in their packed lunch. The children require a water bottle for the class but a separate drink for their lunch.

We also have fantastic, freshly cooked hot school meals and these are free to pupils in Key Stage 1 and those who are Pupil Premium.

If you would like support with ideas for packed lunches or you are struggling with your child not eating or being fussy, please feel free to make an appointment to see me so that I can help you.

TikTok App safety information

For parents with children who have access to a mobile and may have downloaded the app TikTok, please find a link from Parent Zone which is an organisation which provides digital information and safety advice for families. Their guide shares some useful information about this popular app that children may be familiar with.

https://parentzone.org.uk/article/tiktok-everything-you-need-know-about-video-production-app?utm_source=Parent+Zone+Newsletter&utm_campaign=589105154e-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2019_10_15_08_56&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_1ee27d9000-589105154e-179254329

Many thanks

Beccy Hatch
Parent Support Worker

PTA NEWS

We look forward to seeing lots of you at our annual fireworks event on Thursday 24th October at 6.30pm.

If you have pre-ordered tickets, these will go out in book bags shortly. If you have not pre-ordered tickets, do still come along on the night as you will be able to pay on the door.

Before the Firework Display, you can test your searching skills by taking part in the traditional Treasure Hunt around the school (and the winner gets to set off the fireworks!) There will be hot food and drinks in the hall (please remember to bring your own travel cup if you have one). You can also find the glow shop, lucky dips and tuck shop in the hall.

The evening will finish with our usual spectacular Firework Display on the school field, so come along for a great time for all the family!

PE NEWS

Highworth has been very active in the past 2 weeks with multiple sporting competitions.

Year 5 Football festival

On Friday 11th October, Year 5 swapped their PE lesson for an afternoon at Holmer Green School to compete against local primary schools in a football tournament. This was one of our Sports Hub events where the main purpose is inclusive participation in a non-pressured competitive environment. We are pleased to say the event was a massive success and our Year 5 children performed brilliantly, winning multiple games and most importantly persevering until the final whistle when we may have not been winning. Well done Year 5!

Year 5 & 6 Hockey tournament

On Wednesday 16th September Highworth hosted St. Teresa's School for a Hockey event. Highworth entered three teams and St. Teresa's entered four teams all from Years 5 and 6. The teams competed in two leagues to gain points on the league table. The event was very enjoyable, and our Hockey team represented the school in a great light, demonstrating good sportsmanship qualities and enthusiasm. We are pleased to say that at the end of the tournament Highworth A (Blues) were the runners up in League One just behind St. Teresa's A (Yellows). Highworth B (Greens) and C (Yellows) finished level on points as joint winners of League Two. It is worth noting that this was our first competitive hockey fixture and we were very proud of our talented young sports men/women. Well done to you all.

School Games Award

Highworth is delighted to announce we have been awarded the bronze medal school games award for our efforts in all elements in physical activity last year. This is a great achievement and is a collective effort from the entire school including children and staff! Our PE team is now determined to improve all elements of physical activity further to achieve nothing less than a gold medal award at the end of this school year! Thank you to everyone that has helped us towards this great achievement.



Millbrook Activity Club Holiday Club

28th October – 1st November 2019

Full Day	8.00 am – 6.00 pm	£26.00
Morning Half Day Session	8.00 am – 1.15 pm	£15.00
Middle Session	10.00 am – 3.00 pm	£18.00
Afternoon Half Day Session	1.15 pm – 6.00 pm	£15.00

*We offer a 10% discount for any additional sibling booked on to the same session
All payments to be made in advance and a registration form completed*

Our fully equipped holiday club offers children plentiful opportunities to take part in fun activities and projects. We have regular outdoor play and provide healthy snacks. Our holiday club is the ideal place for children to make new friends and improve social skills.

Parents must provide a healthy packed lunch and a water bottle for children attending either the Full Day session or the Morning Half Day session. Children attending the Afternoon Half Day session are expected to have eaten before they arrive.

**BOOK EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT
– ALL BOOKINGS ARE ON A 'FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED' BASIS
TO SECURE YOUR CHILD'S PLACE PLEASE PHONE: 01494 524791**

*PLEASE NOTE: Some parents may be eligible for Child tax Credit which can help with childcare costs. Parents may be able to qualify if they work for more than 16 hours per week. Further information is available by accessing the Inland Revenue website on www.hmrc.gov.uk/TAXCREDITS/
Our Registration Number is: 131815*





HIGHWORTH FRIENDS PRESENTS

FIREWORKS NIGHT

Thursday 24th October
6.30-8pm

AT Highworth Combined School, Highworth Close, High Wycombe, HP13 7PH



Adults £5, Children £4, Children under 1 FREE

TREASURE HUNT

HOT FOOD

GRAND FIREWORKS DISPLAY

For safety reasons please do not bring fireworks or sparklers
Under 16's must be accompanied by an adult