

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
Education Department

Highworth Combined School & Nursery

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Newsletter: Friday 12th November 2021 Issue: 9

Letters sent home & e-School messages this week: Young Voices Concert (Y4), Children in Need, Christmas Performances

Dear all

Thank you if you took the time to attend Parents Evening. We really enjoy being able to catch up with you about the progress that your children have made. We also know that working in partnership is the very best way forward.

I am delighted to tell you that Becca Harris has returned to teach at Highworth. Those of you whose children have been taught by Becca in the past will know what wonderful news this is.

I received an email this week from a neighbour, understandably upset, about the ongoing problems that the residents of Highworth Close experience with inconsiderate parking. This is some of what was in the email:

I am having to write to you again on behalf of the residents of Highworth Close to complain about the disgraceful behaviour of some parents.

Many of them are arriving up to half an hour early to deliver or collect the children and sitting in their cars with the engine idling all that time. This is illegal as well as highly dangerous to everyone around them.

They are also turning on gardens resulting in damage, they are parking across driveways and on the pavement, resulting in the pupils having to walk in the road and they are letting their children run and play on the gardens too.

There is a total lack of respect for each other and the local residents and this needs to be tackled before there is a bad accident.

It would be much appreciated by all if you would act to show some respect to neighbours and keep everyone safe.

As ever, my best wishes for a happy 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: 97.6% (CLASS 4S)

WELL DONE

OUR WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IS

WELL BELOW TARGET AT 92.7%

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES THIS WEEK:

Friday 19th November

Children in Need – come to school in pyjamas/onesies – 50p donation

Y4/Y5/Y6 Netball Tournament

PARENT ZONE

PTA

We will be having our next Highworth Friends PTA meeting via Zoom on Tuesday 23rd November at 19:30. We'd love to see you there and hope to be announcing in person meetings again soon!

Here's the Zoom link you'll need:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87488465086?pwd=TWJra1FCbFJudkRpZGN2YUsvRERDZz09>

Meeting ID: 874 8846 5086

Passcode: 6ntqCi

If you have any questions or would like to know more about Highworth Friends PTA, please send us an email to highworthfriends@gmail.com

Thanks very much.

Information for Parents

COVID-19 Testing

Twice weekly testing using Lateral Flow Devices (LFDs) remains recommended for the families of school-aged children. These are available for free, see this link to order: [Order coronavirus \(COVID-19\) rapid lateral flow tests - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

This helps to identify if you or your child is infected so that others in the school and wider community can be protected. Please note that this type of testing is only for people without symptoms of COVID-19 and if you test positive, you need to self-isolate and arrange for a free confirmatory PCR test via this link:

[Get a free PCR test to check if you have coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

COVID-19 Vaccination

People aged 16 and over, including adults, can book a vaccination appointment through the National Booking System or attend a walk-in clinic:

- [Book or manage a 1st or 2nd dose of the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) vaccination - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#)
- [Find a walk-in coronavirus \(COVID-19\) vaccination site - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#)

Severe illness and death from COVID-19 infection are more likely with increasing age. Therefore, adults are more vulnerable than children and it is important that you are vaccinated as well as any of your eligible children to protect your and your family's health.

If you are eligible for a COVID-19 booster vaccination (people aged 50 and over, or anyone aged 16 and over with a high-risk health condition) then you can book an appointment to have it [here](#), although please note that it must be at least 6 months since your second dose

of the vaccine. This will help to top-up your protection against COVID during the Winter months.

Flu and other winter viruses

As we move into winter, other viruses may start to spread, causing flu and colds. The symptoms from these infections can be similar to those of COVID-19.

It is important to get a free PCR test for COVID-19 first if you or your child develops any of the following: a new continuous cough; a raised temperature; a change in taste or smell. If this test is negative, it is still important to continue testing twice-weekly using LFDs as you or your child might go on to become infected with COVID-19 later.

People who are eligible, including children aged 2-15 years old and anyone between the ages of 6 months and 50 years old who is clinically vulnerable can have a free NHS flu vaccine this year, which is the best way of protecting ourselves and those around.