



HAWRIDGE & CHOLESBURY CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL

OUR SCHOOL VALUES: RESPECT - UNDERSTANDING – PEACE – HONESTY – RESPONSIBILITY - TEAMWORK

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'Love one another as I have loved you.' John 13:34

18th October 2018

Dear Parents

This half term's value is **Respect**

Autumn Term Newsletter No. 2

It looks like the weather's changing, so please ensure you send your child in with a raincoat every day after half term. I'm sure you all know, but tomorrow is an inset day!

Harvest Festival

It was lovely for the children to see so many parents at our Harvest Festival this year. Mrs Bonner did another great job teaching the children their harvest songs. Thank you to Mrs Hicks, Mrs Rolfe, Mrs Whatton, Mrs Allchin and everyone who helped set up the display, organised the bread centrepiece and delivered food parcels to Atlas House and the foodbank. Parents' help is always greatly appreciated on these occasions.

Open Mornings

We are holding one more Open Mornings for prospective parents. It will be on Friday 9th November from 9.15am to 10.15am. Please pass on the dates to any of your friends who might want to visit our school.

Data Protection

There are many new rules in places regarding data protection and with this in mind we are asking parents to inform us by email if they have an issue with the following information. School holds a photocopy of every child's birth certificate in a locked cupboard until they leave our school. Full names of children are on their school books and often on wall displays and teachers may take books home to mark work. Hopefully parents are happy with this, but if you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

School Photos

These are taking place on Friday 2nd November. All children should go to their classrooms as normal for registration. If you would like a picture of your child and a younger sibling who is not school age yet, please queue in the hall and your child will be brought to the hall. Please ensure your child in in full school uniform, wearing a tie and a school jumper/cardigan.

Uniform

Your child should wear full school uniform every day, including a tie, school jumper/cardigan and proper shoes. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to speak to a teacher.

Library

Thank you to Mrs Davis and her band of helpers who run the library on a Friday. The children love coming to choose a book and look forward to it every week.

Punctuality

Some children are arriving far too late to school in the mornings, arriving when the register has been taken and lessons for the day have begun. Please remember that it is often most upsetting for a child to enter a quiet class late, when everyone else has started their learning. The school gates open at 8.40am and children should be in class for the register to be taken at 8.50am at the absolute latest.

Recycle Competition

We had some fabulous entries for this competition. Mrs Hughes was most impressed with the high standard and the creativity. The winner of the 'Most Useful' item was Emily (Y1), the 'Most Creative' winner was Finlay (Y5) and Tilly (Y4) was a 'Special' winner. The class winners were:- Una (W), Megan (Y1), Sidney (Y2), Anni (Y3), Layla (Y4), Remi (Y5) and Joshua (Y6).

House Captains and Prefects

Last week House Captains were chosen from Year 6, who prepared speeches to present to the rest of the school and after a campaign manifesto, elections were held. House Captains are responsible for planning and leading House competitions.

This year's House Captains are:

- Dinnets - Lacey and Waleed
- Orchard - Kiera and Laurence
- Putnams - Imogen and Josh

Our school prefects are selected from Year 6 pupils following successful interviews and allocations of job descriptions. They have all agreed to be excellent role models, positive advocates of our wonderful school and to be impartial, encouraging and safety aware. They have the privilege to award ten house points each week should they notice fellow pupils walking sensibly around the school, being particularly kind and caring or generally paying extra attention to school values. I was really impressed with their well-prepared speeches. Well done!

This year's prefects are Laura, Gretel, Millie, Sean and Cathy

MIND Assembly

Today we welcomed two representatives from Buckinghamshire MIND to talk to the children about how they might feel on occasion and to think about things that can help them to overcome small worries, such as playing with friends, riding a bike, or reading. The assembly also discussed how sharing bigger issues and worries with a trusted adult at school or home can be a really positive move to having a healthy mind. As a school we are focused on developing healthy minds for all so look out for further information and activities based on helping children to stay healthy both physically and mentally.

Safeguarding and Health & Safety Review

This term we have been very busy with two reviews from Bucks. The first was a Health & Safety Audit which takes place in all schools every 3 years and considers all aspects of health & safety, fire regulations, equipment, use of cleaning materials etc. The second was a Safeguarding review carried out by a safeguarding officer from the Education Safeguarding Advisory Service. During this review all aspects of children's safety were considered including how records are kept, how concerns are managed and the children's own awareness of how to keep safe. You may have noticed that staff and volunteers wear ID lanyards and children have been encouraged to tell a known adult if they see someone in school not wearing one. You may also have noticed that on our school website under safeguarding there is a link for child protection concerns to be reported by parents or carers directly to social care.

Both reviews were very thorough and positive about these aspects of the school. The Health & Safety audit graded the school as 'good' and the safeguarding areas that were particularly impressive were how we meet the legal requirements through our website and record keeping, and how safeguarding is central to all we do in our school.

Chesham Council

Gretel (Y6) has been selected as our school representative on the Chesham Youth Council and was elected as secretary. She came back empowered and ready to be part of affecting and improving the lives of youths in Chesham.

Parent Governor

We are pleased to welcome our newly elected Parent Governor, Mrs Hicks, who has a daughter in Windmills. We look forward to a long and successful relationship.

E-safety – Fortnite

It has come to our attention over recent months how many children across the school are playing the game 'Fortnite.' As part of our role for promoting e-safety we have included a parent guide about the game produced by UK Safer Internet Centre. Please can you take the time to read this and talk to your children about it if they are using the game.

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/blog/parents-guide-fortnite-battle-royale>

Keeping children safe online is becoming an increasing concern. Many of you will have attended the talks last term by PC Briggishaw which highlighted this growing and ever changing issue amongst our young people. Although many of us think we know when and what our children are accessing online, it is clear that this remains an area of vulnerability. E-safety is a priority on this year's School Development Plan. We have three goals which we are asking all families to adhere to in their own homes in order to help keep their children safe online.

1. **No more than 2 hours using technology in one day** (an hour on a school day) As the driving instructors say – 'this is a limit not a target!'
2. **No games/ social media used where children are below recommended age limit.** (Although many parents believe they are adhering to this, concerns can remain where the technology is used by older siblings/ parents and then younger children see this or take part without parents realising)
3. **All technology to be kept in communal areas** and no online technology in children's bedrooms. (ipads, smartphones, x-box etc.)

We do hope that you will support us in this aim. Staff will be talking to the children about these three goals/ expectations in class as well as part of their e-safety lessons.

Finally, have a very safe and happy half term. We will see you back at school on Monday, 29th October, well rested and ready for a busy Christmas term!

Kind regards

Mrs R Phillips
Headteacher