



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

16th January 2019

Dear Parents

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

Spring Term Newsletter No. 1

Welcome back to a busy half term. We have lots of interesting activities planned for the children this term including a variety of school trips in the next few weeks. This includes 'Winter Olympics', a Roald Dahl Museum Visit and a trip to Hazard Alley to name a few. Our gym club is going to take part in a festival and KS2 children will have the opportunity to run in the local schools Cross Country Festival.

National Literacy Trust: Book Ownership, Literacy Engagement and Mental Well-Being

Some of you may be interested in the following interesting piece of research which I came across recently.

The National Literacy Trust have published research that demonstrates that ownership of books is strongly linked to attainment and happiness. The survey of over 40,000 children found that:-

- Children who have 60 or more books at home are **5.5 times more likely** to read above the level expected for their age than their peers who have fewer than 10 books
- Children who read above the level expected for their age have **twice as many books** as those who read below the expected level
- Children who have a book of their own at home have **higher levels of mental wellbeing** than those who don't have any books

Further details can be found [here](#).

Screen Time Limits

The Education Secretary has suggested that parents should lead by example when it comes to screen time limits. Writing in the Telegraph he has responded to research that indicates that 76% of under 5's use electronic devices and 44% of parents have a device to keep them occupied.

The article can be found [here](#).

Request from Parents

I have been approached by some parents who are concerned that we are all setting a good example to the children as they leave school and have requested that parents do not smoke at the immediate entrance points to the school. In addition concern is raised for children (often younger siblings) who have health issues which can be exacerbated by inhaling cigarette smoke. The child of one parent is under a consultant for breathing issues and I would be really grateful for everyone's support with this. Thank you for your consideration.

Film Club

Our next film night is on Friday, 25th January. As always this should be booked online and the permission slip sent to school so that we have an emergency contact number for your child. For parents new to the school, Film Clubs take place at least once a term and are very popular with the children. The staff run the club voluntarily and the funds raised are put towards school grounds projects. Additional funding streams including grants, the Diocese and PSA events are also essential in funding such projects.

Over the last few years we have been able to develop our school grounds by improving our access to the school (widening the alleyway and fencing in the path next to the drive), renovating our school pond, extending and improving our Forest Schools areas, creating a Tree Cathedral and providing the wonderful play area in Early Years.

Still on the list is further developing our Year 1 and 2 outdoor areas, providing patio doors and a patio to Year 3, 4 and 5 to improve access to the outdoor area. We would also like to renovate or replace our gazebo, repair damage done to the Tree cathedral, continue to build on our Forest Schools' resources and provision and ultimately build a second playground to improve our year round playtime opportunities. Thank you very much for supporting us with these projects it's great to see the children thrive in the environments we have been able to provide, with your support, so far.

Santa Dash

Many thanks to Mrs Alford and other parents who organised and took part in the Santa Dash. They braved the terrible weather and raised a brilliant amount of money which will go towards mending/replacing the Gazebo in the school playground.

Netball Club

Thank you to Mrs Walker who has kindly agreed to run the netball club until half term. The club is open to years 5 and 6 and runs on a Thursday after school.

Finally, I am keen to maintain the improvement we saw before Christmas in school uniform standards, so please could all parents read the attached information and ensure their children are clothed appropriately for our school.

Kind regards
Mrs R Phillips
Headteacher

School Uniform

School uniform is worn by **all** pupils in Reception through to Y6. Parents are asked to ensure that their child adheres to the uniform rules. Full acceptance of the wearing of uniform helps the school maintain high standards of behaviour and self-discipline.

Boys: Dark grey trousers or shorts
Plain blue shirt
School jumper
School tie
Black or grey socks
Black sensible shoes – no trainers or boots

Girls: Grey pinafore dress, skirt or trousers
Blue shirt
School jumper or cardigan
School tie
Grey tights or white socks
Black sensible shoes – no heels or boots

Optional summer wear:

Boys: Shorts, short sleeved blue shirts

Girls: Blue checked dress.

A coat should be worn to school except in very warm weather, when a light waterproof jacket should be brought to school in case of showery weather.

N.B Tracksuit tops, denim jackets or sweatshirts are not acceptable as coats.

Hats may only be worn for specific reasons i.e. warmth in cold weather or as a sunshade.

All long hair must be plaited or tied up securely to minimise the risk of head infestation and to ensure safety during P.E and science lessons. Hair accessories should be simple, not extravagant.

P.E Kit: Bags are available

Navy shorts or school tracksuit bottoms if it is cold

Blue school Polo shirt

Plimsoles

No rings, bracelets or dangly/ hooped earrings should be worn on health and safety grounds.

All items of clothing and personal belongings should be clearly labelled with the child's name.