

End of Year Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers, staff and governors

As we reach the end of another academic year, I want to take this opportunity to reflect on what has been a hugely positive and successful time for our school.

Much of this success is rooted in curiosity. Your children's enthusiasm for learning, their eagerness to question, explore and understand, continues to inspire us all. At Highworth, we pride ourselves on teaching grounded in evidence and research—our team regularly engages with the latest educational thinking to ensure that our practice remains effective and responsive. It's a commitment that has helped us achieve outcomes well above schools locally and nationally: likely, within the top 5% of schools in England.

We are driven by a clear and shared purpose: to ensure that every child leaves us fully prepared for the next stage of their education. This year, more children than ever have reached that point of being "secondary ready." We see this in the excellent SATs results achieved by our Year 6 pupils, and also in the progress made across the school, measured through both internal and national assessments. There is real momentum behind our curriculum and pedagogy, and we're confident that even more children will continue to thrive as they move through the school.

Resilience has been another important theme this year. Whether tackling challenging content or navigating personal difficulties, our pupils have shown impressive perseverance. We have placed a strong emphasis on emotional wellbeing and supported many children to develop the skills they need to manage their feelings and stay ready to learn. It's no surprise that the happiest learners are often the most successful—and we never lose sight of that.

This level of success is only possible when everyone is working together. At Highworth, relationships are at the heart of everything we do, and the strength of our community has been clear throughout the year. It has been a pleasure to welcome so many of you into school for a full calendar of events—from parents and carers evenings to Sports Day, from the Firework Event to the Summer Music Concert, and of course, the Key Stage 2 production.

There are so many people who contribute to the life of our school, and I want to take a moment to thank them all:

To parents and carers: thank you for everything you do to support your children—getting them to school, reading with them, helping with home learning, and working in partnership with us to help them succeed.

To our teaching and classroom support staff: your expertise, kindness, and constant drive to improve are at the heart of our school's success. Thank you for all you do each day.

To our inclusion team—including Learning Mentors, the SENCO, Teachers of the Deaf, and Communicators: thank you for making sure that every child feels valued, understood, and able to thrive.

To the admin and support staff: you keep everything running smoothly—from managing finances to looking after the building, handling enquiries, organising resources, and keeping us all informed. We are truly grateful.

To our cooks and Mid-day Supervisors: thank you for creating a calm and happy environment during lunchtimes—and for serving up such delicious meals in a challenging space!

To Highworth Friends (our PTA): thank you for the energy and commitment you bring to raising funds and bringing the community together. And of course, for £5000 worth of new tablets!

To our governors: thank you for your thoughtful oversight, challenge and support—your role is essential and so appreciated.

And to our brilliant Senior Leadership Team: thank you for your relentless commitment to improvement, to safeguarding, and to upholding the values that make our school so special. Your support makes all the difference.

It is both a joy and a privilege to lead Highworth. I feel incredibly lucky to be part of such a vibrant, caring and ambitious school community. After a well-earned break this summer, I look forward to returning in September ready to build on all we have achieved together.

Wishing you all a happy and restful holiday.

Very best wishes,

Clare Pankhania
Headteacher