

Highworth Combined School & Nursery

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Newsletter: 18th September 2026

Issue: 1

Letters sent home & e-School messages this week: Newsletter from Chartwells, Friday Assembly, PTA Events, Mental Maths Skills (Y5), FSM/Pupil Premium, Netball Club

Dear all,

Welcome to the first newsletter of the new school year! It has been wonderful to see the whole school back together over these first two weeks, with children in Years 1 to 6 returning on 4th September and our new Nursery and Reception starters settling in beautifully since.

Thank you to everyone who came along to our "Meet the Teacher" sessions over the past fortnight — Years 1 and 4 in our first week back, Years 2 and 5 shortly after, and Years 3 and 6 this Monday. It is always lovely to welcome you into the classroom at the start of the year, and I hope it gave you a good sense of what your child can look forward to this year.

Our teachers have also spent real time over these first two weeks explicitly teaching and modelling our expectations for behaviour and learning, and it has been wonderful to see the children embrace these almost universally. Seeing this embedded so quickly, to our usual high standard, matters a great deal — it is what creates a safe, settled environment for every child, and it lays the foundation for all the learning still to come this year.

This morning we welcomed parents and carers into assembly to meet our PTA committee, Highworth Friends, followed by tea and cake. Thank you to the committee for organising such a warm start to the year, and to everyone who came along.

Best wishes for a happy weekend

Clare Pankhania

ATTENDANCE

To report your child's absence please telephone and leave a message or send an email to:

reception@highworthcombined.co.uk

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE TARGET IS 96%

BEST ATTENDANCE: 100%
(CLASS 1H)
EXCELLENT

WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE:
96.3%

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

SPORTS CLUBS START THIS WEEK

PARENT ZONE



Highworth Friends PTA

Event Schedule



FRI
18/09

Assembly & Meet the PTA Session
09:00 - School Hall / Staff Room

MON
28/09

Highworth Friends PTA AGM
19:30 - Staff Room

THUR
15/10

Bag2School Donation Drop Off
08:45 - The tree in staff car park

THU
22/10

Highworth Fireworks Night
18:00 - 19:30 - School Hall / Field



PTA Events this half term + fireworks announcement)

A warm welcome back to another exciting year at Highworth. We hope your children have settled into the school term happily.

Your PTA, Highworth Friends, are already hard at work planning this term's events and fundraising drives. We'd like to take a moment to guide you through the term's activities and ways you can get involved.

With your support, last year we raised an incredible £8200 for our 'We Love Highworth' campaign which contributed to the much-needed (as this year's summer proved!) air conditioning installation in classrooms, as well as restocking the school library.

Key dates this term

- Our new fundraising campaign for 2026/27 will be announced soon, but before that we are delighted to announce that the ever-popular **Highworth Fireworks Night** will return on **Thursday, October 22**. Tickets will go on sale **next week** with early bird pricing, so save the date and look out for the announcement on E-Schools and your WhatsApp groups.
- As a registered charity, we hold our **AGM** every year and this year's meeting will take place in the school staff room on **Monday, September 28 from 7.30pm**. Everyone is welcome and we would love to see as many parents as possible at our AGM as we outline our successes from the past year and look ahead to what's in store.
- The next **Bags2School** charity clothes collection has been booked for **Thursday, October 15th** – great news for anyone in desperate need of a post-summer clear-out! More information will be provided so look out for the poster in our PTA noticeboard in front of school reception.

Pete Grant, Chair

Highworth Friends