BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL Education Department

Highworth Combined School & Nursery

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Newsletter – 15th November Issue 8

Letters sent home & eSchool messages this week: Water Safety Session (Class 4TS), Important Change (Class RWB), Christmas Play & Party (Nurs/Rec), Gymnastics Event (Y1), Usborne Book Sale, Class Teacher Update (RWB)



Our focus this week has been upon what adults and children do at school to ensure that everyone is safe, respected and cared for. This is not only because it is 'Anti Bullying Week', but because we must make this a priority all of the time. As well as marking National Kindness Day (with reminders that kindness is an everyday expectation), we have had assemblies and lessons in class about how we can ensure everyone is safe and, as usual, we have often referred to 'High 5', a strategy that we teach to all our pupils. Following some feedback from governors, I thought it might be helpful to tell you a bit more about this. High 5 is a way for children to start to deal with minor conflict independently and, as you might expect, it has 5 stages. They are:

- 1. Ignore
- 2. Talk Friendly
- 3. Walk away
- 4. Talk Firmly
- 5. Report

Any opportunity that you have to reinforce this strategy would be much appreciated.

Thank you for your generous support of Children In Need today. We will let you know how much money the school raised at a later date.

As ever, my best wishes for a lovely 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: 98.3% (CLASS 3FM & 5K)

WELL DONE!

OUR WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IS

JUST ABOVE TARGET AT 96.6%

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Monday 18th November

Women's Health and Wellbeing course – 9.30am - 11:30am

Tuesday 19th November

Parents evening 5.30pm-8pm

Thursday 21st November

Parents evening 3.30pm-6pm

Friday 22nd November

Gymnastics Hub event year 1 – 10.20am-12.45pm HGJS



PARENT ZONE

Chiltern Families Magazine

You should receive the November/December issue of this great magazine this week. This month's is their Christmas Special. As well as finding out about lots of places you can meet Santa you can also find some great ideas of places to take your children in the winter months. There are also some very interesting articles about how to develop a Growth Mindset and why the use of grammar is still so important. On the back page there is also an opportunity to promote acts of kindness with your child. They have made a calendar which you can tick off every time your child shows an act of kindness towards someone else. They have given you lots of examples of how they can do this. I think this idea could be used all year round!

Young Carers Bucks

Young Carers Bucks is part of Carers Bucks and supports children and young people in Buckinghamshire who have a caring role. The tasks and level of caring undertaken by young carers can vary according to the nature of the illness or disability. A young carer does not necessarily have to be providing 'hands on' care to be recognised as a young carer. Sometimes the impact of having a sibling with an illness or disability can impact on the young carer by making it tricky to have friends over after school for example and perhaps trying to manage difficulties with their sibling's behaviour.

Highworth staff have been fortunate to have received staff training in identifying "Hidden Young Carers" within school settings "from the Young Carers in schools' project worker" and the children have also had the opportunity to be part of a Young Carers school assembly where they learnt more about the day in the life of a Young Carer and the opportunities offered at Young Carers Bucks.

The Young Carers Schools Project is now in a position to help set up a Young Carers Group within Highworth. It is envisaged that the group will run every week to support, nurture and provide a chance to socialise with other Young Carers within the school.

If you feel your child has a caring role for someone in your family, then please speak to Caroline Day, Inclusion Deputy Headteacher, where we can invite them to our first Young Carers group which will start in January.

Beccy Hatch

Parent Support Worker

PTA NEWS

We have been very busy planning the upcoming Christmas Bazaar. We have already had 3 meetings about it! We will be honest: your help is needed!

Please see attached the Christmas Bazaar poster and please look out for letters going out on eSchools and in book bags.

These are the planned dates in the lead up to the big day:

w/c 18th Nov: Invitations, helper letter and raffle tickets will be sent out in book bags. Also that week, a letter about a new initiative: Preloved Christmas jumpers will go out on eSchools.

Wednesday 27th Nov: Helper Letter to be returned. Deadline for Christmas jumper to be brought in.

Tuesday 3rd Dec: Deadline for raffle tickets to be returned.

Wednesday 4th December: Mufti for Hamper donations.

Please take a look at our Facebook page, *Highworth Friends PTA*, where you can find regular updates and a list of raffle prizes.



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