

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
Education Department

Highworth Combined School & Nursery

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Newsletter: 4th March 2022

Issue: 21

Letters sent home & e-School messages this week: Sponsored Read, Sponsored Listen (Nurs), World Book Day, Survey & Factsheet for Parents of Children with SEN, Phonics & Reading Zoom Meeting (Y1/Rec), Topic: Growing & Changing (Rec), Y1 Numeracy

Dear all

Challenging times continue. The news from Ukraine this week has been horrifying. Whilst we are very conscious of the worries and upset being felt by so many children, we also know that school can be a sanctuary. For this reason, we have taken the approach of responding honestly and appropriately to children's questions about the news, rather than addressing the issues directly. We have always made it clear that the events are as a result of the actions of a dictator, not a nation, and that our British Values mean that we believe everyone has the right to live freely within a democracy.

Because of the remarkable resilience of children, the return to school after half term has actually been a really good one with the excitement of World Book Day, a few more steps taken on the return to 'normal' school and, most excitingly, thoughts of the future.

Please note the following very important dates and add them to your diaries now!

- Sports Day for Reception and Nursery classes: Wednesday 18th May, reserve date (in the event of bad weather the week before) Wednesday 25th May
- Sports Day for Years 1 to 6: Friday 20th May, reserve date (in the event of bad weather the week before) Friday 27th May
- Summer Music Concert: Tuesday 28th June
- Key Stage 2 (Years 3 to 6) Performance: Tuesday 5th and Wednesday 6th July
- Year 6 Barbecue for pupils and parents: Tuesday 19th July
- End of Year disco for all: Tuesday 19th July

AND a very special event to celebrate what we hope will be better times ahead: Highworth All Together (HAT). A chance for the whole community to come together once again after far too long kept apart. This will take place in the afternoon and early evening of Friday 17th June. Lots more details of this event will follow, including suggestions for how you could get involved.

More information about these events is on the website (<https://highworth.eschools.co.uk/web/calendar>), but please note although these dates have been fixed, times are all provisional.

The optional additional Home Learning Matrices have been updated for the new half term and may be found at https://www.highworth.bucks.sch.uk/web/home_learning_matrices/570245

Mrs Cox will be starting her maternity leave from next Monday. We wish her all the very best.

As ever, my best wishes for a happy 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: 99.3%

(CLASS 2C & CLASS 5K)

WELL DONE

Thursday 10th March

9.45am: Phonics Workshop via Zoom
(Rec/Y1)

6pm: Phonics Workshop via Zoom (Rec/Y1)



How to...

Move up to Secondary School

Course For Young People

Getting ready to move up to Year 7? Not sure what to expect? Our short course could help!

Sessions cover...

- What to expect at secondary school
- Dealing with peer pressure
- Making friends
- Tackling your fears and worries
- Getting organised!



**starts week
beginning
25 April**

Aylesbury

Wednesdays 5.30-6.30pm
Berryfields Family Centre
HP18 0FG

Amersham

Mondays 6 to 7pm
Amersham Family Centre
HP6 6PF

Buckingham

Wednesdays 5 to 6pm
Buckingham Youth Centre
MK18 1AT

Princes Risborough

Wednesdays 6 to 7pm
Princes Risborough School
HP27 0DT

Online

Mondays
6 to 7pm
MS Teams

Book a place by 13 April at:

earlyhelpduty@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

For more information please visit

familyinfo.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/familysupport

**Parental agreement for safe return to school of all pupils on
28th February 2022**

The safe opening of school is dependent upon avoiding all contact with anyone who is, or could be, infected with coronavirus. The safety of our whole community is dependent on all of us following these rules:

I will never enter any part of the school site if my child or I has any of the symptoms of Covid-19

Symptoms of Covid-19

- high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
 - new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
 - loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal
 - Please note that the symptoms of the Omicron variant are often likened to those of a cold. If your child has a cold, there is a more than 50% chance that they actually have COVID-19
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- If my child has any of these symptoms, regardless of what I think may have caused them, I will ensure that they take a PCR test. I know that my child will be allowed to return to school once they have received a negative result or, if the test is positive, that they have self-isolated
 - If my child receives a positive PCR test, I will let the school know and ensure that they self-isolate
 - If my child is a contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID 19, I know that government guidance is that they should take a LFD test every day for 7 days, self-isolating if they have a positive result
 - I know that if my child develops symptoms of Covid 19 (see above) at school, I will be contacted and asked to collect them immediately. I will take them for a PCR test as soon as possible.
 - I know that my child will be allowed to return to school once they have received a negative result or, if the test is positive, that they have self-isolated

Pupils may stop self-isolating and return to school in the following circumstances:

- Starting on day 5, pupil takes a rapid flow test as early as possible in the morning
- Pupil takes another rapid flow test 24 hours later on day 6

- If pupil has 2 negative tests, do not have a high temperature and feel well enough, they should return to school on day 6
- If pupil has a positive test on day 5 or 6, they should continue daily testing until they have had 2 consecutive negative tests. Once this is the case, if they do not have a high temperature and feel well enough, they should return to school immediately after the second negative test
- Pupils should stop testing after 2 negative test results in a row
- Regardless of test results pupils can end isolation and return to school from day 10 onwards if they do not have a high temperature and feel well enough