

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNCIL  
Education Department

# Highworth Combined School & Nursery

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Newsletter: 15<sup>th</sup> May 2026

Issue: 28

**Letters sent home & e-School messages this week** Y6 Swimming Lessons, Sports Day Postponed, Sex Education Presentation via Zoom (Y4/Y5/Y6), Reminder: Nursery Closure

Dear all

I am very sorry to share some sad news. Mrs Akhter, a teacher who had worked at Highworth on a number of occasions to cover staff absence, passed away suddenly on Wednesday. This came as a great shock to all of us. Mrs Akhter was a lovely colleague who will be very fondly remembered by staff and children alike. The children and families most directly affected have already been informed, and we have provided appropriate support in school. Our thoughts and deepest condolences are with Mrs Akhter's family and friends at this difficult time.

A heartfelt thank you this week to all parents and carers of our Year 4 children for your support with our recent swimming programme. We recognise that ensuring children have their swimming kit in school every day is not always easy, and we appreciate your efforts. Your commitment has enabled us to provide an excellent opportunity for pupils to make accelerated progress in swimming through daily sessions over the past five weeks.

I would also like to thank the staff who made this programme possible. Their organisation and dedication ensured that, alongside swimming, the wider curriculum continued with as little disruption as possible.

Unfortunately, we were disappointed not to be able to hold Sports Day today. The heavy rain last night left the field in a condition that made it impossible to proceed safely. We are hopeful that conditions will improve and look forward to holding the event on **Friday 5th June**—fingers crossed for better weather.

Our Year 6 pupils completed their statutory assessments this week. As always, these were approached as a normal part of school life. The children showed great resilience, maturity and focus throughout, and we are very proud of them. My thanks and appreciation also go to the staff who supported the pupils in their preparation and ensured the smooth administration of the assessments.

Finally, we are recruiting for a Facilities Manager. If you or someone you know is interested in this opportunity, please use this link to see our advert which should go live in the next few days: <https://jobs.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/>

Best wishes for a happy weekend

Clare Pankhania

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## ATTENDANCE

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

[reception@highworthcombined.co.uk](mailto:reception@highworthcombined.co.uk)

**SCHOOL ATTENDANCE TARGET IS 96%**

**BEST ATTENDANCE: 100%**  
**(CLASSES: RCL & 6S)**

**EXCELLENT**

**WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE:**  
**96.5%**

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

### Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May

am: Multi-Sports Event (Reception)

pm: Quad Kids Tournament

### Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May

Y4 Trip to the Living Rainforest

**1.30pm:** Sex Education Presentation via

Zoom to Parents/Carers (Y4/Y5/Y6)

### Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May

**3.20pm:** School Closes for half term