

# Hawkinge Primary School

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Headteacher

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October 2<sup>nd</sup>

Dear Parents,

It has been another busy week at Hawkinge Primary School. We have been interviewing to appoint additional Teaching Assistants to join our team - we have appointed two new Teaching Assistants this week who are really looking forward to start working here after half term.

The children in the two Reception classes have had a 'Siblings Afternoon'. Their older siblings who are in school join them in their new classroom for an afternoon of activities. I am not sure who enjoys it more - the children in the Reception classes or their older brothers and sisters who enjoy joining in with all their activities!

On Wednesday each class had their class photograph taken - some classes even took some props with them! I am looking forward to seeing the photographs when they are sent to the school. The children were all looking very smart - I noticed some last minute tucking in of shirts and brushing of hair in preparation! All the staff also had their photographs taken (some were more keen to have theirs done than others!)

Hopefully, parents of children in years one and two received a letter yesterday from the NHS about the initiative to give all children in years 1 and 2 an immunisation against flu. You may have also heard in the news that there has been a problem with some of the batches of the immunisation and therefore the scheme has been cancelled in some areas. We have spoken to the NHS trust who is leading this initiative in Kent and they assure us that the batches of immunisation for Kent are fine and the programme will go ahead. If you would like your child to be part of this please return the green form by Monday morning. Thank you.

Thank you to everyone who joined together last Friday to raise money on Jeans for Genes day - we raised a grand total of £327

If you have a child in Year 6 you might be interested to know that on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October we will be holding an 'open evening' if you would like to come into school and fill the on line application form to select a place at secondary school for your child - more details are on the back of today's newsletter.

Have a lovely weekend

Aly



### Diary Dates – Term 1

14<sup>th</sup> Oct – Kent Test Results Day  
19<sup>th</sup> Oct – Y1 & 2 landing pad assembly (2:15-2:45pm)  
20<sup>th</sup> Oct – Y5 & 6 landing pad assembly (2:15-2:45pm)  
21<sup>st</sup> Oct – Y 3 & 4 landing pad assembly (2:15-2:45pm)  
22<sup>nd</sup> Oct – Reception landing pad (2:15-4:5pm)  
23<sup>rd</sup> Oct – Last day of term!

### Attendance

The class with the best attendance last week was Hummingbirds (21/9/15 - 25/9/15)

Dear Parents,

*I wanted to take the opportunity to introduce myself and state my vision for the future of the Parent Teacher Families Association (PTFA) of Hawkinge Primary School. Like you, I am a parent who cares about the education of my children. Like you, I care about the school that my child attends and like you, I want to make a difference. I believe that by working with the school we can continue to provide a valuable service, providing worthwhile events that the children will remember and providing funds for the school.*

*During the last twelve years I have been fortunate to be a housewife and mother to my two children. In my spare time I have volunteered for worthwhile organisation such as the Soldiers Sailors Airforce and Families Association (SSAFA), Sure Start and 'My Dad is a Soldier'. For SSAFA I was the Deputy Publicity Officer, responsible for raising a substantial amount of money and organising the events.*

*I feel that my past experience with the fantastic charities will assist me in my role as Chairperson and I am looking forward to working with you all.*

Jennie Jones (Mrs)  
Hawkinge PTFA Chair

### Year 6 Secondary applications

[www.kent.gov.uk/ola](http://www.kent.gov.uk/ola)

Parents of children in Year 6 have until 31st October to register online for their child's Secondary School preference. You can apply for up to 4 schools, putting all 4 preferences on the same form.

If you do not have access to the internet or would like some assistance with registration, please call into the school office.

**On Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October between 5:15pm – 6:30pm Mr O'Brien and I will hold an Open Evening in school (with laptops) - if you would like any help in applying for a school place please come along to the session**

### Advance dates for your diary!

3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Nov – Parents evening  
15<sup>th</sup> December – Nativity  
4<sup>th</sup> Jan – staff training day  
24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> Feb - Parents evening  
24<sup>th</sup> March – staff training  
1<sup>st</sup> July – staff training  
24<sup>th</sup> June – Sports Day  
6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> July – Parents evening

### CHANGES TO PERSISTENT ABSENCE FIGURE

From September 2015 the Department for Education is raising the persistent absence figure from 85% to 90%.

Children who have more than 10% absence a year are identified as a 'concern'. Please work with us to ensure your child's attendance is above 95%.

**If your son / daughter is ill please contact the school on 01303-892224 before 8:30am on the morning of their absence and each day they are absent from school.**

Thank you

### Attendance / holidays

Please do remember that we are not in a position to be able to authorise holidays for children during school time. If there is a reason your son / daughter needs time out of school for an **exceptional circumstance** please complete the exceptional circumstance form that can be found in the school office or on the school website – About Us / Policy link / Attendance Policy.