

Hawkinge Primary School

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Friday 4th November

Dear Parents,

It is lovely to be back at school after the half term holidays; the children seem to be refreshed and ready to start again!

It has been a busy first week back with Parents Evenings and Launch Pad events in school. It has been lovely to see so many parents at parents evenings this week - many have commented on the quality of their child's work and how well they have settled into their new year group which is wonderful to hear.

Most of the Launch Pads of the new themes have taken place this week. Pupils in Years 5 & 6 launched their theme 'What can we learn from maritime disasters?' by an exciting day at Chatham Dockyard. The children had a wonderful day there and have certainly been inspired to find out more about their new theme. The pupils in Years 3 and 4 are lucky enough to have 2 launch pad activities to launch their theme of 'How deep is the ocean?' This week a qualified deep sea diver came to take to the children about his job, showing them some of the finds he has made over the years which the children were fascinated by. Next week they are visiting an art exhibition too!

The children in Years 1 and 2 launched their theme 'What is the weather like?' by attending a workshop day on Monday - they made windmills, attended a music workshop and tasted a range of different apples.

Children in Reception started their theme of 'What shall we celebrate?' by having a music workshop yesterday - learning more about the festival of Diwali and traditional Indian music. The drumming was very loud, but it sounded like lots of fun!

Miss Stagg took some of our year 3 and 4 pupils to a Cross Country Running competition on Tuesday evening. The pressure was on them following the Year 5& 6 win the previous month! The children performed exceptionally well and Hawkinge Primary School were the winners overall! Well done to all the children who took part. Thanks you to Miss Stagg and Mrs Honzik for the organisation and training for the event!

Have a great weekend

Aly



Diary Dates – Term 2

7th Nov – PTFA meeting
8th Nov – Y34 out on trip
9th Nov – Flu Immunisations
10th Nov – EYFS open morning for September 2017 starts!
25th Nov – Non uniform day – items for the tombola
26th Nov – Winter Fair
8th Dec – Story Swap
9th Dec – Pupil Voice
10th Dec – Christmas Crafts
11th December – Breakfast with Santa
14th December – Nativity at the Community Centre (9:30am)
15th Dec – Landing Pad Assembly –Y34 (2:15pm)
16th Dec – Landing Pad – Y56 (2:15pm)
20th Dec – School Xmas Lunch

Phones and tablets “detrimental” to children’s sleep

Research by Cardiff University and King’s College London has found 72% of children have at least one portable media device in their sleep environment, impacting on the duration and quality of sleep, and which can lead to health problems.

The study also indicates the mere presence of a smartphone or tablet in a child’s bedroom is enough to disrupt their sleep because the anticipation of a message means that they never relax. Using devices at any point in the 90 minutes before bedtime more than doubles the risk of a poor night’s sleep, it found.

Dr Ben Carter warned the problem was only going to get worse with the growing popularity of media devices. He said an "integrated approach" was needed to improve sleep habits, involving parents, teachers and healthcare professionals.

Have you got a child who is due to start school in September?

Do you know of a child who is due to start school in September and lives in Hawkinge?

If so please come along to our Open Morning on Thursday November 10th from 9:30am – 11:30am. You will be given a guided tour of the school by our Y6 House Captains and see the children working in their classrooms! No need to make an appointment – please just drop in between 9:30-11:30am

Advance dates for your diary!

Parents Evenings – 1st & 2nd March / 5th & 6th July
Nativity – 14th December (EYFS -Y2 pupils)
Y6 residential – 7th – 9th June
Sports Day – 20th June
Reserve Sports Day – 27th June

To Parents of pupils in Year 6

The school Nursing Service have requested that I remind you to complete the online year 6 health questionnaire, the link is below

<https://www.kentcht.nhs.uk/forms/year-6-parent-questionnaire>

The aim of the questionnaire is to identify and address any unmet health needs prior to your pupils leaving primary school and entering secondary school, in line with the Healthy Child Programme.

The School Health Team are holding a Primary Health Clinic on 17th November, 08:30-10:30 at Hawkinge Primary School.

If you would like to book an appointment with one of the school nurses to discuss your son / daughters health needs please contact their office (On 01303 858 924) to book a half an hour appointment slot to speak to our School Staff Nurses about any health concerns you have.

Children in Need - 18th November

Hawkinge Primary School will be raising money for the 2016 appeal. The week leading up to Children In Need House Captains will be selling wrist bands for £1 each morning - limited stock - first come first served!

On Friday 18th November we will participate in the ‘Big Spotacular’ for a donation of £1 children are invited to come to school wearing as many spots as possible!!

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.