

Hawkinge Primary School



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Dear Parents,

It is funny how quickly the summer holidays become a distant memory! We have had a lovely first week and a half back.

The new Reception children have spent their first full day in school today! They are such a confident bunch who have taken to school life with real ease this week. They have impressed us with how they have eaten their lunches and settled into classroom routines so well. I bet they will sleep exceptionally well this weekend, hopefully ready to do it all again on Monday!

This week some of our Year 6 pupils have taken their Kent Test. Thursday was a long day for them having to complete three tests and a written exercise, but all threw themselves into it with a good attitude and worked very hard.

Last week a company called 'One Day Education' came to school to deliver Anti-Bullying Workshops to all pupils from Years 1-Year 6. At Hawkinge Primary School, as you know, we take issues of bullying exceptionally seriously. As a result we like to start the year with workshops and lessons to remind children about expected codes of conduct and also to dissect what bullying is and what children should do if they are being bullied or what they should do if they think other people are being bullied. Please ask your son / daughter more about their workshops. They really seemed to have a good time.

Pupils in Years 1 and 2 had their launch pad event this week – The Bug Man came to visit. The children went on bug hunts around the school and worked with him in his workshop looking (and handling) a range of different bugs!

Finally, I was very excited to open the post this morning and find a lovely glass award packaged beautifully in a box. Hawkinge Primary School has been awarded a 'good Diabetes Care' award. One of the Diabetic School Nurses recommended us for the award because of (in her words) 'the fabulous support we give pupils with diabetes in our care'. Some of our parents also supported the process by writing recommendations to Diabetes UK. I would like to formally thank all staff who support the health needs of children in our school – particularly in reference to diabetes. Thank you!

Have a great weekend,

Diary dates – term 1

September

16th – Y34 Launch pad event

16th – Y56 river trip

18th - Y56 drumming workshop

23rd – Full Governing Body meeting

October

1st – Height and weight checks Year R and Y6

2nd & 3rd – Parents Evenign

3rd October – Free School Lunch (more info to follow)

15th October – Year 1 & 2 Landing Pad Assembly
2:15pm

16th October – Year 3 & 4 Landing Pad Assembly
2:15pm

17th October – Year 5 & 6 Landing Pad Assembly
2:15pm

School Lunches!

Don't forget school meals cost £2:30 a day if your child is in Years 3, 4, 5 & 6.

School meals will be served from week 3 next week.

The lunch menu is on the school website.

Home time!

Thank you for your patience over the last week at home time whilst teachers are dismissing the children. It is always really hard in the first few weeks to match children with their parents and it does just take a little time. We obviously are very careful to give the children to the correct adult! All the teachers will speed up over the next couple of weeks as you become more familiar to them! The safety of your child is our prime concern. Please never panic if you have a couple of children to collect we will always keep hold of your child!

Secondary School Open Evenings

Folkestone Academy – Thursday 3rd October 2019 from 5-8pm. Principles speeches at 5:30pm, 6pm 6:30pm, 7pm

Turner Free School – Thursday 26th September and Thursday 10th October – please contact the Turner Free School directly on 01303 824400 to arrange an appointment.

Year 6 Applications to secondary school for September 2020

Please complete the LA Secondary Common Application Form (Kent SCAF) online indicating up to 4 schools, in order of preference. This must be completed by 31st October 2019. The website address is: www.kent.gov.uk/ola

If you need any help with this please contact Mr O'Brien who will be happy to help you.

Bicycle storage

A couple of parents have asked me about the 'rules' for cycling to school. We have historically made the decision that it is a 'privilege' for pupils in Year 5 and 6 to be able to store their bicycles at school. We just do not have enough storage for 380 pupils to cycle to school. The main reason behind this decision making was to ensure home times (which can be very busy) are not made more difficult by lots of children trying to navigate the school site / local pathways with bicycles too. We do also ask that the children have passed their 'bikeability course' to ensure they are cycling to school with good road sense too – the reason for that is Mill Lane is so busy and cars drive down the road so fast we want our pupils to be best prepared to cycle in safety. It is also expected they wear helmets for school. Mrs Groombridge is currently negotiating bikeability training for our Y6 pupils – more info to follow.

At the time of first making this decision we decided to invest in scooter racks – so we would encourage children to 'Scoot to School' instead. There are public cycle racks on the path way leading to the Community Centre you are of course free to use if your child is cycling to school with you and are not in Year 5/ 6.