

Hawkinge Primary School

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Dear Parents,

This weather makes everything trickier doesn't it?!?? Thank you for all your patience, good time keeping and cheery dispositions in keeping the school running smoothly. We really do understand it is so much harder when it is raining!

When we reopened in September there were lots of things to consider and I kept saying to staff that we would review things on the 1st October when we had got used to the new world we are living in. The 1st October was yesterday and once more I was left feeling proud of all the achievements a month has brought about. We have had excellent attendance and have felt very supported by you all in ensuring children do not come into school when they are ill and promptly booking tests for children showing symptoms. Thank you! The children have adjusted to all of our new routines – including things that are hard, such as having classroom windows and doors open in all weathers (as per guidelines) and the continual washing of hands – both to ensure we keep everyone as safe as possible! It has been tough for them, but as you know children are very resilient and I hope you agree that they have managed this marvellously. We have not started our Keep Up Catch Up interventions just yet – it means sharing of rooms etc but plan to get that up and running after half term, however the teachers and TAs are obviously supporting learning well in the classrooms. Despite the many occasions of handwashing throughout the day the curriculum for the children is going really well.

A couple of parents have asked whether going forward children can wear their black leather school shoes instead of trainers – of course that is fine. Although we would ask that the children bring their trainers to school daily (or leave them at school so that they can participate in the Daily K wearing trainers rather than shoes). On the same note it has always been our policy that for health and safety reasons children cannot participate in PE lessons wearing any type of jewellery, including stud earrings. Please do make sure that your child does not wear studs on PE days – of if they do they can confidently remove them without help. Thank you.

Next week we are excited to be hosting a 'Plinth'. Creative Folkestone are running a project to celebrate the return to Folkestone of the Banksy that appeared in 2014. After its removal it was flown to Miami to be sold, in 2015 a British judge deemed it to be the property of Folkestone and ordered it to be returned! It is now back and displayed in a courtyard (that is open to the public) at 69 The Old High Street. We will be hosting The Plinth next week. The children have already started to make the art work they would like to exhibit on The Plinth – linked to their themes this term. I am sure they will tell you all about it. To find out more about the project go to

<https://www.creativefolkestone.org.uk/festivals-and-projects/the-plinth/>

Don't forget it is parents evening next week – Y5&6 on Monday, Y3&4 on Tuesday, Y1&2 on Wednesday and Reception on Thursday – looking forward to seeing you then.

Have a good weekend