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Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Dear Parent/Carer



Welcome back and a very Happy New Year to you all. I hope that you all enjoyed the Christmas break and are excited and prepared for the Spring Term ahead – there is a lot to fit in to the slightly shorter Spring Term.

I would once again like to thank all parents and families for their support throughout 2024 and also for the many kind gifts received by all the staff at the end of last term.

### **Extreme Weather Closures**

The Headteacher and Governors will always endeavour to open the school, but in severe weather conditions we will only do so if we are confident that enough staff will be able to get to school to ensure the safety of the children, and that children and staff will be safe in school. Where available, national and local guidance will be used to inform decisions about whether to open or close the school in extreme weather conditions.

Please avoid ringing the school as school closures will be announced in the following ways:

- Any decision to close will be made as soon as possible by 7.30am if possible
- An email will be sent to parents. A text may also be sent in the event of short notice.
- Our website will be updated to inform parents about school closures or re-opening. If there is no announcement on the front page of the website, please assume that the school is open as usual.
- A school closure will always be logged on the Buckinghamshire Council website: <https://closures.buckscc.gov.uk>.
- However, in the past there have been several occasions when the Buckinghamshire page has crashed due to the number of schools trying to post simultaneously. Therefore, email and the school website are often more reliable sources of information regarding any changes to normal operation because of extreme weather.

During the first day of any snow closure, we expect that most children will want to enjoy the snow. Therefore, in the event that the school remains closed for more than one whole school day, work / activities will be set on the website on class pages from the second whole day of closure only. Children who wish to work on the first whole day should prioritise reading, and the completion of homework already set. If time remains for further work, the Oak Academy schedule resources can be accessed from the following link:

<https://classroom.thenational.academy/schedule-by-year>



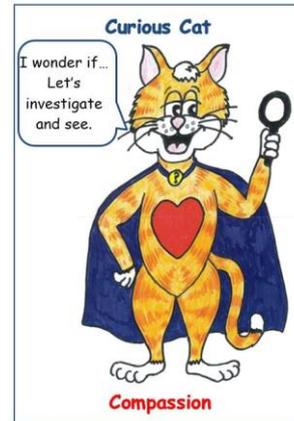
## Whole School Blessing – Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> January

Father Anthony Searle from All Saints Church will be leading a whole school blessing on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> January at 9.00am. We would like to invite parents to attend the blessing and join us in prayer as we move around the school. Please let the office know if you will be attending.

The children's prayers will be added to the school website in: *'Key Information, Curriculum, Collective Worship'*

This half term our Christian Value is:  
**'Compassion'**

Our Behaviour for Learning is: **'Curious'** and our  
Vision Character is: **'Curious Cat'**



## Appointments during the Day

Please can you ensure that all appointments are made outside of the school day and in the school holidays. It is appreciated that for hospital appointments, emergency doctor and dentist appointments, this is not possible but I would not expect routine dental checkups, eye appointments etc to impact the school day. It is noticeable that a number of children are attending non – urgent appointments in school hours and this can be disruptive to their learning and interrupts the rest of the class.

Please would you advise the office of any necessary booked appointments as early as possible and provide confirmation of the appointment.

## Communication

As we start a new term I would like to remind everyone where the information regarding your class and whole school communication can be found. You need to log onto the school website: [www.hwce.co.uk](http://www.hwce.co.uk) and information can be found under Parents, Children or News and Events. I would strongly encourage you to explore the website which displays a wealth of information.

## Absences

### Sickness Absence

If your child is sick please phone the School Office on that first day of absence to notify us of your child's absence.

Please make sure that you have arrangements in place if your child is ill and cannot attend school. It is unfair to other children and parents for a child to be sent into school when they are clearly unwell. In this case we will immediately request that the child is collected from school. **If your child is suffering from a sickness or diarrhoea bug then in the interests of all the children and staff, and on the advice that we have received from the local health Centre, please ensure that they remain off school for 48 hours after the last episode.**



## Lates

The school is very aware of the impact that lateness can have on a child's learning as it starts their day off badly and can result in the child missing key aspects of a lesson, as well as being very unsettling for them. We are also required to monitor lateness as well as absences. Whilst we acknowledge that sometimes circumstances mean children can occasionally be late, it is important that all lateness is monitored.

An electronic report is generated from the late sign ins and the office staff are required to ask parents why they are late. The records will be monitored and persistent lateness will be identified.

A letter will then be sent to parents of children who are persistently late and a meeting arranged with the headteacher to discuss this and to see how the situation can be resolved.

## School Uniform

Could I remind parents that children should be in their winter uniform as detailed in the school Uniform Policy.

### SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

ACCESSORIES			PE/GAMES
*School PE bag (Red or royal blue)	*Royal blue and red school blazer	*Royal blue and red school blazer	*Red round necked T-shirt
*School book bag (red or royal blue)	Dark Grey school trousers	*Royal blue pinafore dress	*Royal blue shorts
Hair accessories – red or royal blue	Dark Grey school shorts (Summer)	Dark Grey school trousers	Black plimsolls
*Royal blue school Sun Cap (Alternatively a plain royal blue sun hat may be worn. It must not have a branded Logo.)	White school shirt (long or short sleeved)	Red & white gingham dress (Summer)	*Tracksuit with school logo or if unavailable plain black jogging style bottoms.
	*Royal blue v-necked pullover	White school shirt/blouse (long or short sleeved)	*Crew Neck sweatshirt with school logo
	*Red school tie	*Royal blue v-necked pullover	Trainers for outdoor PE
	Black or brown leather shoes (trainers are not permitted)	*Royal blue cardigan	Change of socks
	Grey or black socks	*Red school tie	NB Children do not need both the tracksuit top and crewneck sweatshirt, either can be chosen.
	<b>Juniors Y4,5 &amp; 6 only - Swimming trunks (not Bermudas)</b>	Black or brown leather shoes (trainers and open toe/heels are not permitted)	
		White socks	
		Red tights or Y6 may wear opaque black tights	
		<b>Juniors Y4, 5 &amp; 6 only - One piece swim suit</b>	

**RECEPTION CLASS** – Please note reception class will NOT require a blazer, shirt or tie until Year 1. They wear a white polo shirt and a \*sweatshirt with school logo which replaces the school blazer and jumper. This sweatshirt can be used for PE from year 1 instead of tracksuit top.

Items marked \* can only be purchased through our school Supplier – **Sportcrest**: Link available on our school website [www.hwce.co.uk](http://www.hwce.co.uk) Click on Parents, Useful Links, School Uniform - Sportcrest.

Jewellery (including earrings) is not permitted for health & safety reasons. If you wish to have your child's ears pierced, please do so at the very beginning of the school summer holidays. Earrings should be removed before school.

### SECOND HAND UNIFORM

We have a small selection of second hand uniform. If this is of interest to you please e-mail ([schooladmin2@highwycombecombined.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:schooladmin2@highwycombecombined.bucks.sch.uk)) or call (01494 524220) with your requirements and we will let you know if we have what you require in stock and arrange a convenient time for you to collect this.

Please can you ensure that you are adhering to the Uniform Policy. It has been noticed particularly that some children are wearing earrings, ankle boots and colouring their hair. We will be asking parents individually to address any uniform discrepancies. Thank you for your support .

## Forgotten Items/Additional Warm Clothing

Please ensure that your child/children have all their belongings with them at the start of the school day. The office cannot be responsible for delivering additional items in time for the correct lesson, break etc throughout the day. You should ensure that any warm clothing required is sent to school with your child. Please also make sure all items are named clearly.

## Lunches

Further to my recent letter reminding everyone that we are a NUT FREE and HEALTHY school and that packed lunches must not contain any products which contain nut in any form and also that you do not give children sandwiches with chocolate spread , there have been further incidences.



If we identify any further not allowed foods, they will be taken away from the children and parents will be contacted to bring in an alternative. Children will eat the other foods in their lunch box and then given time to eat the replaced lunch item when it arrives.

### Governors

I am really pleased to welcome the following new Governor to our school and look forward to working with her:

Ms Sinead Try

### A few date reminders

- |                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| • Friday 10 January               | Science Day  |
| • Monday 13 January               | Science Show 6.30pm to 7.30 pm                       |
| • Wednesday 15 January            | Willen Lake/ PGL 2026 Meeting for parents 3.15pm     |
| • Friday 17 January               | Y4 Trip to Windsor Castle                            |
| • Monday 20 January               | Y2 Duke of Burgundy Rare Species Champion Class Trip |
| • Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> January | Reception Phase 3 Phonics Workshop 2.45 pm           |
| • Tuesday 21 January              | Whole School Blessing 9am                            |
| • Monday 27 January               | Y2 Duke of Burgundy Rare Species Champion Class Trip |
| • Wednesday 29 January            | Y1,2,4 and 6 Cake Sale                               |
| • Thursday 30 January             | Y5 Trip to Natural History Museum                    |
| • Friday 31 January               | Y3 Class Assembly                                    |
| • Friday 14 February              | Break Up for Half Term 3.15pm                        |

Yours sincerely



Celine Hawkins  
Headteacher





Keep up to date by following us  
and checking our online platforms:

 Website: [hwce.co.uk](http://hwce.co.uk)

 Facebook: [Facebook.com/pg/HighWycombeCofE](https://www.facebook.com/pg/HighWycombeCofE)

 Twitter: [@HWCESchool](https://twitter.com/HWCESchool)

