



*Be strong and  
courageous.....for  
the Lord your God is  
with you*

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Headteacher: Mrs C Hawkins BEd (Hons), NPQH

Tuesday 05 September 2023

Headteacher's Newsletter No 2

Dear Parent/Carer



Welcome to the new school year! I am very pleased to welcome you back and look forward to sharing all the challenges and successes of the busy Autumn Term.

On behalf of the staff and governors of school may I offer a special welcome to all new parents and children. May your child's journey through our school be both a rewarding and an enjoyable experience.

It was wonderful to see all the children coming into school again, they were very excited and evidently pleased to be here. They looked very smart so thank you very much for your support and co-operation in ensuring your child has the correct, named uniform for the start of the new year and helping them all to look so splendid.



### Start to the School Day

Please can I remind you that the school day starts promptly at **08.45 am** and children should be in the playground ready to start the day **before 08.45am**. A number of children regularly enter through the front office after this time which is disruptive to the start of the day. In line with our attendance policy children will be recorded as late after 08.45am and will need to be signed in by a parent/carers.



## End of the School Day

Please note that school finishes at **3.15 pm** and children should be collected promptly. If you are unable to collect at this time, alternative arrangements must be made. In the event of unavoidable delay, please telephone the office.

## Hot Weather

As we are expecting a mini-heatwave over the next week, can I remind you to make sure that your child has sun cream applied before school and brings a sunhat and water bottle.

## New Staff

### Teaching

I would like to welcome Miss Johns to the teaching staff.

### Learning Support Assistants

I would also like to welcome Mrs Bergmen and Miss Whyte who will work throughout the school.

## School Premises

The site team have been working hard over the summer to ensure that the school is ready for the new term as well as overseeing the school improvements that took place.

Over the summer there have been improvements to the school:

- New fencing has been put up by the main hall
- Bushes and branches over hanging both sides of the pavement on Loakes Road have been cut back

## Playground Markings

I am sure you will have noticed the new playground markings in KS1 and KS2 playgrounds. We are really grateful to the Friends who agreed to pay 50% of the cost of these. The children are already making good use of them.



Playground markings are able to boost physical activity levels, reinforce learning goals, and encourage more positive social interaction, while remaining inclusive and motivational for children of various interests and skill levels. They are a great way to encourage pupils to stay active throughout their time at school. One of the core benefits of physical activity is that it doesn't just promote excellent physical health, but is also brilliant for fostering friendships and social interactions between children too.



The playground markings act as a major facilitator of this, as group games encourage communication and collaboration, whereas individual games help with turn taking, patience, respect and empathy. Children who might be normally shy can communicate more freely within the contexts of the game, helping them to lay the foundations of lasting friendships beyond the games, too. They also are great for supporting other learning activities throughout the school day and can be a useful lesson resource for teachers. Namely, having a number of different playground markings and zones can help give teachers a broader range of games and activities to work with during outside Games lessons, allowing them to keep their lessons varied, engaging and enjoyable.



## Chair of Governors

Finally, I would like to welcome Holly Robertshaw as our new Chair of Governors and Sophie Whitcombe as Vice Chair.

## Year Group Meetings for Parents –, Tuesday 12 Wednesday 13, and Thursday 14 September

Just to remind parents we are holding our annual ‘Meet the Teacher’ meeting

We would like to invite you to come and meet with your year group teacher(s) so that the teachers are able to introduce themselves and give an outline of the key points and arrangements for the term and year ahead. There will also be opportunities to discuss aspects of procedures and curriculum relative to that year group. We feel that this additional meeting will allow the parent/ teacher consultations in November to concentrate on discussions of pupil progress.

The meetings will be held in the school hall and then teachers will return to their classrooms to answer any specific questions you may have and give parents the opportunity to speak to the class teacher. All class information shared at the meeting will be available on your child’s ‘Class Page’ on the school website.

The meetings are all at **3.30 – 4.30pm** and there will be parking on the Top Playgrounds, as follows:

**Tuesday 12 September**

Y5 and Y6

**Wednesday 13 September**

Y3 and Y4

**Thursday 14 September**

Y1 and Y2

## Innovate - Hot School Meals Service



Innovate are continuing to provide our meal service. I would like to remind you that all the administration for this service is provided by Innovate and meals are ordered directly from them via their website. Full details of how to order and menus for this half term can be found on our website

<https://www.hwce.co.uk/hot-school-meals/>.

It is important that all orders are made before midnight on Saturday for the following week as it is not possible to add or amend orders after this time. Innovate send us the correct number of lunches as we endeavour to minimise food wastage. If a meal has not been ordered you will need to provide your child with a packed lunch.

Finally, can I remind you that any allergies should be advised to Innovate directly.

## Jewellery

Please can you ensure that no jewellery is worn to school as advised in our uniform policy. This includes necklaces, bracelets and ear rings:

***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.***



## Communication and High Wycombe Church of England School

Our form of written communication with parents is by email, text and the school website. Please let the office know if you have changed your email or mobile number as soon as possible.

### Phase Emails

Just a reminder that there is an email for each phase of the school:

- EYFS – Reception
- KS1 – Year 1 and Year 2
- LKS2 – Year 3 and Year 4
- UKS2 – Year 5 and Year 6

These emails are to be used by parents to ask questions that the class teacher is the best one to answer. These emails will be looked at once a day so the responses will be over 24 hours. They will not be looked at or responded to after 4.30pm or at the weekends.

If you have an urgent question then please ring the office.

These are the following phase emails:

- [EYFSPHASE@highwycombecombined.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:EYFSPHASE@highwycombecombined.bucks.sch.uk)
- [KS1Phase@highwycombecombined.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:KS1Phase@highwycombecombined.bucks.sch.uk)
- [LKS2Phase@highwycombecombined.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:LKS2Phase@highwycombecombined.bucks.sch.uk)
- [UKS2Phase@highwycombecombined.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:UKS2Phase@highwycombecombined.bucks.sch.uk)

### Weekly Round Up

At the end of each week you will be sent the weekly round up which details all the letters which have been sent during the week, notes who the letters are relevant to and provides a link to the documents. You can find this on the Website under News and Events/Newsletters/Weekly Round Up.

Please make sure you access this document and read the relevant information as many of your questions will be answered and details of school arrangements will be provided .

### Midday Supervisor Vacancy

The Governors are seeking to employ an enthusiastic, flexible, self-motivated and caring person to work as a midday supervisor. You will work with a team of Midday Supervisors during the lunchtime. The role involves supervising and interacting with pupils while they eat lunch, accompanying them onto the playground, assisting with playground games and activities, maintaining high standards of behaviour, and setting up and clearing away of lunch time equipment

**If you are interested in this position or if you know a family member or friend who may be interested, full details and an application form are available on our website**

**Please do also speak to Ruth Moorhouse in the office if you have any questions.**

### Dates for the year ahead



The school website calendar is in the process of being updated so that you can get the key dates in your diary. Please note that some dates are still to be confirmed and are **subject to change**. You will be informed of any date changes and confirmation of provisional dates.

### A few date reminders

- Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September Virtual Reality Headset Workshop
- Friday 7<sup>th</sup> September Curriculum Day – Art and Courageous Advocacy
- Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September Y6 Transfer Test Practice Paper
- Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September Wycombe Wanderers Football Club starts
- Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September Meet The Teacher Year 5 and 6 3.30 – 4.30 pm
- Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September Meet The Teacher Year 3 and 4 3.30 – 4.30pm
- Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September Year 6 Transfer Test
- Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September Meet The Teacher Year 1 and 2 3.30 – 4.30pm
- Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September Cake Sale Year 1,2,4 and 6
- Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September Year 4 Swimming Starts
- Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September School Photos
- Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September Friends Quiz Night

Yours sincerely



Celine Hawkins  
Headteacher

