



HAWRIDGE & CHOLESBURY CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL

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**OUR SCHOOL VALUES: RESPECT - UNDERSTANDING – PEACE – HONESTY – RESPONSIBILITY - TEAMWORK**

Hawridge, Chesham, Buckinghamshire HP5 2UQ  
Telephone: 01494 758368 Fax: 01494 758629  
Email: [office@hawridge-cholesbury.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:office@hawridge-cholesbury.bucks.sch.uk)  
Website: [www.hawridge-cholesbury.bucks.sch.uk](http://www.hawridge-cholesbury.bucks.sch.uk)  
Headteacher: Mrs Rosie Phillips

'Love one another as I have loved you.' John 13:34

24<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Dear Parents, Carers and Families

This half term's value is **Teamwork**

### **Summer Term Newsletter No. 1**

I hope you have all had a lovely Easter break and are enjoying the amazing weather in your gardens or on your daily exercise. The teachers are telling me how hard you are all working and are enjoying looking at your videos and photos. Well done everyone – children and parents. As we come to the end of our third week of Lockdown, I appreciate how hard it is to stay motivated and keep working and I am so impressed with everything you are doing.

#### **Technology**

I hope that you all enjoyed the video messages from me and the staff, posted on our school website. (Windmills have extra videos on Tapestry too) More are planned! We are aware that some of you are struggling with technology at home, either because you don't have the facilities at all or every piece of equipment is in demand from all family members. We really do appreciate how difficult that is and would like to support where we can. So please do contact your class teacher if that is the case to see what we can work out. I am afraid we don't have any spare equipment, but we will support where we can with printouts or alternative suggestions.

Next week all classes will either receive another video message from their teachers (posted on the website again) or children will be invited to attend short interactive lessons through Zoom. Only children who have emailed a reply acknowledging the code will be able to take part in this. Please do read it again as a family before the lesson begins. Your teachers will email out an invitation or direct you to the video link. This is all very new to us and we are still feeling our way, so we hope that you will be patient with us as we constantly review and adapt our methods. The videos and interactive sessions are intended as an additional layer of support and if you are not able to access it for technology reasons, let the teacher know so that they can make sure you haven't missed any important information.

**All Zoom live interactive lessons will be recorded by the teacher and kept in case any safeguarding or behaviour issues arise during the meeting. They will not be posted on the website or emailed out.**

#### **Home School Work and Communication – phone calls home**

Thank you for responding to the teachers' emails and updating them with not only work but your wellbeing. It is good to know that you are Ok and, to help if we can, over the next couple of weeks a member of the Senior Leadership Team will ring each family to touch base and see how things are. These calls may come from a 'private number' or from the school office; we hope you will be able to pick up and have a quick chat.

### Earth Day: This week's music...

You will probably have heard that last Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> April was officially Earth Day. Perhaps you marked it in a specific way? I would love to know if you did. It is interesting to hear much of the discussion about the impact of the Lockdown on our planet in the short term, as we have far less planes in the sky and cars on the road. Are the birds really singing louder this year or is it just that we can hear them better? Maybe human behaviours will also change in the long term and there will be positive implications for our planet. This week's music, which Peter Gabriel co-wrote with Thomas Newman for the Disney-Pixar film *WALL-E*, takes a hopeful view of the future in which people recognize the ramifications of their actions and the beauty that's worth preserving. I hope you enjoy it.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GEc7nQZi2Og>

Incidentally, following my video when I encouraged you all to set yourself a special challenge during this period, I have set myself the challenge of being able to recognise ten British garden bird songs. Why not join me? If you listen to the RSPB link it will help you to identify what you can hear.

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/bird-songs/what-bird-is-that/>

See if you can learn to identify what they look like too. Which bird is this? Can you spot any in your garden or when you go on your daily exercise?



Nature is one of God's beautiful creations. Through nature, God is able to teach us, speak to us, and provide for us. For this reason, we can find in scripture that we humans are called to protect all which He has created.

‘Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.’ John 1:3



I wish you all a lovely weekend. I look forward to seeing you all again and hearing about the memories you have created during this historical time.

Kind regards

Mrs R Phillips  
Headteacher