



HAWRIDGE & CHOLESBURY CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL

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

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Headteacher: Mrs Rosie Phillips

1<sup>st</sup> April 2021

Dear Parents

### **Year 6 Spring Assessments**

I have spoken to Year 6 today to congratulate them on the progress they have made with their reading this term. As I am sure you know the children were assessed on their return to school earlier this month and despite the time spent remote learning they have made some super progress, particularly in reading. Well done to everyone and thank you to all of you for supporting your children during this disrupted time.

Although the children have also made some good progress in Mathematics there are still significant gaps in many of the children's learning and knowledge. It is important that these gaps are filled before the children start on the next stage of their education, which will build on the required knowledge and skills expected to have been acquired during the primary phase. The Year 6 staff are working very hard to complete the key stage 2 curriculum alongside closing any gaps which have arisen over the last two academic years. I am sure you will also want to support your children in getting to the best possible starting point as they enter secondary education. The earlier gaps are closed, the easier this is and the longer they are not closed, the wider they become. We have therefore put in place the following

- **Year 6 Arrival Time 8.30am (in class ready to learn by 8.40am) for Additional Arithmetic Lesson**

Therefore, starting on the 19<sup>th</sup> April, I am asking Year 6 children to arrive at school between 8.30am and 8.40am at the latest. This will enable the class to complete a 30 minute arithmetic lesson each day in addition to a full timetable for rest of the day. During the last 2½ weeks of this term, the class have taken 20 minutes to arrive fully and this has delayed the start of teaching time. If this additional Catch-up time is to be effective it is critical that **all children are in the classroom ready to learn by no later than 8.40am** which means they need to be coming through the front door **at 8.30 am**. We would like to support you in achieving this, therefore if you think you will struggle to make this work, please get in touch so that we can see how we can help.

- **Easter Holiday Mathematics Support Package**

The Year 6 staff have put together a pack of short, daily arithmetic practice tasks to be completed over the break. This should take no more than 20 minutes a day and will make a big difference when the children return after the holidays (some children will have past papers to go through as an alternative). All children are expected to complete this work. Each week, five dojos will be awarded to all children who complete their homework in time and five extra marbles will be added to the class jar if it is completed by the whole class. Children who do not complete the work will need to miss their breaks, or stay after school to complete the work.

### • Tutoring/ Support Programmes

Further information will be given regarding this after the Easter holiday, but a full package of booster group and tutoring support is planned after Easter using Year 6 staff, myself and tutors.

Whilst this might feel like hard work at the moment, I am aiming for the children to make significant gains in this first half term and still to be able to enjoy many of the enrichment activities normally planned for Year 6 including a school production, school trips and so on. They will then be placed well in all regards for the next stage of their schooling.

Thank you very much for your support.

Kind regards

Mrs R Phillips  
Headteacher