



HAWRIDGE & CHOLESBURY CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL

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

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5th September 2016

Dear Parents

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

Autumn Term Newsletter No. 1

A warm welcome to all children and families, especially those new to our school. I do hope that you had a happy and healthy summer holidays and it was great to see everyone's smiley faces as they came to school this morning. You will have noticed the school access improvements made over the summer holidays which should make for a speedier, safer movement to and from school. Thank you to all involved for making this happen. The excited comments from families this morning said it all!

Special Welcome to ...

Ella and Sophie (Y6), Scarlet (Y3), Oscar (Y4), Sanjeevan (Y1) and all our new children in Windmills. Isaac, Elizabeth, Temide, Josh, Tommy B, William, Lucy, Oliver, Ewan, John-Louis, Archie, Sidney, Leonidas, Ophelia, Jayzon, Bailey, Cecily, Patrick, Jullian, Cole, Henry, Maggie, Amelia, George, Tommy S, Kara, Eran, Shreeya, Joshua and Clay.

Summer Reading and Scrap Books

Please remind your children to send in their Summer Scrapbooks to display in the school and share with others. All scrap books need to be in school by Friday 9th September in order to gain their 20 house points.

If your child has taken part in the Library Summer Reading Challenge, please send their certificate in so that we can celebrate their success and they too can receive some extra house points!

Bulb Planting – KS1: 2.30pm – 3.00pm and KS2: 3.00pm – 3.30pm

Following the success of last year and a wonderful display of flowers last Spring, Friday will be our day for planting bulbs around the entrance area to our school site. Please do bring along spring bulbs, gardening gloves, trowels etc. and join us at the allotted time slot to get planting! The more we plant, the more fabulous our site will look next September. Each class will be allocated a general area which will be indicated on the day. Unless the weather conditions are dangerous, we will continue even in the wet – if it rains it will make our planting easier!

I am very much aware of potential parking and traffic problems that this could lead to so request that parents with only KS1 children please stick to the allocated time and leave the site at 3pm as usual please. Thank you for your cooperation.

Nut-Free School

As we have two more children joining the school with severe nut allergies, I thought it would be appropriate to thank all parents for keeping our school a Nut-Free Zone. Please continue not to send in any nut products in school lunch boxes, peanut butter, cereal bars etc. The consequences of this happening are very severe for those affected.

Drop Off Arrangements – Messages for the Teacher

It was great to see the children arriving so sensibly and happily this morning. Everyone found their new room, new teacher and new coat peg smoothly! As children move in to new year groups and key stages the expectations change as appropriate. Year 1 and 2 parents are asked to leave their children at the Year 2 cloakroom each morning. A member of staff will be at the door and is happy to take messages for parents. Equally, our new Year 3 children and all children in Key Stage 2 need to say goodbye to parents on the playground.

This is an important step for the children so please can I ask you not to come in to the cloakrooms or classrooms with the children. Teachers start working with children the minute they enter the classroom and the first 20 minutes of the day are a vital time for hearing readers, providing 1 to 1 support etc. If you have an urgent message for the teacher, please speak to Mrs Barnes or Mrs Jones in the office. All teachers are available at the end of the day for a quick chat or if you need to make an appointment for a longer discussion. If your child has a specific need that will not be met by these arrangements, please speak to your class teacher or the SENCo to agree an appropriate support strategy.

School Car Park

The school car park is full with staff cars only and the gate will shut whilst families enter and leave school safely. Please do not park in the school car park unless you have a disabled badge and are using the allocated spaces. Copies of blue badges and your car registration number should be given to the school office and then displayed in the car windscreen. Adults and children are expected to be courteous and polite at all times on the school grounds and swearing or bad language is just as unacceptable in the car park as it is in the rest of the school. Equally the car park is No Smoking Area along with the whole school site.

Curriculum Meetings – Reminders of Dates

Curriculum Letters will be sent out this week detailing each class' topic work for the term ahead. In addition, teachers are once again offering an opportunity for you to visit your child's class and hear about what is planned for the term and how you can best support your child. These will be as follows

Reception	Thursday, 8 th September 2016	2.30pm
Year 1	Thursday, 8 th September 2016	2.30pm
Year 2	Thursday, 8 th September 2016	2.30pm
Year 3	Wednesday, 7 th September 2016	8.30am
Year 4	Wednesday, 7 th September 2016	8.30am
Year 5	Thursday, 8 th September 2016	8.30am
Year 6	Tuesday 6 th September 2016	8.30am

Story Starts from 8.15am – available now 5 days a week, open to all children - £2 per child payable on the day

As you may aware Miss Ottoway and Mrs Ditta offer a Story Start for children from all classes. Children are given the option of coming to school from 8.15am to listen to a story (read by an adult!) and enjoy a drink and a snack (bagels, brioche, fruit etc.) Vocabulary extension has been a key part of this process and the children have enjoyed compiling a list of 'wow words' to use in their writing (and looking up definitions on the ipads). This has been popular and it has been lovely to see the children enjoying their snack so enthusiastically too!

Homework/ Project Club 3pm/ 3.30pm – 4.30pm - £3 per child

This term we will be trialling a Homework/ Project Club available for all children until 4.30pm. This will be run after every day after school in the ICT room until 4.30pm by Miss Ottoway. Children will be supported to complete their homework and/ or work on a project of their choice. This club will start from Monday 12th September and a letter with more details will be issued this week.

Key Stage 1/ Reception Read-ins

A quick reminder that these Read-ins start again on Friday, 16th September. Parents are invited to come into the classroom from 8.40am and share a book with their child. Children from these classes should come into the classroom from this time to read even if their parent is not able to stay.

Sponsored Spell

Well done to everyone for working so hard learning spellings over the summer holidays. Don't worry if you have had a busy summer and your child needs a bit of time to brush up on a few extra words before the test on Monday 12th September. The money raised from all the sponsorship money you manage to collect will go towards buying fabulous new tables/ chairs for our dining room. We expect delivery any day of our first two tables and hope to be able to buy another two this year. We will of course feedback to you after the spelling test and would like money to be collected by Friday 23rd September please.

School Uniform

Please ensure that all school jumpers, cardigans and jackets are labelled clearly so that they can easily be reunited with their owners. We have an incredible amount of unnamed lost property!

Open Mornings

The school has three Open Mornings arranged for prospective parents. These are on Wednesday 14th September, Friday 14th October and Thursday 17th November from 9.15am to 10.15am. Please pass on the dates to any of your friends who might want to visit our school.

Birthday Party Invites

Please do not ask teachers to give out birthday party invites or send them with your child into class. Teachers have been put into the very awkward situation of giving out invites to an entire class bar one or two children, who obviously then get very upset.

Upgrading your tablet/ ipad?

As you may be aware last year the PSA purchased a set of tablets for the school. The children are benefiting hugely from these and we would very much like to build up our supply. If you have any surplus tablets, ipads or otherwise, which you would be willing to donate to the school, we would be delighted to receive them.

School Photos

These are taking place on Monday 28th September. If you would like a picture of your child with their younger sibling who is not of school age as yet then please come to the school hall at 9am. If you have any queries, please speak to the school office.

Dates for your Diary

The new Dates for your Diary will be sent out later on this week.

Kind regards

Mrs R Phillips
Headteacher