



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

12th March 2021

Dear Parents

It's so lovely to have everyone back and was an absolute delight to hear the gentle laughter and excited conversations fill our site on Monday. I expect your houses have been very different this week as well. Whilst you may feel relieved, maybe a part of you is missing that time too?

eSchools and Communication

We will continue to use eSchools for home learning and for some resources etc. but a lot more information has been put on our school website, particularly under the Curriculum tab, so do take a look! eSchools messages will continue to be checked by staff at least weekly, but urgent messages for that day need to be emailed to the school office please. The office email continues to be the best method for messaging me, as I do not routinely check eSchools and messages specifically for me appear amongst all the other messages for the whole school!

Procedures and Timing

Thank you for following our procedures. It really helps mitigate the risks of your children coming back to school. I am sure you are all desperate for a good catch up with each other too, but I am afraid the government rules are still very clear and I must ask that you do not gather either on site, on the lane outside school or in the local parks etc.

As we adjust to being back it would help considerably if families can stick to the timings outlined by arriving neither early nor late. This includes not filling up the road outside school by arriving early and waiting. Thank you for preserving our AONB and not parking or turning on the common.

Library books

Sadly, we are not able to open the library this half term but hope to be able to do so after the Easter holidays. Please return any library books which you have at home for quarantining before they return to our stock.

Welcome Back to School Disco

I really enjoyed the Christmas Disco and am looking forward to joining lots of you for our Back to School Disco this evening. A big thank you to Carl Pearson for offering his time and running this event for us, and of course to the PSA for organising it. Just a quick reminder to use a pseudonym (fake name) when you log in, so your child cannot be identified, but most importantly - have a great time dancing!

Feedback

This week I have taken the opportunity to ask staff and children how the Lockdown/ Remote Learning and the transition back to full opening has been. Everyone worked so hard to make this as positive a time as possible, so it has been lovely to hear some of the feedback. Good to know that, even though we were remote learning, every child who has replied so far felt they were part of our Hawridge & Cholesbury family and 90% felt they were able to learn effectively during this period. Further details will be published on our school website shortly, but here are some of the comments which show, between us we must have been doing something right! Well done everyone!

Whilst remote learning, what did you enjoy most and what helped you learn?

- Maths games on the computer. All the videos my teacher recorded.
- I had a lot of Nanny school!
- Being with my family more and zoom lessons helped.

What are you most looking forward to about coming back to school?

- Seeing my friends.
- Lunchtime and playtime.
- Everything! Games with James and loads of things.

Whilst we are all very much hoping not to have to return to Remote Learning in the future, it would be great to hear your thoughts about the last few months and celebrate the wonderful job you have all done. The survey will be open until Wednesday, 17th March and can be reached by clicking on the following link.

[Lockdown January 2021 and return to school Parent Survey](#)

Red Nose Day

Next Friday, 19th March is a day for wearing red, a nose or just a red accessory. Donation buckets will be placed at the school entrance and exit for a suggested £2 donation for this worthy cause. All money raised will go to Comic Relief.

Wellington Boots

Every child should have a pair of wellington boots in school. Classes go outside regularly for outdoor learning and although we have fabulous grounds they are fabulous and muddy!!!

Finally, I'm going to leave you with a couple of World Book Day photographs sent in by Y5, and wish all mums everywhere a very happy Mothering Sunday!

For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. Psalm 139:13

Kind regards
Mrs R Phillips
Headteacher



Y5 Activities from World Book Day at home!

Yummy Biscuits by Daniella and a beautifully creative bookmark by Megan