



HAWRIDGE & CHOLESBURY CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL

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

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10th October 2016

Dear Parents

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

Autumn Term Newsletter No. 3

Our Harvest Festival was very well attended this year. It's always lovely for the children to have an audience when they have been practising so hard for a special Service. Thank you to all parents who donated and a special thanks to Mrs Bonner who set up the display on Tuesday morning and to Mrs Jones who delivered the parcels to Atlas House on Friday. Any help (however small) from parents is always greatly appreciated by us all.

Sport Success

Last week, Year 4 attended the basketball festival at Chiltern Hills Academy. All pupils behaved exceptionally well and played their matches to the best of their abilities. The pupils were divided into 3 teams and competed against pupils from Our Lady, Chartridge and Ley Hill schools. I am pleased to be able to report that Hawridge & Cholesbury Team 2 won their group. Congratulations to Laurence, Jake, Oscar, Alfie, Jacob, Imogen, Kiera, Hope, Millie and Maddy.

Another success last week was our year 5 and 6 football team, who won their first match of the season 4-2 against Waterside. The football team on this occasion (it slightly changes every competitive match) was Tom P, Tommy W, Arran, Ben, George, Stanimir, Jake, Sophie F, Louie, Charlie P and Charlie G.

Parents and Carers

I am keen to maintain a clear policy of who can access the school buildings and when, without losing our warmth and welcome to parents and carers. Please can I therefore remind parents and carers not come into the school building at the beginning or end of the day. In the mornings any messages should be given to the members of staff at the designated locations i.e. the drop off zone, the KS1 cloakroom or the door by the covered area. I am also usually at the top of the alleyway so can often be contacted there. If your child has forgotten something at the end of the day, please go to the office and your child will be re-admitted; parents are asked to wait outside.

The only exception is a Friday morning when KS1 parents are invited into the classroom for the Read-in. This ends promptly at 9am so that the teacher can take the register and start teaching and it is appreciated if parents leave swiftly at this time to allow for this to happen.

I do hope that you understand the reasons for maintaining a tight line on who enters the school buildings and that you will support the school in upholding these rules which are for the child's education and protection.

Values and Role Models

It is at this time of year that we have a particular focus with the children on our school values. Our values are a central part of who we are and how we operate at Hawridge & Cholesbury C of E School. Approximately two years ago, parents were invited to work with governors, children and staff to agree these values. Over the next few weeks some of the children's homework will be

focussed on our school values and we hope that this will be an opportunity for you to discuss them with your child at home. It goes without saying that all of us, staff, governors and parents, as members of the Hawridge & Cholesbury family have a part to play in being positive role models and upholding the school values.

These values include the collective responsibility to support all children at the school. In an age of social media it goes without saying that children should not be named or discussed at all in negative communication and this extends to the playground and school gate. This applies both to children and adults.

If you have a concern about any of these areas, I urge you to raise this initially with the class teacher and then to me. We do have a Complaints Policy, found on our school website, for any unresolved matters.

Open Mornings: Friday 14th October and Thursday 17th November from 9.15am to 10.15am. The school has two more Open Mornings arranged for prospective parents. These are on 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.

Staff News

Many of you will remember Mrs Hulme who worked at the school for four years with children in several year groups. Mrs Hulme has decided to spend more time with her young family and therefore will not return to teaching after her maternity leave which ends this half term. Mrs Hulme worked incredibly hard to ensure that the children she taught had the best possible learning opportunities and I am sure you will join me in thanking her for commitment and hard work at the school. As Music leader, Mrs Hulme ran the school choir and organised exciting opportunities for them to perform with other schools both locally and at large venues such as the O2 and the Albert Hall. Whilst on maternity leave, Mrs Woodward took over this role which has now been taken by Mrs Chaudry.

Film Night

A letter went out on Friday for our next film night which will be held on Friday, 14th October. There has been a change to the film choice and we will now be showing Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs.

Dining Tables/ Sponsor Money

Our first two new tables for lunchtime have been a great success both with our children and lunchtime supervisors. Thank you for all your sponsor money. If you have yet to send it into school, please do so next week so we can put it towards a third table. Please take time to have a look at the new tables when you come into the school hall for parents' evening. It would be great to soon have enough money to buy a third!

Parent Forum – NEW DATE Friday, 25th November 8.30am- 9.30am – Growth Mindset

Thank you for another well attended meeting. A letter with further information regarding the school grounds will be sent out shortly. As promised at the meeting, the next Forum to discuss 'Growth Mindset' which we did not have time to cover on Thursday will be held on Friday, 25th November 2016.

Good news: Staff Courses and Grant Application Success

We are very fortunate to have been successful in securing some funding from The Ernest Cook Trust for our school which allows us to extend the provision of Forest Schools. Mrs Bradshaw and Miss Suckling have consequently started Forest Schools' training so that they can lead additional sessions at our school. This is enabling us to extend provision this year so that all children will benefit from a full 6 weeks of Forest Schools. I am sure you will agree that this is fantastic news!

In addition, Mrs Hughes our Assistant Head teacher and Maths Leader has been selected to take part in a Maths Mastery Specialist programme of training. This project is being funded by the government and Mrs Hughes will join other maths specialist from across the whole of the south east of England in training to lead Maths Mastery both at Hawridge & Cholesbury C of E School and in other schools in Bucks. This is a great accolade to Mrs Hughes and role as a maths leader.

Backpacks: please help us to help the children look after their belongings

I am aware that a fair amount of school uniform/ kit is being misplaced by children whilst they are at school. I am therefore working with the staff and children to find ways of keeping the cloakrooms much tidier and everything in its correct place.

Unfortunately our cloakrooms are tight for space (especially for Y3 and Y4) therefore, we are asking that children refrain from bringing rucksacks/backpacks into school as it is really difficult to fit a rucksack, PE kit and winter coat on the pegs. The children should come into school wearing their coat and carrying their book bag, lunch bag (if they bring packed lunch) and their PE kit in their drawstring PE bag. Any additional kit for clubs etc. should also be stored in a drawstring bag and musical instruments should be stored in the Music Room. This way everything fits nicely on the pegs and coats do not spend their day on the floor of the cloakroom!

If your child is missing an item of clothing or kit, please do check the Lost Property box outside the School office. This was empty at the beginning of the school year (5 weeks ago) and is now almost full!

Name labels: please do check that your child's name label has remained in their uniform/ kit.

Sticky labels/ iron-in labels all fall out and pen fades; the only sure way is to sew in a label!

PE Kit / Wellies

Please could all parents ensure every child has their PE kit in school at all times.

Children should also have a pair of named wellington boots in school so that they can visit the Common, Wild Woods or our school grounds at any time during the school day.

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

Just a reminder that if your child is going to attend the Homework Club, £3 should be given to the office in the morning.

Kind regards

Mrs R Phillips
Headteacher