



## 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  
Website: www.hawridge-cholesbury.bucks.sch.uk  
Headteacher: Mrs Rosie Phillips

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

5<sup>th</sup> May 2017

Dear Parents

This half term's value is: **Understanding**

#### **Summer Term Newsletter No. 2**

The lovely smell of baking has been wafting through the school the last few days and as I write this newsletter, Cherry Platts are eating their rocky road bars out in the sunshine in our lovely grounds.

#### **Kith and Kin Art Afternoon - Friday, 28th April 2017 1.15pm – 3pm**

The children all loved their afternoon last week. Some lovely paintings using the local flora were very creative. A big thank you to Mrs Davey for such an artistic, fun and well organised afternoon.

#### **Battle of the Books Competition**

This year's Battle of the Books Competition has just begun. Over ten weeks, teams made up of students from years 4, 5 and 6 will read a total of ten books and then battle it out in a quiz on Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> June 2017. We have more than thirty students involved and enthusiasm is high. The library will be open in the lunch hour every day so participants can catch up on their reading, ask questions and exchange ideas. If you would like a copy of the book list to encourage your child, please let us know.

#### **Carnival Craft Sessions – Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> May 3pm – 4.15pm**

Chesham Carnival is on Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> June this year. The theme this year is Fairy Tales and our school is entering a float (The Little Mermaid) which will be part of the procession through Chesham town. Mrs Pomeroy will once again be holding Carnival Craft sessions at school, which are open to anyone who would like to help. These will be held on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> May from 3pm to 4.15pm and we would love as many parents as possible (with their children) to join her to plan and make our 'Little Mermaid' float. Meanwhile, please send any donations of glitter, ribbons, material, cardboard etc. to the office.

#### **Sainsbury's Vouchers**

Just a reminder to keep sending in the Sainsbury's vouchers. Last year we exchanged them for over 100 balls for PE and a variety of cooking equipment for the kitchen.

#### **Film Night**

A letter has gone out for our next Film Night on Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> May. The film this term will be 'Bee Movie'.

#### **End of the Day Collection**

Children who are not picked up from school promptly within 10 minutes will be put into homework club and parents will be charged accordingly. The minimum charge will be £3.00.

### **Positive Steps Parent Forum**

Thank you very much to the parents who joined us for our Positive Steps Forum last week. Staff, governors and parents alike seemed to agree how constructive and helpful it was to sit down together over a cup of fresh coffee and a pastry and plan for our school's future. There were some interesting discussions about school uniform, how to involve parents from all classes in more areas, transition between Reception and Year 1, sharing of skills, improving boy/ girl relationships in our pupils and of course traffic issues. These are all ideas we have already acted on and will take forward further in the future. One idea was to hold either individual class or two class discussion forums with Class Reps perhaps taking on more of a role here. More about this to follow!

### **Schools grounds – a plea for help**

#### **Pond Working Party: Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May or Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May – any time after drop-off**

You may have noticed that our pond is looking somewhat overgrown and water levels are low. It is however, teeming with tadpoles and other pond life! In order to make this more accessible for the children, we plan to hold two working parties to clear, repair and generally tidy up the pond. So please do come along to help on either **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May or Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May** any time after drop-off. As always, refreshments will be provided! Please do also bring along any useful tools, rakes, garden forks, secateurs, and of course wellington boots/ waders and gloves would be a good idea too. Unfortunately we will need to keep this as an adult only event for health and safety reasons.

#### **Forest School Extension Working Party: Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> June and/ or Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> June – from 1.30 pm**

Most of the children now have benefited from time doing Forest Schools. We are really fortunate to have a super area to work in and we are concerned that we use it sustainably. We are also fortunate enough to have vast fabulous school grounds and would therefore like to create another area at the far end of the field, under the horse chestnut tree and connecting to our current area via the willow tunnel. This area needs a general tidy up, clearing of litter and undergrowth so a strong pair of gloves, secateurs etc. would be helpful here.

If you are able to help out at any of these times please could you let the office know.

Thank you in anticipation for your support with these working parties which will make such a difference to the children's use of the school grounds for their learning.

Mrs R Phillips  
Headteacher