

# School News

## April '17



### CHALLENGING TIMES

#### THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who has given the school and its team such support over the past couple of weeks. As you will no doubt have seen on the news, these are very challenging times for schools all over the country and many are making the same hard decisions as ourselves in order to remain financially viable. The National Audit Office reports that 60% of secondary schools are already in deficit, illustrating the current crisis facing our education system. The changing financial climate has had an impact on our small school and I am grateful to our staff and governing body for their hard work and considerable support in planning for the future.

#### MORE CUTS

The school still faces further potential cuts to its budget. In last month's newsletter, Mike Bendry, our Chair of Governors, explained how the proposed National (Fair) Funding Formula would result in the school having less money than it currently has. The NAHT, the union for school leaders, has stated that, although it agrees that a new funding formula is the right thing to do, "the truth is that it cannot be fair unless there is enough money to go around in the first place." With less money coming in and operating costs continuing to rise, Hawkesbury school will find it increasingly difficult to maintain its current offering.

#### WHAT NEXT?

The Heads Executive of South Gloucestershire have created a letter, attached to this newsletter, which we hope many parents will send to our local MP. You may wish to adapt the letter or send it as it is. We hope that, regardless of your political allegiances, you can do your bit to help protect our wonderful school as well as others all around the country.

Thank you.

Ed Riddington

#### OUR CONTACT DETAILS

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E-mail: [enquiries@hawkesbury.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@hawkesbury.org.uk)

Website: [www.hawkesburyprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.hawkesburyprimaryschool.co.uk)

## PTA NEWS

### EASTER DISCO

What an amazing Easter Disco, the children had a great time. Thanks to everyone that helped make it a success.

### FAMILY FILM AFTERNOON - Saturday 13th May

Family Film afternoon on Saturday May 13th at 4pm. There will be popcorn, sweets and drinks on sale as well as half time hotdogs so please bring a cushion/beanbag/blanket and settle in to watch a movie with your family. Minimum donation of £3 per child (1 accompanying adult free) and £4 per additional adult.

### HU5K - Saturday 17th June

Tickets are selling fast so secure your place at the starting line by booking at [www.hu5k.org](http://www.hu5k.org) now.

### SUMMER FAIR - Friday 14th July

This years summer fair will be held after sports day on 14th July (raincheck Monday 17th July)

Don't pack up those camping chairs after the parents races, kick back and relax with a wonderful afternoon of fun and frolics in the sun (hopefully!). There will be lots of games to keep the children (and adults!) entertained as well as afternoon tea and a Pimms raffle. This and so much more...watch this space!!!

### 80's FANCY DRESS DISCO - Saturday 30th September

Calling all (grown up) Wild Boys and Girls just wanting to have fun. If you want a View to a Thrill, then get ready to dance on the ceiling at this year's big D.I.S.C.O. Tickets are £15 each, including a Club Tropicana drink for freeeee.

## THE ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM

Visitors to Robin Class over the past few weeks will no doubt have spotted Barack, a wonderful elephant that has been decorated by each and every pupil in Years 1 and 2. Barack is one of 40 elephants that will combine to create The Enormous Elephant Trail, coordinated by the Ark Project. The trail is based in the Broadmead and Galleries shopping area of Bristol and will run from Saturday April 8th throughout the Easter holidays.

The theme for the trail is 'Memorable Moments', as elephants never forget! The trail will celebrate moments in history where an individual has followed their beliefs and passion to achieve something amazing.

## TOILET REFURBISHMENT

Further to our communication earlier in the year, we are delighted to let you know that the toilets located in the KSI corridor will be refurbished during the Easter break. We took your feedback and the children's into consideration when making the plans. We feel confident that you will find the toilets attractive and a much improved environment following the work and will once again be seeking your feedback upon completion.

This project has been funded primarily using our 'capital devolved funding', which is given to schools as a contribution towards the maintenance and development of its infrastructure.

## **SATs**

The Standards and Testing Agency have published information to parents so that they are aware of the exams that are taking place this year. Parents of children in Year 2 and 6 can find the document on the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/2017-national-curriculum-tests-for-key-stages-1-and-2-information-for-parents>

## **AFTER SCHOOL CLUB NEWS**

You may have noticed that we have been updating the outside free flow area as you come into school. It's now very nearly finished and the children can't wait to use it. We would like to take this opportunity to say a massive thank you to Nigel Watson (Henry's Dad) for the brilliant ideas he has had for the area and the huge amount of work he has put in. Also thank you to Mark Deacon (Sam's Dad) for giving up his half term to help Nigel with all the digging! We also need to thank Danielle for giving up quite a few of her weekends to come in and help. - Mel Thompson.

## **FREE SCHOOL MEALS: HOW TO APPLY**

The following information has come through from South Gloucestershire Council.

Parents and carers can now apply for free school meals online via the Citizen Portal, using the link below. Your eligibility will be checked online, and the portal will let you know whether your child is eligible for free school meals. If your child is eligible you will receive a confirmation message, and the school will be notified directly. If you are not eligible you will be presented with a message stating this. Please note, if you have already completed a primary or secondary school place application for the 2017/18 academic year via the portal, you do not need to re-register when applying for free school meals. Please use the login details that you have already set up.

<http://www.southglos.gov.uk/advice-and-benefits/benefits/free-school-meals/>

## **SATS REVISION SESSIONS**

Our final early morning sessions will run on the following days:

APRIL: Tues 25th, Thurs 27th

MAY: Tues 2nd and Thurs 4th

## **NEW AND REVISED SCHOOL POLICIES**

We have revised our Anti-Bullying policy. This now identifies the different categories of bullying, such as 'lookist' (people treated differently because of their appearance e.g. weight, hair colour, glasses etc) and racist (treating people differently because of their race, the colour of their skin, their beliefs and family origins).

Following an update from the LEA, we have revised our Child Protection policy. In addition, we now have a policy for Managing Aggressive Behaviour from Parents and Visitors.

These policies, together with many more, can be found on our school website.

## **SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPY**

Please find attached to the newsletter information for parents about the new core service offer for Speech and Language Therapy.

## PANTOMIME DVD

DVDs of our fantastic performance will be available to buy next term. Details will be sent out as soon as they are available. We would like to thank Lucy and John Ruthven for giving up their time to film and produce the DVDs.

## SCOOTERS

Please remember that scooters should not be ridden on the school grounds. This includes the ramp at the front of the school.

WHAT	WHEN	WHERE	WHO	OTHER DETAILS
Last day of Term 4 for children	Thursday April 6th	School	Children	
Inset Day	Friday April 7th	School	Staff	Children do not come to school
First day of Term 5	Monday April 24th	School	Children	
KS2 SATs week	w/c Monday 8th May	School	Year 6 children	
Last day of Term 5	Friday May 26th	School	Children	
Inset day	Monday June 5th	School	Staff	Children do not come to school
First day of Term 6 for children	Tuesday 6th June	School	Children	
Class photos	Friday 9th June	School	Children	
Hawk class trip to Morfa Bay	Monday 3rd July - Friday 7th July.	Morfa Bay	Hawk Class children	
Sports week	Monday 10th July - Friday 14th July	School	Children	
Sports Day	Afternoon of Friday 14th July	School	Children and parents	Reserve date is Monday 17th July
Year 6 Leavers' Church Service	9:30am Tuesday 18th July	St Mary's Church	The whole school attend. All are welcome.	
Year 6 Leavers' performance	1:30pm Thursday 20th July	School	Children and families of Year 6 parents	
Last day of Term 6	Friday July 21st	School	Children	

### Breakfast Club

**Monday – Friday 7.30am - 8.30am**

**Food served until 8am**

**£3 per session.**

**Ring the bell at the green gate at the side of the school.**

### Hawkesbury Afterschool Club

**Monday – Thursday 2.30pm - 6pm**

**Mini sessions 2.30pm -3.30pm**

**Call Louisa, Danielle or Miranda on:**

**01454 238506 / 07527224741 or email**

**Louisa.tooker@hawkesbury.org.uk**