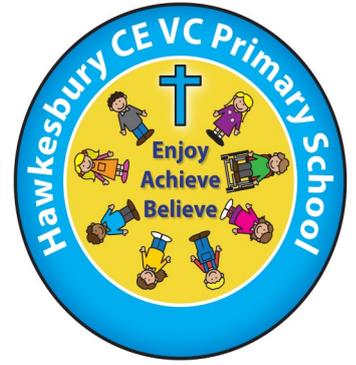


School News

March '17



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM THE GOVERNORS

You will undoubtedly be aware of recent media coverage regarding threats to school budgets, with some schools painting a bleak picture. There are very significant pressures, and our school is not immune from the impact of these. Consequently, difficult decisions will have to be made to ensure that Hawkesbury School continues to be successful and has a financially viable future.

The immediate pressures are related to increased Pension and National Insurance contributions. The introduction of the Apprenticeship Levy, which most employers will have to pay, will add to this pressure. At the same time, South Gloucestershire Council has a £7.5million overspend in its Dedicated Schools Grant, which pays for Special Educational Needs support. This is also being clawed back from school budgets over the next 3 years. All of this amounts to about 8% of our budget in the next financial year.

It was hoped that the new National (Fair) Funding Formula would bring significantly more money to South Gloucestershire, which is currently the 6th worst-funded authority in England. There will be about £4million more in 2018/2019, but this will not be enough, and although many schools may see some improvement, it is expected that 21 schools will see their funding actually decrease. Amongst these are the small, rural primary schools, and Hawkesbury is one of them.

Governors are currently considering ways forward, particularly now that we know Mrs Lewis is not returning in September. We will keep you informed of the outcomes of our discussions.

M Bendry, Chair of Governors.

OUR CONTACT DETAILS

Telephone: 01454 238629

E-mail: enquiries@hawkesbury.org.uk

Website: www.hawkesburyprimaryschool.co.uk

THE BISHOP'S VISITOR

We have recently had a visit from Frances Lark, the Bishop's Visitor, who came to look at the Christian character of the school. In her follow-up report, she has stated that the school's commitment to 'upholding Christian distinctiveness in a creative and thoughtful manner is clearly evident.'

Mrs Lark spoke to a number of pupils and commented that our 'animal characters enable even the youngest pupils to talk confidently about the school's values.'

EXPERIENCE EASTER: THURSDAY 6th APRIL

This year's Easter trip to St Mary's church will provide children with the opportunity to explore different elements of the Easter story in a visual manner in various parts of the church. The school will be split into infants and juniors for this visit. The infant experience is between 9:30 and 10:30am and the junior experience follows, starting at 10:30 and ending at 11:30am. You are all welcome to join us. If you are able to attend and are happy to travel with us to the church, please contact either the office or your class teachers.

SPRING SHOW: TUESDAY 4th APRIL

We have moved our traditional summer show to the Spring Term, so that we can free up a very hectic schedule in Term 6!

This year, we are looking to give a variety performance relating to our Wonderful World topic. There will be two performances: the first is at 1:15pm and the second is at 5:30pm. Children will need to be back at the school for 5:10pm in order to be ready for the second performance. The show is expected to last approximately one hour. We hope that you are able to come along to enjoy the show!

SATS REVISION SESSIONS

We will be continuing our Year 6 SATs sessions throughout Terms 3 and 4. These will give children the opportunity to strengthen their knowledge in grammar so that they are match fit for the summer. The sessions will start at 8am and will be held in Hawk class.

Please add the following sessions to your diary:

MARCH: Thurs 2nd, Tues 7th, Tues 14th, Thurs 16th, Tues 21st, Thurs 23rd, Tues 28th and Thurs 30th.

APRIL: Tues 4th, Thurs 6th, Tues 25th, Thurs 27th

PARENT DROP-IN

Our next drop-in is on Thursday 9th March at 8:30am in the staffroom. We want to hear your thoughts about spellings. In addition, we would also like to discuss our International Days and how we should celebrate British values. If you are unable to make it to the meeting, but would like to share your thoughts, please complete the form at the end of the newsletter and return it to the office.

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SALE

A message from Julia Hewitt, who kindly runs our second hand shop:

I am planning a sale on Friday 17th March at 2.30 pm (straight after Friday celebration) in the uniform shop above the office. Lots of shorts and summer dresses, so time to stock up!

Any outstanding payments can be handed to me or left in an envelope at the office.

CHRISTIAN VALUE

Our Christian Value for Term 4 is Service.

THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who attended our Maths Workshops last month. We have received very positive feedback from some of the parents who attended the session.

Thanks also to the PTA for organising - and families for attending - our Go 4 It afternoon. It was a fantastic event, albeit a rather exhausting one! Thank you to those who have already returned sponsorship forms. The event has so far raised a remarkable £816.48. If you have any sponsorship money for the event, please hand it into the office.

For more details of the brilliant work that the PTA are doing, see their news item on page 6.

RED NOSE DAY

Red Nose Day is on Friday 24th March. We have two boxes of noses and will be selling them in the week leading up to the event (or until our stocks run out). Noses cost £1 with at least 60p going to Comic Relief.

Our School Council have asked that all children come to school dressed as a superhero of their choice. They would like the pupils to use their creativity to invent their own superhero (and special powers!) and come to school sporting their own superhero look. We would like children to bring in a donation for Comic Relief on the day as well, if possible.

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/>

Journalist Club News

With thanks to our Spring Term team: Jeni, Millie, Rory, Hugo, Caelyn and Lottie.

SAMBA

This year, Swallows and Hawks are taking part in Samba to learn what music means to Brazilians. Everyone is loving it and is desperate to start playing. So far we've learnt basic rhythms and we are starting to play more complicated songs. We are playing it every Thursday morning and end just before break.

With 28 children banging drums at the same time (more or less!) our teacher is very patient and enthusiastic and doesn't let any of us down. During the first lesson, we learnt how to hold a drum stick and saw how the carnivals worked in their culture. For the past few weeks we have been learning how to play breaks and songs.

INTERNATIONAL DAY

Earlier this term, all the children of Hawkesbury CE VC Primary School took part in an international day.

All the classes learned about a different country: Hawks, used their artistic skills to explore Mexico; Swallows, used their sporty skills to represent Canada; Robin, explored the wonderful world of dancing to represent Brazil and - last but not least - Wren class used their crafting skills to represent U.S.A.

E-SAFETY: NATIONAL DATA

The following article shows results from the 2016 Cybersurvey, which aims to show trends among children in the UK.

Although nearly half of all nine year olds have a smartphone and 79% use a tablet, 43% of nine year olds said they were not shown how to stay safe online by their parents or carers.

It seems that parents start talking to their children about online safety too late. They are giving advice to 2/3 of eleven year olds, then backing off so that by age fifteen, less than half of our respondents said their parents showed them how to stay safe. Yet it is in the mid-teens that young people are at most risk.

- 27% said my parents try to limit time I spend online
- 33% said my parents check games are rated OK for my age
- 37% said my parents check films and TV content is OK for my age
- 18% download films, TV programmes or games parents do not know about

Adrienne Katz, director of Youthworks Consulting which runs the annual Cybersurvey, now in its 10th year, said "Parents should be encouraged to start talking to small children about safety and to keep at it as their child develops. Teens don't want rules, but they need relationship skills and your support when things go wrong."

Data is from Cybersurvey 2016, gathered in November/December. 2000 children and young people aged 9-16+ took part.

SAFER INTERNET DAY: OUR DATA

Safer Internet Day was held at school on 7th February. Among the activities that took place was a pupil survey. This was carried out anonymously by the children in their classrooms. The tables below summarise our pupils' IT usage.

Circle all the ways you use ICT to go online at home - data shows number of pupils. (Swallows top row, Y5 middle, Y6 bottom)					
Laptop or computer	Tablet	Mobile phone	Games console	Television	I don't go online
15	12	8	10	11	0
13	13	5	6	10	0
11	10	9	6	9	0

How many hours do you spend online when you are at home? Data shows number of pupils. (Swallows top row, Y5 middle, Y6 bottom)					
Never	Less than 1	1 hour	2 hours	3 hours	More than 3
2	3	8	6	0	1
0	2	6	3	0	2
0	1	1	3	3	4

Circle all the ways you use ICT to communicate with people? (Y5 top, Y6 bottom)					
Email	Text	Skype	Blogs	Mobile phone	Instant messages
3	9	2	4	8	3
6	7	1	0	2	2

Who do you talk to online? (Y5 top, Y6 bottom)					
Friends from school	Other friends	Friends you don't know in the offline world	Family	No-one	School staff
6	2	3	7	6	0
8	5	1	9	2	0

POPULAR SITES/APPS

	Y1	Y2	Y3/4	Y5	Y6
You Tube	0	2	5	2	11
Minecraft	0	2	8	6	2
Friv	0	1	3	3	4
Kizi	0	0	6	4	2
Roblox	0	0	4	3	2

OTHER SITES/APPS MENTIONED BY OUR PUPILS IN THE SURVEY

PIXEL GUN 3D (APP store rating: 17+)

“Parents need to know that Pixel Gun 3D is a multiplayer shooter with a vibrant (and open) chat and messaging system, which could expose kids to just about anything. Although there's a reporting system for objectionable content, players regularly play with and against strangers. The point of the game is to kill or be killed, again making it a poor choice for kids, though they'll likely be drawn to it due to its art style, which is similar to the very successful Minecraft.” (Source: Common Sense Media.)

INSTAGRAM (APP store rating 12+)

What do children and young people say to look out for:

29% of the children and young people we asked think Instagram can be risky. The top 3 concerns were:

- strangers
- lack of privacy
- inappropriate content.

Why kids like it:

The top 3 reasons why children and young people liked Instagram were:

- you can share with others
- you can communicate with others
- you can follow others.

(Source: New Aware, O2, NSPCC)

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

PTA NEWS

EASTER DISCO: Friday 31st March

This is a free event, but glow items as well as drinks and snacks will be on sale. Infants have the late afternoon slot, between 5 and 6pm. The juniors start at 6:15pm and the last dance ends at 7:15pm.

HU5K

Tickets are now on sale. We sold out last year, so please, please, please do not delay in buying your tickets from www.hu5k.org. We currently have an early bird offer of £8 per adult, £6 for secondary school children and £4 for primary school children. Ticket prices will increase on April 1st, so get your tickets now!

FAMILY FILM AFTERNOON: Saturday May 13th

Watch this space for more information on what promises to be a special cinematic super Saturday.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

In addition to the £816.48 that we have raised for Go4It, we have raised a further £40 through Bags2School, £80 from the Dads' Skittles Night and £250 from the Badminton Raffle.

PARENT DROP-IN

To be returned to the school office.

If you have any comments that you wish to be shared in your absence at our parent drop-in regarding International Days and British values, please write them below and hand in to the office. Also, if you have any suggestions for future drop-in discussion points, please let us know. Thank you.

Your name: _____

WHAT	WHEN	WHERE	WHO	OTHER DETAILS
HUGL week	Week commencing Monday 6th March	School	Children	
Spring Concert REVISED DATE	1:15pm and 5:30pm Tuesday 4th April	School	Children	Please note that the second performance is at 5:30pm. We would like all children to take part.
Experience Easter Service REVISED DATE	9:30am Thursday 6th April	St Mary's Church	All are welcome	
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	