

# School News

## November '16



### HUGL WEEK

Our first HUGL week of the year begins on November 7th. If you would like to take part, join in the fun and support the children with their learning, please let us know when you are coming. If you would like to order a school dinner for the day that you are coming in, please let the office know. We hope that you can join us.

### CLOTHING

From Monday 7th to Thursday 10th, all children should come to school in clothes that you are happy for them to get dirty. We have a range of activities planned, including cooking, art and outdoor tasks. As the weather may be wet next week, please ensure that your children come with suitable outdoor clothing, such as boots and waterproofs.

### REMEMBRANCE

We will be collecting donations for poppies at the end of the school day on the build up to Armistice Day on November 11th.

There are two events being held this year that you may wish to attend.

#### **A FESTIVAL OF REMEMBRANCE - AN EVENING OF POETRY AND DANCE**

This is being held at St Mary's Church on Friday 11th November at 7pm. It is free of charge, with a retiring collection for the Royal British Legion.

#### **REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**

The parade starts from the Village Hall Car Park on Sunday 13th November at 10:45am. All are welcome to assemble at the car park from 10:35am onwards. Many children wear uniforms for the parade. The service is held at the War Memorial at 10:50am, with the two minutes silence taking place at 11am. The short service on The Plain will be followed by a service in Bethesda. A retiring collection will be taken for the Royal British Legion.

#### **INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL PHOTOS**

These will be taken on Monday 28th November from 8.30. Please make sure your child looks smart that day and has a brush with them to neaten their hair. Photographs will be taken of both individuals and siblings.

#### **OUR CONTACT DETAILS**

Telephone: 01454 238629

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

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

### **PARENT DROP-IN**

Thank you to everyone who attended our last parent drop-in on communication. Our next drop-in is on Tuesday 15th November at 8:30am in the staffroom. We want to hear your thoughts about homework, now that we have launched the homework jigsaw and Mathletics. 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.

### **OPEN DAY**

Our Open Day takes place this Friday morning. This is for prospective parents, who will receive a guided tour of the school from pupils in Hawk class.

### **TERM TIME HOLIDAYS**

As many of you will already know, the government changed its stance on term-time holidays a few years ago, making it clear that any absence from school could only be authorised if it were for an 'exceptional circumstance.' For this reason, the vast majority of holidays during a school term are unauthorised.

This decision was made because it is commonly understood that taking holidays during term time can be detrimental to the learning development of children. The new National Curriculum has raised the bar of age-related expectations for all of our young learners, so days away from the classroom can put them at a significant disadvantage when it comes to making the necessary progress. It can be highly stressful for a child to return to school after a length of time away and it can take some time for them to readjust and get up to pace with the learning.

Schools are judged by Ofsted inspections. Attendance and punctuality are monitored during an inspection and compared with national figures. Under the new Ofsted guidance, an outstanding school is one where 'pupils value their education and rarely miss a day at school' and 'no groups of children are disadvantaged by low attendance.'

We are rightly proud of our excellent attendance at the school and thank you for your ongoing support.

### **INTERNATIONAL DAY**

We recognise that our pupils benefit greatly from an understanding of other cultures. For this reason, we are holding a special international day on Thursday November 17th. The day will involve a range of activities that may include dancing, art, games, fashion and cooking.

The children will have the opportunity to share their learning at the end of the day in front of the rest of the school. The countries that are going to be explored on this occasion are Scotland, Spain, France and Germany.

### **BE SAFE, BE SEEN**

Now that the nights - and mornings - are getting darker, we are having a special service on Thursday 3rd November to remind children about the need to be safe when out and about. Further details will be sent out shortly, providing information on products that can be bought to ensure that your children remain safe this winter.

We recently put a message in the Hawkesbury Parish News requesting that drivers are particularly careful in their cars at the start and the end of the school day. Could all drivers be extra vigilant when driving to and from school.

# Journalist Club News

## **FOOTBALL MATCH: HAWKESBURY v OLD SODBURY**

Hawkesbury's boys team went to Old Sodbury for a seven a side match. The previous week, Old Sodbury had beaten our girls 4-0, so we wanted revenge. Both teams played very well, but the friendly match ended with Hawkesbury triumphing 5-2.

Hugo, Fin, William, Rory, Sam, Ben, Warren and Henry all played. Ben, Sam, Warren and William all had amazing team debuts. Rory and Sam both scored brilliant goals. Fin, Hugo and Henry did an excellent job both in defence and attack.

## **SWALLOW CLASS TRIP**

Last month, Swallow Class went to the synagogue to find out more about Judaism. It was a really interesting trip.

The Torah Scroll is the holy book used in the synagogue. It is very precious. None of us could read it, however, for it was written in another language.

## **CROSS COUNTRY NEWS**

Hawkesbury's cross country team did their first races at KLB on Saturday 8th October. All our runners came from Swallow and Hawk classes.

Henry W, one of our Year 4 runners, had a stunning result, finishing in 6th place in a field of over 60 runners. Caelyn also had a great race, finishing 9th in the year 6 girls' contest. Suffering from an injury, Henry D persevered and finished in 46th out of 107. Jessie also had a day to remember, beating children older than her in her race.

Thank you to our journalist club members: Fin, Jess, Lana, Anna, Henry, Leo and Gracie.

## **E-SAFETY NEWS**

This update has come from the NSPCC.

### **Using mobile phones at night affecting school work and wellbeing**

A quarter of teenagers spend more than an hour on their phones after they've gone to bed which is affecting their school work the following day.

The findings come from a survey by the Headmasters' and Headmistresses' conference (HMC) and Digital Awareness UK which polled 2,745 11 to 18-year-olds. 10% of students also commented on levels of stress caused by 'fear of missing out' and said they woke up to hundreds of notifications on social media.

Digital Awareness UK suggests that schools should encourage young people to have a "digital detox" and put mobile devices away for 90 minutes before lights-out or keeping them out of the bedroom.

This term's Christian Value is hope.

### **Breakfast Club**

**Monday – Friday 7.30am - 8.30am**

**Food served until 8am**

**£3 per session.**

### **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**

### **AFTER SCHOOL CLUB NEWS**

Please note that After School Club can be contacted using the following landline: 01454 238506.

### **CHILDREN IN NEED**

Children in Need is on Friday 18th November. Please could all children come to school with a bear, or similar soft toy. They will have the chance to make a spotty outfit for it at school. This will be a normal school uniform day for the children.

### **P.T.A. NEWS**

#### **CLASS REPS**

We are pleased to introduce class reps who will become key contacts on the playground. The reps are as follows:

Wrens: Laura Chappell

Robins: Karen Bexter, Rebecca Clark, Eva James and Vanessa Hull

Swallows: Jennie Young and Helena Sadler

Hawks: Nuala McLaughlin and Kate Bashford.

#### **FROG RACING - CHANGE OF TIME**

The inaugural frog racing is on 12th November. Arrive at 7:30pm for an 8pm start. Tickets are on sale on the PTA website ([www.hawkesburypta.co.uk](http://www.hawkesburypta.co.uk)) or from Jennie Young.

#### **TEA TOWELS**

This year we will be selling tea towels featuring self-portraits of all the children in the school. These will be on sale at £4 each. Alternatively, you can buy 4 for £15. The perfect Christmas Gift!

#### **NON SCHOOL UNIFORM DAY**

Friday 2nd December is a non school uniform day. Please could children bring in donations (e.g. wine, chocolates, sweets etc) for the Christmas Fair tombola.

#### **CHRISTMAS FAIR**

The Christmas Fair is on December 10th between 11am and 1pm. Have you got any fresh new ideas for stalls? Please contact Jennie Young.

#### **CHRISTMAS FAIR CHILDREN'S GIFT SHOP**

We are pleased to introduce a new addition to the Christmas Fair: the Children's Gift Shop. This replaces the present wrapping day that was previously done in school. Any items in great condition that would make fabulous family presents are welcome. Please bring these in to school on Friday 25th November. Thank you for your support.

## **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 homework, 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.

WHAT	WHEN	WHERE	WHO	OTHER DETAILS
Open Day	Friday 4th November (a.m.)	School	Prospective parents	
HUGL week	w/c Monday 7th November	School	Parents are welcome to join us.	
International Day	Thursday 17th November	School	Children	Details to follow.
Children In Need Day	Friday 18th November	School	Children	Children to bring in a bear or similar soft toy.
School photographer	Monday 28th November	School	Children	
Infant Nativity play	1:30pm Tuesday 6th and 9:15am Wednesday 7th December	School	Families	
Church Carol Service	6pm Thursday 8th December	St Mary's Church	All are welcome	Coaches will be take us to the church.
Junior Production	1:15 and 5:30pm Tuesday 13th December	School	Families	Please note that the second performance is at 5:30pm. We would like all KS2 children to take part.
Christmas Lunch	Wednesday 14th December	School	Children	
Christmas parties	Wednesday 14th December (am juniors). Thursday 15th December (am infants)	School	Children	
Christmas Jumper Day	Friday 16th December	School	Children	Charity to be decided by the school council.
Last day of Term 2	Friday December 16th	School	Children	
First day of Term 3	Tuesday January 3rd 2017	School	Children	
Parents' Evenings	Tuesday 7th February (early) & Wednesday 8th February (late)	School	Parents and carers	
Last day of Term 3	Friday February 10th	School	Children	
First day of Term 4	Monday February 20th	School	Children	
Spring Concert <b>REVISED DATE</b>	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 <b>REVISED DATE</b>	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
Term 6	Tues June 6th - Fri July 21st	School	Children	