

'Enabling everyone to flourish' Respect, Perseverance, Creativity

Hawkesbury CE VC Primary School

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9th September 2022

Welcome

I would like to welcome all children and their families to a new school year at Hawkesbury. We have 10 new children with us in Wren Class and it has been lovely to see them all settling in so well. Whether you are new to the school or have been with us before, it is good to have you with us and we look forward to a new school year.

We are delighted to welcome Hawkesbury Preschool on site too. The preschool team have worked tirelessly over the holidays transforming the room and it looks fantastic. It is great to see the school looking so full and being used to its full extent. We look forward to working increasingly closely with the preschool as they settle in.

Over the coming days you should receive a newsletter from your child's class teacher along with an overview of learning for the term. These will be sent out 6 times a year. You will also receive this newsletter every other Friday.

Along with this newsletter you will find information about our consultation to extend the length of the school day so that we finish at 3pm instead of 2.30pm. Please do read this information and respond.

We are a friendly and approachable team here at Hawkesbury so please do make sure you speak to a member of staff should you have any questions. We encourage you to speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance. We are always happy to help.

Wishing you all a happy and positive year, Mike Riches (Headteacher)

Key dates and events (please also see the calendar on the last page)

INSET training day – 26th September

School is closed to all children whilst staff take part in training.

Black History Month Begins – 1st October

We will explore the lives and work of people who have made a difference throughout history.

Harvest service – 7th October, 9.30am

Family members are invited to join us and to see the children share their learning about harvest. This will take place in the church. We will be collecting non-perishable items for the Yate and Chipping Sodbury foodbank.

Parent teacher meetings – 17th and 19th October

Look out for a more detailed letter about this in the next few weeks.

Last day of Term 1 – 21st October

School will finish at 2.30pm. The new term begins on Monday 31st October.

Reception 2023 open days

The new school year has only just begun yet we are already planning for our next cohort of Reception children. We have several open days planned for the coming weeks and we are keen to encourage as many families as possible to take a look around our school. If your child is due to start in September 2023 or if you know of anyone else who might be interested, please contact the school office to book a place on one of our open days.

Key Stage 2 SATS results

Each year our Year 6 children are required to participate in Government tests in reading, writing and maths. There are other tests which take place in Year 1, Year 2 and Year 4 too. We are required to publish our Year 6 results on our website and we would also like to share them with you here. The percentages show the proportion of children who have achieved the expected standard or the higher standard in each area; results have been compared with the Local Authority and England.

Reading

	Hawkesbury	South Gloucestershire	England
Expected standard	86%	74%	73%
Higher standard	43%	28%	27%

Writing

Expected standard	79%	71%	78%
Higher standard	21%	10%	20%

Maths

Expected standard	79%	73%	79%
Higher standard	14%	22%	27%

Reading, writing & maths combined

Expected standard	79%	59%	59%
Higher standard	14%	5%	TBC

We are incredibly pleased with these strong outcomes which were achieved by our last Year 6 cohort. They compare favourably with both local and national averages and are well above the most recent results which were achieved in 2019. Well done and thank you to all children and members of staff for their hard work.

Morning routines

At the end of the summer term, our morning routine changed. Please note the following information:

- The gate onto the playground will open at 8.20am
- The bell will ring at 8.30am at which point children line up on the playground
- You are invited to stay on the playground until your child lines up to go inside
- Members of staff will be on the playground from 8.20am
- If it is raining heavily, children can go straight into their classroom as soon as they arrive at school
- On Mondays and Fridays, children in Wrens and Robins can go straight to the hall for Jumpstart Jonny; children in Swallows and Hawks can go straight to the field for the daily mile. We tried to get this off the ground again in the summer term but it didn't work for various reasons. We are hoping for a smoother start this term!

It is essential that all children are in school by 8.30am so that they do not miss out on the vital learning that takes place at the start of the day. If you are unavoidably late, you must sign your child in at the school office.

After School Club

Please see the following two messages about After School Club:

1. ASC Craft Club will be operating every Thursday this term. Pre-booking essential and like school clubs, attendance is expected every week. Cost per session is £5 and the club will run from 14:30 – 15:30.
2. Reminder for any adhoc users, that pick up for ASC is from the staff entrance, as used by Swallow class during lock down

If you have any questions about the club or to make a booking, please contact Louisa Tooker on louisa.tooker@hawkesbury.org.uk

Celebration services

We have spent a lot of time considering how to progress with celebration services. In the past, families were able to join each week but this changed during the pandemic. So far we have not returned to that previous system and in the meantime had been listening to the views of children, parents and staff on this matter.

As a result, we have decided not to go back to a weekly celebration service where families are invited but instead to hold specific services to which all are invited on an ad hoc basis. The first of these will take place on **Friday 16th September at 2pm**. Children can bring any certificates they received at the Hawkesbury Show. There will also be an opportunity to find out who our new house captains and vice captains are.

The school will continue to hold weekly celebration services where achievements are celebrated and valued.

Volunteers needed

Gardening club

Lisa Cousins stepped down from running the club at the end of last year. We are incredibly grateful to her for all her hard work over the past few years – the children have thoroughly enjoyed the experience. We would love to be able to continue gardening club but will need the support of any willing volunteers to be able to do this. If you or someone you know is willing and able to come in to help please let the school office know.

Electric car club

Helena Sadler and Caroline Pederick have been running this club for several years and both will be looking to step down at some point in the near future. If anyone is interested in supporting this next year please do let either Helena or Caroline know or contact the school.

Term 1 dates for the diary

Event	Date and time	Information
School day consultation opens	09.09.22	Please see additional information attached with newsletter.
Celebration service open to families	16.09.22 2pm	Families are invited to join us for this service.
INSET day	26.09.22	School is closed to children for staff training.
PTA back to school bash	30.09.22 2.30	
Black History Month begins	01.10.22	See information above.
Harvest service	07.10.22	See information above.
Hawk Class swimming begins	07.10.22	A separate letter will be shared.
Individual and sibling photos	17.10.22	
Parent teacher meetings	17.10.22 & 18.10.22	More information will be shared in the next few weeks.
Outdoor learning day	20.10.22	We aim to spend the whole day learning outside.
Last day of Term 1	21.10.22 2.30pm	
First day of Term 2	31.10.22 8.30am	

Dates can also be found on our school website: <https://hawkesburyprimaryschool.co.uk/news/>

Hawkesbury Show float

Many of the children got dressed up as animals for this year's procession. Well done to the team who spent so much time creating such a fantastic float!



School gazebo

Over recent months a huge amount of work has been done to repair the gazebo so that it is safe to use once again. Thank you to Nicky and Ian Adams and Matt and Kristy Dunk for all of their hard work to improve this part of our school.

