

'Enabling everyone to flourish' Respect, Perseverance, Creativity

Hawkesbury CE VC Primary School

Hawkesbury Upton, Badminton, South Glos GL9 1AU
Telephone: 01454 238629



Executive Headteacher: Mr M Riches

E-mail: enquiries@hawkesbury.org.uk

23rd September 2022

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. We will be further understanding our new phonics scheme – Unlocking Letters & Sounds. We will also have a visit from Grief Encounter – an organisation which provides support to bereaved children and young people. <https://www.griefencounter.org.uk/>

Key Stage 2 Minecraft workshops – 27th September

The PTA has organised and funded a Minecraft workshop for children in Swallows and Hawks. This helpfully supports our DT curriculum.

PTA back to school bash – 30th September, 2.30pm

All families are invited to join together straight after school to celebrate the start of the new school year.

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, 2pm

Please see more detailed information below.

Parent teacher meetings – 18th and 19th October

A letter was sent out earlier this week. Please respond by email before Monday 26th September.

Outdoor learning day – 20th October

We aim to hold the whole day outside weather permitting. Children will need to come to school dressed for the weather.

Last day of Term 1 – 21st October

Harvest service

The children are preparing to share their learning about harvest on **Friday 7th October at 9.30am** in the church. They will share a range of harvest themed songs, some prayers, poems and art work.

During the service children will be invited to bring to the front a non-perishable donation for the Yate and Chipping Sodbury Foodbank. Items should be placed on the table on the playground in the morning ready for children to take to the church in the afternoon. **If you are unable to provide a donation, please do not worry. We will make sure all children have something to offer during the service.**

The Foodbank is currently looking for the following items: cooking sauces, instant noodles, sponge puddings, breadsticks, tinned meat, crisps, toothbrushes & tinned fruit.

Admissions processes

If your child is due to start primary school in September 2023 or if you know of anyone else who might be interested in joining us at Hawkesbury, please contact the school office to book a place on one of our open days.

The deadline for primary admissions is 15th January 2023. Applications should be made through the council website: <https://find-information-for-adults-children-families.southglos.gov.uk/kb5/southglos/directory/advice.page?id=GLu6GUIMkpw&familychannel=2-2&channel=family>

The deadline for secondary admissions is 31st October 2022. Applications should be made through the council website: <https://find-information-for-adults-children-families.southglos.gov.uk/kb5/southglos/directory/advice.page?id=I2VIUICdFLs&familychannel=2-2&channel=family> If you would like advice and support with the secondary admissions process, please speak to Mr Riddington.

Staffing information

We are pleased to have Mrs Olga Shulianska working with children from across the school over the coming weeks. Olga will be with us every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday; she will use her skills as a linguist (speaking Russian, Ukrainian and English!) to support the work of the school.

Attendance and punctuality

The best way to support your child's education is to ensure they are in school on time every day. Children can quickly fall behind in their learning if they are late for school or if they take time out for holidays or frequent illness. It can then be difficult for them to catch up.

If you are concerned about your child's attendance please speak to their class teacher who will be able to talk this through with you.

There are, of course, occasions when a child must take time out of school. The NHS website gives some information as to which illnesses should result in absence and which should not:

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

In our next newsletter, we will provide an update as to current attendance levels by class to help keep you informed of the attendance patterns across the school.

INSET days 2022-2023

This is a reminder that our INSET days for the year ahead are as follows:

Monday 26th September

Friday 25th November

Tuesday 3rd January

Monday 6th March

Friday 30th June

Length of school day consultation update

Thank you for the responses received so far. The closing date for the consultation will be on **Monday 26th September** so if you haven't yet responded we encourage you to do so this weekend. On Friday 30th September, answers to any of the questions asked will be shared along with the Friday communication email. Governors will consider all responses at their next meeting on Monday 10th October after which a response will be made to the school community.

Key Stage SATs results

Last week, we brought news of our fantastic Year 6 SATs results and of the excellent work of our staff and children to get to this point. To complete the picture, our progress scores have now been released. These also show an incredibly positive picture of the progress made since the cohort was in Key Stage 1. All measures are above the average band, particularly reading which was well above average.

Please note as a further point of clarity – the national comparisons for the higher standard which were shared last week were from 2019 as the 2022 information has not yet been released. This was prior to the pandemic so it is predicted that these will be more in line with South Gloucestershire averages when released. In the meantime, the Governing Body along with Local Authority officers spend a lot of time scrutinising all data and asking questions of the school to ensure it is challenging all children appropriately in their learning.

Federation vision and aims

You may be aware that Hawkesbury Primary School is part of a federation called The Pinnacle Schools Federation. The federation includes Iron Acton and Hawkesbury Primary Schools. A federation is a group of two or more schools that have made a formal commitment to work together under a single governing body. This enables the schools in the federation to: work together efficiently and sustainably to raise standards, improve services and increase opportunities for pupils and staff.

Our Governing Body has recently been working on developing the federation vision and a set of aims to help ensure clarity in its direction. These are proposed to be as follows:

Vision:

“Striving for the Pinnacle in our schools and in our communities”

Aims:

- To aim high in every aspect of school life
- To have a culture of learning without limits
- To take a collaborative approach across the school community
- To further develop and uphold our Christian Distinctiveness, weaving it into all aspects of school life

The Governing Body would be keen to hear the views of all members of our school community on the above. If you have any questions or comments please send these to the school office by email.

Celebration services

It was good to welcome so many families to our celebration service last week. We were able to award our school councillors and house captains with their badges. We also celebrated awards from the Hawkesbury Village Show. The next opportunity for families to join us for celebration service will take place on **Friday 21st October at 2pm**. Please note – Hawk Class will be at a swimming lesson during this time.

School councillors have been voted for as follows:

Y1 - Erin; Y2 - James; Y3 – Ivy; Y4 – Lottie; Y5 – Mia & Suzy; Y6 - Ailsa. The Wren Class councillor will be arranged at a later date.

House captains & vice-captains are:

Mars – Lisa & Vira

Mercury – Tom & Jacob

Jupiter – Hattie & Masie-Mae

Saturn – Isla & Bella

October half term clubs

On the Friday of the half term holiday, First Sports Coaching will hold a holiday club for Hawkesbury children in the school grounds. For further information, please see the attached flyer. Families in receipt of Pupil Premium who would like to use this club should contact the School Office.

Hawkesbury tennis club will also be offering sessions for all primary aged children from Monday through to Thursday, 9am – 12noon. If you are interested, please contact tennis coach Chris Butcher on 07523061618.

PTA Update

The PTA AGM was held last week, where we looked back on the 2021-22 and elected officers to take the charity forward into 2023.

In summary, we had a brilliant year. **We raised more than £15,000**, partly thanks to having two record-breaking HU5K events in the same year (due to the 2021 event being held in September, before moving back to its traditional June fixture in 2022). Thanks to everyone who supported the PTA in any way during the year.

We donated over £8,000 to the school, for a wide range of items and experiences - including craft supplies, music lessons, mental health life skills coaching and fun days (art, science, cooking, adventure and water fun). We also fixed up the outdoor classroom so it could be used again and paid 100% of school trip transport costs to help parents at this difficult economic time.

Jane Shepley and Charlie Hodder stepped down as Chair and Secretary, and welcomed the sibling dream team **Rosie Latter** and **Nicky Adams** who were voted in as Co-Chairs, and **Jo Duke** as Secretary. **Ritchie Jackman** kindly continues as Treasurer.

Term 1 dates for the diary

Event	Date and time	Information
INSET day	26.09.22	School is closed to children for staff training.
PTA back to school bash	30.09.22 2.30pm	
Black History Month begins	01.10.22	See information above.
Harvest service	07.10.22 9.30am	See information above.
Hawk Class swimming begins	07.10.22	A separate letter has been shared.
Church family service	16.10.22 10.30am	Reverend Thomson has invited all families to join a new family service which will take place every 3 rd Sunday of the month at St Mary's.
Individual and sibling photos	17.10.22	
Parent teacher meetings	17.10.22 & 18.10.22	A separate letter has been shared.
Outdoor learning day	20.10.22	We aim to spend the whole day learning outside.
Celebration service with families invited	21.10.22	Please note: Hawk Class will be out swimming at this time.
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/>