

Hawkesbury CE VC Primary School

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Recent events

Thank you to all who came along to join in with last week's PTA Back to School Bash. It was good to see so many people in the school hall to support the PTA as it raises vital funds for the school.

We were pleased to welcome sports coaches from the Sports Project to school this week. The coaches led sessions on tag rugby and cheerleading. The aim of these sessions was primarily to give children the option to try something new but also to extend the current offer of clubs available to the children. Please see an email that was sent out earlier in the week which gives more information about booking onto one of these clubs.

Children in Swallows and Hawks were visited last week by an organisation which runs activities to support DT and Computing in schools through the context of Minecraft. Thank you to the PTA for funding and organising this event.

Children in Hawk Class begin their series of 10 swimming lessons at Yate Leisure Centre today. This is an essential part of their weekly PE lessons over the coming weeks and supports them in achieving the minimum expectation which is to swim confidently to 25 metres by the end of primary school. Swimming lessons also replace one of the weekly PE lessons and so contribute towards the children's ongoing health and wellbeing.

Attendance information

Our current attendance information for each class is as follows:

Wrens Reception	Robins Y1/2	Swallows Y3/4	Hawks Y5/6	Whole school
96%	97.3%	94.8%	96.9%	96.3%

Our current attendance target for the year ahead is 96.5%.

Please note – schools are unable to authorise term time holiday unless in exceptional circumstances; this includes postponements to holidays caused by the pandemic.

Thank you for your support in ensuring your child is in school and on time every day – this impacts positively on their learning.

Congratulations to the 49 children who currently have 100% attendance for the year so far. Their names will be published in the end of term newsletter.

Morning routine

From the beginning of Term 2 (31st October), children will need to go straight into their classrooms as soon as the gate opens onto the playground instead of waiting for the bell to ring. We ask that parents encourage their children to take responsibility for their own belongings so please allow them to put their own coats, book bags and water bottles away. This change to the arrangements coincides with colder darker mornings as winter begins and will enable staff to utilise the children's time in school as best they can. The gate will continue to open at 8.20am and will close at 8.30am. Any arrivals after this time will be marked as late in the registers.

Friday celebration assembly

Each Friday, Mr Riddington leads an assembly which looks to celebrate various aspects of school life. Teachers choose two children from each class to receive a 'Flourish' certificate for those who have demonstrated this through their learning or behaviour whilst at school.

The house captains also hand out certificates to children from across the school and these are related to our school values.

Last week, the following children were chosen:

Wrens – **Reuben** for his work with numbers and **Varya** for taking her time and inspiring others with her creativity.

Robins – for their work as mathematicians, **Louie** was chosen for his use of a number line and **Aly** for ordering numbers.

Swallows – for their work as authors, **Sofia** was chosen for her independent story and **Albie** for his coherent and cohesive narrative.

Hawks – **Suzy** and **Lucy** were chosen for their creativity in Science.

House captains: **Max** was chosen as Jupiter House hero for always being positive. **Gracie** was chosen as Mercury house hero for her perseverance. In Mars House, **Mia** was house hero for being helpful and in Saturn house, **Matty** was house hero for being positive and smiley.

Admissions

If you know of anyone who is interested in their child starting with us next September please do encourage them to speak to our office staff. Our next open day will take place on **Wednesday 12th October at 1.15pm**. We are also able to arrange individual appointments for those who are unable to make this date.

A reminder that the closing date for primary applications is 15th January.

The closing date for secondary school applications is 31st October.

Music lessons

The school is able to organise for your child to receive additional one to one or small group music lessons with a visiting teacher from our local music hub. There are a range of instruments on offer including wind instruments, guitar and stringed instruments. Singing lessons are also available. The cost of the lessons varies depending on if they are individual or joint. If your child receives pupil premium funding, the school is able to pay for these lessons in full. If you are interested in finding out more, please speak to the school office, or contact the Music Hub <http://www.integramusic.co.uk/getinvolved/>.

Term 1&2 calendar

Event	Date and time	Information
Football match against Iron Acton	11 th October 3.30pm	This will take place at Iron Acton. Mr Bryant has sent out letters to KS2 children who are interested in taking part.
Family service at St Mary's Church	16 th October 10.30am	All are invited to join together at church for this family service.
Photographs – individual and sibling	17 th October	
Parent teacher meetings	17 th & 19 th October	
Outdoor learning day	20 th October	We aim to spend the whole day learning outside. Robin class will visit Slimbridge WWT for the day.
Celebration service	21 st October 2pm	Families are invited to join us for this event in the school hall.
Last day of Term 1	21 st October 2.30pm	
First day of Term 2	31 st October 8.30am	
Parent council meeting	11 th November	Please send questions and comments to class reps.
PTA Christmas jumper swap	11 th November 2.30pm	Please see separate PTA flyer.
Online safety parent information session (online)	16 th November 6pm	This is an incredibly important safeguarding session which is relevant to parents of children across the age range. A teams invite will be sent out nearer the time.
Non-uniform day for Christmas fair prizes	18 th November	
Church family service	20 th November 10.30am	
Anti-bullying week	w/c 21 st November	This will include a visit from drama organisation Unique Voice.
INSET day	25 th November	School will be closed to all children.
Christmas fair	10 th December	This will take place in the Village Hall.
Wrens & Robins Nativity services	6 th & 8 th December	Ticket information will be shared nearer the time.
Swallows & Hawks performance	13 th December	Ticket information will be shared nearer the time.
Last day of Term 2	Friday 16 th December 2.30pm	
Christingle service	Friday 16 th December 9.30am	Families are invited to join us at church for this event.
First day of Term 3	Wednesday 4 th January 8.30am	

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