

Hawkesbury CE VC Primary School

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11th November 2022

Staffing update

Earlier this week, interviews for a new Reception teacher took place. We were pleased to have a strong field of candidates to choose from and the interviews put them through their paces. Following our thorough interview process, Mrs Geraldine Rogers has been appointed to join the team from January. Over the next few weeks Mrs Rogers will visit the school to spend time with Mrs Wilson and the children so that she can hit the ground running in January.

We would like to invite Wren Class parents to join us on the afternoon of **Friday 18th November at 2pm** where they will be able to meet Mrs Rogers and get to know her.

Mrs Rogers writes:

I am very much looking forward to teaching your children from January. When I visited the school, I felt very welcomed by the children and they were all lovely to me. I have been working with children for over 13 years and I am excited to share my experience with you. I look forward to meeting you all and getting to know your children properly in the new year.

All parents are invited to join a farewell assembly for Mrs Halstead at **Wednesday 7th December** in the school Hall at **2pm**.

Dates and events for the term ahead

Welcome back to a new school term. We have a lot going on over the next few weeks so here is a round up of all you need to know. We hope you have noticed the poppies the children have made which are displayed at the front of the school.

Interfaith day – 15th November

Each class will learn about a different religion or worldview as part of this year's interfaith week. Children from around the Local Authority (and beyond) will gather together online to hear from experts in a specific religion or worldview which will support the RE curriculum and their understanding of people around them.

Online safety parent information session – 16th November

All parents are invited to attend an online information session about online safety. This will be led by Deb Ferris who works for the Local Authority. The session will take place on **Wednesday 16th November at 6pm** and will last no longer than 1 hour. [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Non-uniform day – Friday 18th November

Children may choose to wear non-uniform for the day. In return we ask that, if possible, they bring in an item to support one of the stalls which will help to raise money for the school at this year's Christmas fair – further information below. Children can take their donations to the table in the hall where they will be collected and sorted. Children are also invited to bring in a donation for Children in Need as part of our non-uniform day.

Anti-bullying week – 21st November

Children will learn all about bullying – what it is and what it is not, as well as how they can do something about it if it was ever to happen to them or someone they know. **On Monday**, children are invited to wear odd socks, **On Wednesday**, children will have the chance to participate in an age-specific workshop with drama organisation Unique Voice.

INSET day – Friday 25th November

School will be closed to children. During the morning, staff will be participating in training called 'Making sense of Autism', something which all schools in the Local Authority are being encouraged to engage in. In the afternoon, we will be reviewing our resources in light of our curriculum offer.

Christmas craft afternoon – 29th November

Children will work with others from across the school in their house groups to create a range of Christmas themed crafts. This will include a Christmas bauble which will be hung on the village Christmas tree from the beginning of December. This year, Will in Year 6 (oldest child) and Reuben in Reception (youngest child) have been invited to help with the switching on of the lights!

Nativity – 6th December, 1.15pm & 8th December, 9am

Both performances will take place in the school hall. All children in Wrens and Robins will be involved in both performances. School aged children will be able to see the dress rehearsal during school time.

Christmas fair – 10th December

This will take place in the Village Hall and will begin at 11.30am. All money raised will go to the PTA which supports the work of the school.

KS2 performance – 13th December, 1.15pm and 5.30pm

Families of children in Swallows and Hawks are invited to join us for their Christmas pantomime which will take place in the school hall. All KS2 children will be needed at both performances. School aged children will be able to see the dress rehearsal during school time. Further information will be provided over the coming weeks.

Christmas lunch – 14th December

Christingle service – 16th December

This will take place in the church at 9.30am. All families are welcome to attend. The purpose of a Christingle is to remind the children of the Christmas story.

Christmas parties – dates to be confirmed

Each class will have a Christmas party in the final week of term. They will be able to bring party clothes into school to change into.

Final day of Term 2 – 16th December

Please note: there will be no teacher-led clubs in the last week of term. Breakfast and After School Club will continue as normal.

Christmas appeal

We would like to support the work of Cotswold Tyndale Rotary Club who provide Christmas shoe boxes to Eastern European Countries. Please see the flyer on the last page which sets out what is needed. If you are able to get involved, you can choose to donate a bag of items or select some items to donate. The children will then compile boxes ready to be donated. All donations need to be received by Monday 5th December. Donations can be brought to the school office.

Snacks and drinks in school

We just wanted to remind all families that morning snack options are toast (purchased from the school kitchen) or fruit. Children are unable to have anything else as their morning snack. We also ask that water bottles contain water only. Thank you for your support with this.

Bonfire design

Congratulations to Ruby in Year 4 for being this year's Hawkesbury bonfire design winner – what a fantastic design!

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
97.5%	97.1%	95.8%	95.7%	96.4%

Our attendance target for the year ahead is 96.5% and we are getting closer to this. Well done to Wren Class for having the highest attendance so far this year!

Please remember: **schools are unable to authorise term time holiday unless there are exceptional circumstances.** This is in place to stop your child from falling behind in their learning.

Friday celebration assembly

Last week, the following children were celebrated for their achievements:

Wrens – **Roxy** was celebrated for her reading, and **Henry** was celebrated for his letter formation.

Robins – **Lucy** was celebrated as a mathematician and **Ezra** was celebrated for his contributions during group discussions.

Swallows – **Adelaide** was celebrated for her engaging writing, and **Molly** was celebrated for her column addition and subtraction.

Please note – our next celebration assembly which parents are invited to attend will take place on **Friday 2nd December at 2pm.** Hawk Class will be taking a break from swimming so will be present this time.

Governor Update

Governors have recently welcomed some new Governors to the Federation's team:

Lizzie Reynolds joins as a Co-opted Governor and has a professional background in higher education policy. Lizzie says "I am thrilled to be a co-opted governor of the Pinnacle Schools Federation. I have two children who attend Hawkesbury Primary School and I currently work at the Office for Students, the higher education regulator".

David Wylde joins as an Associate Member with a background in private healthcare management. David says "Having settled in Hawkesbury Upton with my wife, I am delighted to have the opportunity to assist the two schools"

Jan Conner has recently retired as a primary school teacher and joins the Governing Board as a Foundation Governor. Jan says "I am now involved with various Church activities, looking after grandchildren, handbells and walking the dog!"

Father Malcolm Strange joins the Governing Board as Rector of the Fromside Benefice. He spent 10 years as Assistant Principal of St Bede's Catholic College, and is a member of the Diocesan Board of Education, South Glos Schools Forum and South Glos SACRE

If you have any questions about the work of the governing body, or would be interested in joining Governors in the future, please contact the School Office, or Clerk to the Governing Body, Kate Bashford.

**PTA news – Christmas Fair.
Saturday 10th December 11.30-1.30 at the Village Hall**

The PTA needs your help to make the Children's Xmas Fair magical! – Can you.....

Make a donation on Fri 18th November in exchange for non-uniform day? What we'd love are:

- * bottles, for water & wine
- * unwanted gifts, especially for men
- * chocolates
- * mince pies

Make soup? The *Hawkesbury Soup challenge* is an annual event - can you make 20+ portions to serve - will yours be the favourite flavour? We need 3 soup chefs

The inaugural 'Great Hawkesbury Bake Off'

Get your thinking caps on for 6 festively themed cupcakes, which can then be sold at the cake stall. Prizes for Wren, Robin, Swallow and Hawk class plus, 11-18's & 18+

Most importantly, come along, get your kids a 'xmas passport' sample the soup & have a festive afternoon before the village light switch on :-)

Term 1&2 calendar

Event	Date and time	Information
Interfaith day	15 th November	See above
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 can be found above.
Non-uniform day for Christmas fair prizes	18 th November	See above
Church family service	20 th November 10.30am	
Anti-bullying week	w/c 21 st November	See above
INSET day	25 th November	School will be closed to all children.
Christmas craft afternoon	29 th November	
Celebration assembly	2 nd December 2pm	Families are invited to attend.
Wrens & Robins Nativity services	6 th & 8 th December	See above
Assembly for Mrs Halstead	7 th December	2pm in the Hall.
Christmas fair	10 th December	This will take place in the Village Hall. 11.30am - 1.30pm
Swallows & Hawks performance	13 th December	See above
Christmas lunch	14 th December	
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/>

SPREAD A LITTLE HAPPINESS



Thank you for your interest in the Rotary Shoebox Scheme. Your participation will bring some happiness to a disadvantaged person or family in Eastern Europe. We have four types of content you can choose to fill boxes. Please see on the reverse of this leaflet

**Toys
Teenagers
Household
Baby**



When you have chosen please indicate on the box lid who the box is for.

In the case of toys & teenagers, additional information as to the suitability for boy or girl, along with age group is also indicated.

We ask for a donation of £2 per box for transport costs to Eastern Europe. The coins can be sellotaped to the box lid top right hand corner.

The contents should be of good quality, remembering that the recipient will be opening the box in eager anticipation, and especially with the toys for the children, quite possibly the first real gifts they have received for a very long time

Create a smile by filling one of our special boxes with gifts for someone in Eastern Europe

About the Rotary Shoebox Scheme

Our boxes are gifts for disadvantaged children & adults in Eastern Europe and are delivered all year round, not just at Christmas

Rotary has no political or religious affiliations. No leaflets are added to any box.

Rotary Shoebox Scheme

www.rotaryshoebox.org

Registered UK Charity 1091507

Supported by
Rotary
Great Britain & Ireland



GIFT SUGGESTIONS TO FILL YOUR BOX

Toys ~ For Boys & Girls

Cars, trucks, etc, balls, complete jigsaws, action figures, colouring books, pens, crayons, building blocks, yo-yo, bubble blowers, wooden and plastic toys, building blocks, pencil case, pencil sharpener, dominoes, modelling dough, plastercine & cutters, fluffy toys, dolls, stickers, writing pads, skipping rope, scarf, mittens / gloves, hat, harmonica, games, cards...

Teenagers ~ For young people up to 18 years age

Sportswear, scarf, gloves, socks, hat, football memorabilia, writing materials, games, playing cards, tennis ball, tooth brush & paste, roll-on deodorants, comb, mirror, costume jewellery, make-up, hair brush, toiletries, school stationery, clothing repair kits, sketch pad, coloured pens / pencils...

Household Goods ~ For older folk & families

Scarves, gloves, hats, wrapped soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, disposable razors, shampoo, soap flakes, pan scourers, antiseptic cream, bandages, face or body creams, cosmetics, pens, writing pad & envelopes, T lights, candles, sewing kit, scissors...

Baby ~ Age up to 12months

This is given to new mothers and can include baby wipes, non plastic cotton wool buds, baby shampoo, baby oil, talc powder, bonnet, booties and mitts, baby grow, baby blanket, small soft toy or plastic rattle...

For safety

Please securely sellotape tops of liquid containers.
Protect anything sharp and do not put anything sharp into the Toys box.

What NOT to include in boxes

Food, sweets, chocolate & drinks, battery operated toys, conflict related items, matches, inflammable liquids, inflammable aerosols (e.g.: deodorants & hair spray), seeds or any other living material, automatic washing machine powders, washing-up liquid (they often leak when laid flat)