

# Hawkesbury CE VC Primary School

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20<sup>th</sup> October 2023

## Term 1 highlights

It's been a busy first term! Thank you to all for your support of our school. Here are some of our highlights so far:

- We welcomed 9 new children to Wren Class.
- Our OFSTED inspection recognised many positive aspects of our school. The school was graded as a good school using OFSTED's criteria. The outcome was published in the Gazette and is soon to be published in the Yate and Chipping Sodbury Voice.
- We spent time as part of a recent INSET day redesigning our art curriculum to make it as good as it can be.
- Hawk Class began their weekly trumpet lessons and swimming lessons.
- The staff and children put on a wonderful Harvest service. Thank you to all who were able to come along and join us. Thank you for the generous donations for the Yate and Chipping Sodbury Foodbank.
- A large number of prospective parents came to look around our school ready for Reception 2024.
- Highlights from some of the children :  
My best part of the term was when we met our trumpet teacher, Chris. He has made me happy every Wednesday. (Phoebe)

My best work this term has been art as we have created ancient Greek monsters. (Elizabeth)

I enjoyed playing with my buddy. (Jacob)

I have enjoyed swimming because I have learned how to do it! (Ruby)

I loved singing Big Red Combine Harvester at the Harvest festival at the church. (Masie-Mae)

## Parent teacher meetings

Thank you to everyone for coming along to the first round of parent teacher meetings this year. Our next set will take place on 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> March.

If you were unable to make your appointment, please arrange to speak to your child's class teacher at another mutually convenient time.

## Black History Month

This week the children learnt about the lives of Princess Campbell and Paul Stephenson, both of whom were black Bristolians who made a difference to those around them by campaigning for a fairer approach to employment. Princess Campbell was the first black ward sister in Bristol and despite being the most experienced and best suited person for this role, it took her much longer than it should have done to get there. Paul Stephenson was involved in organising the Bristol bus boycott after his friend Guy Bailey was refused a job working on the buses due to the colour of his skin.

### **Attendance**

Attendance and punctuality for the term so far can be found in the table below.

Wrens	Robins	Swallows	Hawks	<b>Whole school total</b>
98.7%	96.7%	96.8%	94.3%	<b>96.3%</b>
3 lates	7 lates	9 lates	5 lates	<b>24 lates</b>

Please note: lates are from the past two weeks only, i.e. since the last newsletter.

Our whole school attendance target this year is 96% and no lates. Well done once again to Wren Class for maintaining such fantastic attendance so far this year!

The school is unable to authorise any term time holidays unless in exceptional circumstances. Please ensure this is discussed with Mr Riches and an absence request form completed.

We would like to remind families that every day in school counts so please do try to ensure your child is in school and on time every day. Thank you for your support.

### **Governor headlines**

Each term, a meeting of the full governing body for our Federation (including Iron Acton and Hawkesbury) takes place. Many aspects of school life were discussed and decisions made. The main headlines from the meeting were as follows:

- Governors reflected on the positive outcome of the recent Ofsted inspection at Hawkesbury.
- Governors agreed the priorities for the schools which are set out in the Federation Development Plan.
- Roles were agreed for Link Governors: this ensures effective arrangements for robust monitoring across the Federation.

### **Staff adverts**

A small number of staff vacancies have recently arisen at our school. Please take a look at the job adverts on eteach:

<https://www.eteach.com/jobs?empNo=25615>

Please speak to Mrs Parry, our school business manager, if you would like to know more about any of these roles.

### **Anti-bullying workshops**

As part of our annual visit from Unique Voice drama organisation, all classes will have the opportunity to take part in an age appropriate assembly and class workshop.

There will also be a parent workshop first thing on **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November** after morning drop off. Parents are invited to come into the hall and hear about how to spot the signs of bullying and what to do about it.

Thank you to the PTA for funding this important opportunity for the children.

### **Teacher training students**

Wren Class will be joined by 2 teacher training students for the first two weeks after half term. They will work under the direction and supervision of Mrs Heirani and Mrs Wilson for this two week placement. Their names are Amberley Britton and Kitty-Louise Patrick.

Mr George Riley continues to work alongside Mr Bryant in Swallow Class for the duration of Term 2.

### **Active travel – Modeshift award**

You may have spotted some new banners at the front of the school which aim to encourage active travel. We have decided to participate in a council initiative which recognises schools which promote active travel and we have begun by looking to achieve the bronze award. Schools which participate are awarded funding to support initiatives and this might include installation of a bike shelter for example.

We have set up a new page on the website (link below) which gives advice and support to promote active travel. There is also a picture of a 5 and 10 minute walking bubble map which support families to locate a good place from which to walk should they need to travel by car for part of the journey.

<https://hawkesburyprimaryschool.co.uk/school-info/healthy-schools/active-travel/>

Stickers like the one below have been placed on lamp posts around the village to show where the walking bubble begins. Please look out for them!



### **Celebration service awards last week**

#### Flourish awards

Wrens – Rosalie for her reading and writing. Robyn for being a brilliant mathematician

Robins – Josie for description when writing. Jack for neat presentation and thinking carefully about his writing

Swallows – Jack J for showing respect to a visitor. Aleksandar for applying bonds to maths work

Hawks – Elizabeth for her trumpet playing. Maisy for a good contribution in class

**Term 1 & 2 calendar**

<b>Event</b>	<b>Date and time</b>	<b>Information</b>
First day of Term 2	30.10.23	Poppies will be available to purchase over the two week period.
Flu immunisations	31.10.23	
Hawk Class swimming continues	31.10.23	
Year 1 phonics information session	02.11.23, 3pm	In Robin Class.
Parent council meeting	03.11.23, 1.30pm	Please inform class reps of any questions. Wren Class rep needed.
Celebration service	03.11.23, 2.30pm	Families are invited to join us.
Anti-bullying week	06.11.23 07.11.23 – parent workshop (see above)	This will include an opportunity for children to work with drama organisation, Unique Voice.
Remembrance parade – children needed in school uniform	12.11.23	Details tbc
Children in Need	17.11.23	Children will be invited to make a donation.
Celebration service	24.11.23, 2.30pm	Families are invited to join us.
Individual and sibling photographs	29.11.23	Younger children can join us in the hall from 8.30am
Non-uniform day for PTA Christmas fayre	01.12.23	Donations can be made for the tombola.
Nativity services	05.12.23, 1.30pm 06.12.23, 9.00am	In the school hall.
Bristol Old Vic Theatre School performance	07.12.23	Children will watch The Elves and the Shoemaker in the hall. Paid for by the church.
Christmas fayre	09.12.23 11.30am – 1.00pm	In the village hall.
Key Stage 2 pantomime	12.12.23 1.30pm and 5.30pm	In the school hall.
Christingle service	15.12.23 9.30am	This service will take place at church. Families are invited.
Final day of term 2	15.12.23	
First day of term 3	03.01.24	

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

**Term dates for 2023-2024**

<b>Term</b>	<b>Starts</b>	<b>Ends</b>
Term 1	Friday 1 September 2023	Friday 20 October 2023
Term 2	Monday 30 October 2023	Friday 15 December 2023
Term 3	Tuesday 2 January 2024	Friday 9 February 2024
Term 4	Monday 19 February 2024	Thursday 28 March 2024
Term 5	Monday 15 April 2024	Friday 24 May 2024
Term 6	Monday 3 June 2024	Tuesday 23 July 2024