

**Hawkesbury CE VC Primary School**  
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**Executive Headteacher: Mr M Riches**

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30<sup>th</sup> January 2026

### **Safeguarding updates**

All staff at Hawkesbury are trained in dealing with safeguarding matters. If you ever have any concerns about the safety of a child, please speak to a member of staff. Mr Riddington is our designated safeguarding lead, and he has additional safeguarding responsibilities. Mr Riches and Mrs Wilson are our deputy safeguarding leads.

#### Parent webinars on county lines and criminal exploitation

The Ivison Trust (formerly Pace) is a national charity working to keep children safe from exploitation by supporting parents, disrupting exploiters, and working in partnership with police and family services. Their work is grounded in a trauma-informed, family-centred approach.

During March 2026, the Ivison Trust is delivering a series of live webinars for parents and carers focused on county lines and criminal exploitation. The sessions help parents understand how exploitation happens, how children are groomed, what warning signs to look out for, and where to access advice and support. Each webinar includes local context, time for questions, and input from a parent with lived experience.

More information and booking details are available at:

<https://ivisontrust.org.uk/webinars/>

#### NSPCC resources

The NSPCC has a range of resources available to support parents and carers. This includes matters such as online safety and healthy relationships. Please take a look at their website for further information: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/advice-for-families/>

### **Attendance matters**

Thank you all for your support in ensuring your child is in school and on time every day. This is the best way to help them to succeed in school. Please be reminded that, for this reason, term time absence requests will only ever be agreed in exceptional circumstances. If you would like to request a term time absence please speak to the Headteacher in the first instance.

Our whole school target for this year is 96.5%. Our current attendance is 97.3% - this is fantastic! Attendance for each class currently stands as follows:

Wrens: 98.1%

Robins: 98%

Swallows: 97.2%

Hawks: 96.5%

Please be reminded that the NHS has advice and support to help families determine whether or not their child can attend school: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

### **Children's mental health week**

Children's Mental Health Week highlights the importance of caring for mental wellbeing as well as physical health. During the week, children will be encouraged to talk about their feelings, learn ways to manage worries, and understand that it's okay to ask for help, while also exploring a sense of belonging and their place in the world.

Children will take part in an art activity to create a "belonging map," showing the people, places, and things that are important to them. Parents are invited into school to view the children's work, on Friday 13th February at 2.30pm, as part of our final celebration assembly.

### **LGBT history month**

An important piece of the work we do at Hawkesbury is to promote and celebrate diversity in all its forms. We are committed to ensuring that all members of our school community and beyond are shown care and compassion so that all can flourish. This is why we are recognising and celebrating LGBT history month this year.

Each class will spend time learning about the achievements of people from the LGBT community who have made a difference to the world around them.

As part of LGBT History Month, **Wren class** will be learning about Charles Beyer, an important figure from the Industrial Revolution. Charles Beyer was a successful locomotive engineer who co-founded Beyer, Peacock & Co., a company that produced steam engines used across the world. Through this learning, children will explore how people from all backgrounds have contributed to history. To support this work, the class will create a model locomotive and carriages in rainbow colours to represent the Pride flag and our school's message that everyone is included and respected.

This month, **Robin class** are celebrating LGBT History Month by learning about Jemma Redmond, a scientist who helped create 3D printers that can make living tissues and organs. She shows us how science and creativity can help people. To bring this to life, the children will take part in "Invent Your Own Helping Tool", designing inventions that could help people, animals, or the environment.

For our activity, **Swallows** will learn about the life and achievements of Barbara Burford, then work in small groups to create a collage that represents equality and diversity, inspired by Barbara's push for equality within healthcare. They will use magazines, newspapers, and printed images to find visuals that reflect these themes and write captions explaining their choices. If any families have spare materials they want to bring in and share for the activity, that would be greatly appreciated.

In **Hawk class**, we will also celebrate the life and achievements of Charles Beyer, who was a prominent engineer in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Brought up in Germany, he moved to England where he became a leading designer of railway locomotives. His emphasis on quality and standardisation was instrumental in the success of the railways, which rapidly expanded during his lifetime in both this country and the British Empire. We have a rich history of art that captures the changing face of transport in our country. For our activity, we will design our own transport poster, featuring a Beyer-designed locomotive, together with carriages carrying key themes of inclusion.

### Celebrating this week

*I apologise that the following information has not been shared recently. It completed slipped off my radar! Mr Riches*

The following children were celebrated during our Friday celebration service for 'flourishing in their learning':

Wrens – **Felicity** and **James** for showing great effort and attitude in their learning.

Robins – **Avalon** for taking responsibility for her own learning and doing well in maths. **Kitty** for joining in and showing a positive attitude to learning.

Swallows – **Gracie** for perseverance in mathematicians. **Thea** for working hard in mathematicians.

Hawks – **Makena** for excellent dialogue writing. **Aleksandar** for good contributions during art.

Well done to each of you for your efforts.

### Term 3 calendar

Event	Date and time	Information
LGBT history month begins	01.02.26	
Children's mental health week	02.02.26	
Wren Class parent workshop	05.02.26, 2.15pm	
Smartphone free childhood meeting	06.02.26, 2.30pm	Please see email sent out last week.
Robin Class visit to The Big Sing	09.02.26	A separate letter has been sent.
Y5/6 dodgeball at Yate Academy	09.02.26, after school	A separate letter has been sent.
Safer internet day	10.02.26	
Outdoor learning day	12.02.26	We aim to spend the day learning whilst outside.
Hawk Class visit to Aust for fossil hunting	13.02.26	A separate letter has been sent.
Celebration service	13.02.26, 2.30pm	Families are invited to join us in the hall.
Last day of Term 3	13.02.26, 3pm	
First day of Term 4	23.02.26, 8.30am	

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

Term dates for this year and the next academic year can also be found on the school website.