



THE HAWTHORNS PRIMARY SCHOOL



THEME OF NEXT WEEK: Thankfulness

AIM: To reflect on where our food comes from and to say thank you to those who provide it for us



Autumn Term



Dear Parents and Carers,

We have made it through to the end of the first half term of this year and it has been a really busy one! I am pleased to say that even with the challenges of Covid, we have still continued with our focus on improving teaching and learning. We have now purchased the Read Write Inc scheme and will be launching it on our INSET day on 1st November. We will give you more information about this and how it will develop our teaching of phonics and reading next half term.

The PTA's AGM meeting was a success, earlier this week, with so many parents attending. Thank you! We said a heartfelt goodbye to a few of our existing dedicated members and welcomed the new Committee. Once again I want to say a massive thank you to all five of our committee members: Jo Matthews, Beth Poole, Angela Cox, Abby Taylor and Tabitha Rigden, for all their hard work and dedication in the last two years. I look forward to working with Clare Gunby, our new PTA chair, and all our new members in the coming months.

Thank you to you all for sending in donations for our Harvest celebrations. We were able to make a wonderful display out of all the food that we collected and will be donating it all to the Wokingham Foodbank. The children have created some wonderful art work around Harvest which is also displayed in our school hall, and they performed songs and poems in our virtual Harvest assembly today.

I hope you were all able to catch up with your child's class teacher during our parents evenings this week and felt fully informed of how your child has settled in their new class and their progress so far. If you missed these due to other commitments, please do find the time to arrange a phone call with your child's class teacher after half term.

I hope that all children, parents and staff get a well-deserved rest over the holiday and stay safe and healthy.

We look forward to seeing everyone back in school on Tuesday 2nd November.

Best wishes

Ms . Razeghi

Dates for your diary

October

Mon 25th to Fri 29th **Autumn Half Term**

November

Mon 1st **INSET Day—Pupils not in school**

Tues 2nd **Children return to school**

Tues 2nd **PTA Christmas card artwork deadline**

Mon 8th **Prospective parents open afternoon 1.30pm**

Fri 12th **Prospective parents open morning 10am**

[\(Please click here to refer to the school website for our full Academic Term dates\)](#)

Black History month

PROUD TO BE..... This October we have decided to not only celebrate Black History Month, we are going to extend our appreciation and learning throughout the year, encompassing this year's motto, 'Proud to be...'. This will give all year groups the opportunity to explore, understand and appreciate persons of significance, those who have directly and indirectly contributed to the rich history of our lives and how we live. Have you ever thought about the advanced architecture of 5,000 year old pyramids in Ancient Egypt? Or the footsteps of Black African Roman soldiers who defended Hadrian's wall in 140 AD? Year 5 are sharing their musical appreciation of the extremely talented Kanneh-Masons family, alongside their own violin lessons, whilst Year 2 are looking at Engineers - specifically Lonnie Johnson who invented the SuperSoaker! We will be discovering more about mathematicians, astronauts, authors, poets, historians, sports persons... just to name a few. We hope to share more of our learning as the year progresses.

Proud to be part of The Hawthorns!

Mrs Hedges



Harvest celebrations

We are so thankful for all the donations received from all the year groups and what a wonderful display we had!

All these donations will be greatly received by the Wokingham Food Bank.

We celebrated with a virtual harvest assembly with poems and songs.

Thank you!



PTA Christmas Cards

All completed artwork for the PTA Christmas Card Project needs to be handed back to class teachers on TUESDAY 2 NOVEMBER (the first day back at school after half term).

Please remember to place your order and make payment online at www.cauliflowercards.co.uk using your unique code, that can be found at the top of your order form, before returning the form to school.

If you have any questions please email pta@hawthorns.wokingham.sch.uk

Thank you to everyone who has completed and returned forms already. The creativity shown by the children is fantastic! Remember every order placed earns funds for our children and the school.



Note from our Governors

Are you enthusiastic about education? Do you have some time to spare? If so, you may be just the person we need!

The Hawthorns Primary School currently has a vacancy for a Co-Opted Governor and we would particularly welcome applications from people with experience in IT, although this is not essential.

For more information about the role, please contact Judith Shepherd, Chair of Governors at governors@hawthorns.wokingham.sch.uk

WE NEED YOU!



Attendance

Please note that all Covid related absence, will continue to be authorised (whether it is for isolation while waiting for PCR results, the presence of any Covid symptoms, isolation due to a confirmed positive case or isolation due to being a sibling of a confirmed positive case). Thus please continue to keep children who are unwell or are isolating at home for the recommended period of time. Remote education will continue to be provided for all children who are well enough to work from home.

COVID-19

Additional Testing Provision During Half Term

In response to issues raised with accessing PCR test sites, Wokingham have arranged for two Mobile Testing Units (MTU's) to come into the borough for the half term period to assist with access to testing. Tests should be booked in the usual way, via the Government website, selecting either Wokingham venue: A) Shute End or B) Thames Valley Park. It will be possible to access testing with an appointment as a walk-in or drive-through.



Types of tests and when to use them:

Please note that LFT tests should only be used for asymptomatic individuals; lateral flow tests **should not** be used to confirm COVID in anyone with symptoms.

Furthermore, LTF tests for regular asymptomatic testing are not currently recommended for use in children under secondary-school age, therefore, children should only be tested as a close contact of a known case or if they are symptomatic; in both cases this should be by a PCR test.



Face Coverings

As we have a number of confirmed coronavirus cases across the school, we would really encourage everyone to please continue to wear face coverings when dropping off and collecting their children

Open Days

Monday 8th and Friday 12th November

Mon 8th

Prospective parents open afternoon 1.30pm

Fri 12th

Prospective parents open morning 10am



To report absences, please email absence@hawthorns.wokingham.sch.uk

All other enquiries, please email office@hawthorns.wokingham.sch.uk

<http://www.hawthorns.wokingham.sch.uk/website/home>