

# Highlees News



October 2023

Dear All,

I do hope that your children are enjoying this first half term, in their learning. I know for some, it is a very long first term and so staff and pupils will be eager for the fast approaching half term break.

We have had a great start to the new academic year and all children seem to have settled back in well to their new classes. We welcomed our youngest children to Reception full time; I know that they are working hard with the adults, learning structures and timetables for the day.

We have a lot of exciting things coming up next half term and we hope to get even more parents coming into school to see what your children are learning about.

Thank you for everyone that came along to our Parents Evening nights this week for Years 1-6. Mrs Hallam, our SENDCO, also had some visits- please remember to book a telephone appointment if you were unable to make the evening. We love sharing what your children have been learning about in school and we want to be able to tell you all about their successes and next steps in their learning.

This year, we want to try and get parents coming into school. We have already put on some sessions for parents about Phonics, Reading, Wellbeing and Behaviour. We have also managed to squeeze in two open days with four lots of tours. It has really been a busy half term. We will continue to put on sessions for our parents, please do let us know if there is anything in particular that you think would be useful to parents and we will see if we can accommodate.

You may have seen, we constantly have new children starting at our school- one of my favourite parts of my job is showing everyone round. Please, if you know anyone with a child wishing to start school in September 2024, please do let them know about Highlees.

I look forward to seeing you all  
Mrs Albert

## Wellbeing Award for Schools



We are very proud to announce that we have successfully secured the Wellbeing award. It was recognised how much we work with our staff, parents and most importantly, children on wellbeing. Thank you to the staff, parents and children who supported us in the day and speaking with the verifier.



## Keeping up to date

Don't forget you can keep up to date with all things Highlees by following us on Facebook or Twitter, you can even check out our [Highlees website](#)'s class pages and school calendar with all up and coming events or have all of this direct on your phone by downloading our [School App](#)

## **Big brother house this is Davina, PLEASE DO NOT SWEAR OR BE ABUSIVE TO STAFF/ OTHER PARENTS!**

We have a zero tolerance to swearing/ abuse; verbal or physical, on our school premises, this includes before and after school as stated in our Parent Code of Conduct. Please be mindful of the language you use whilst dropping off and collecting your children. Please also be mindful of your language between yourselves round our young children and staff. Thank you in advance for your support.

### **Nut Free**

We welcome children bringing in healthy snacks such as fruit and cereal bars for playtime however can we remind you that we are a nut free school.

We also encourage the children to bring water to school in a named water bottle.



**Attendance Matters:** Children are considered compulsory school age from 1<sup>st</sup> September, or 1<sup>st</sup> January or 1<sup>st</sup> April following their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday. **There is an expectation that all children come to school and arrive on time.**



If you are struggling to get your child into school, please contact our Attendance Officer, Mrs Hamlet. In the next few weeks we will have Sarina from the Local Authority coming in to hold a Parent Meeting on Attendance.

### **Mobile Phones and Apple Watches**

If your child is in Year 5 or 6 and walks home alone, they may bring a mobile phone to school. If a child has a mobile in school we ask that, they hand it into the office upon arrival of the school gates and collect it at the end of the school day. If a child attends a sports club, they can collect their mobile phone at the end of the club from the school office.

### **Autumn Disco**

The children will be having their Autumn Disco on the penultimate day before we break up. Please may I remind you that it can get easily congested when collecting and dropping off your child and so please bare this in mind and come early. We hope to see as many children as we can on the evening.

### **School uniform**

We are having a big push on school uniform, we would like to see all the children wearing the correct uniform which is:

- Red jumper or cardigan
- Grey or black trousers or skirt
- White top



We specifically have tried to make it easy and affordable for parents to get this uniform as it is universal and you should be able to pick it up from any local superstore.

### **Dates for this half term: Please check the Parent Planner**



30th Oct	Professional Day
31st Oct	Back to school
2nd Nov	Bonfire Lunch- Dolce
13th Nov	Remembrance Day Service
13-17th Nov	Anti-Bullying week
17th Nov	Children In Need
28th Nov	Year 3 Theatre visit
7th Dec	Rock Steady Concert
8th Dec	Christmas Jumper Day
8th Dec	Christmas Shopping fair
11-15th Dec	Christmas Performances
18th Dec	Christmas Party afternoon
19th Dec	Break up for Christmas
20th Dec	Professionals Day

**Celebration assemblies on a Friday will take place alternate weeks depending on the year group. Please check the planner.**

### **Scooter / Bike Safety**

Please may I remind everyone to walk with your bike or scooter as soon as you enter the school gates/ site. It is a Health and Safety risk if people are on this equipment and could cause an accident.

