

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNCIL
Education Department

Highworth Combined School & Nursery

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Newsletter: 16th December 2022 **Issue:** 14

Letters sent home & e-School messages this week: After School Clubs Letters (Y1-Y6), School Closure, Early Years Christmas Party (Nursery – Rec), Gymnastics Event (Y1), Remote Learning (Y1-Y6), Staffing Update (Nurs & Class 1PD)

Dear all,

We have almost made it to the end of term.... And what a term it has been! When we saw the wintery weather on Monday, who could have predicted it would in-fact be a burst water pipe which would shut our school; not the snow! As ever, we are so appreciative of the support that you show us when we are thrown into difficult situations, such as opening later or having to move to remote learning.

Despite the many disruptions caused, we were delighted that we managed to hold both performances of the KS1 Nativity, The Magical Jigsaw. For many of the children, it was their first time performing on a stage in front of a large crowd and we are so proud of them all. Thank you to everyone who contributed to its success.

Children and staff alike thoroughly enjoyed the Christmas lunch in the hall today. Music, hats, good food and great company... all made possible thanks to the hard work of our MDS Team and our Caterers. Sue, Debbie and Mandy.

As this is the last newsletter I will send before the Christmas holidays, I would like to bring you up to date with staff departures for the new year. Sadly, we are saying good bye to a few members of staff this Christmas. Mrs Sturgeon has decided that a shorter commute to work would be beneficial and is taking on a role at a school more local to home. Mrs Sturgeon started teaching here at Highworth over 13 years ago, and has had such a significant impact on our children's enjoyment of and participation within sport – and all things fun! Also leaving us is Mrs Phillips who has been teaching at Highworth for 17 years. She has taught across many year groups during this time and is looking forward to the challenges that teaching in a new school will offer her. Mrs Randall started working at Highworth in 1989; after so many years of loyal and continued expertise within our Hearing Department, she has decided it is time to put her skills to use elsewhere; she will be working at a charity as a Residential Worker. After 12 years of support and hard work within the Hearing Department, Miss Hannaway has decided that she would like to spend more time at home with her young daughter.

Ms Howell started working at Highworth 6 years ago and during this time has supported many children with patience and kindness. She is stepping out of education and will be embarking on a new and exciting career which enables her to spend more time with her family. Mrs Dorling has also worked here for 6 years as a Key Worker in the Nursery. She has been a hugely valued member of the team and is ready to take on the challenges of working at a different Nursery. Mrs McKechnie has also been a Key Worker in our Nursery since 2019 and she feels the time is right to move onto a new challenge. And finally, we are so happy for Miss Dowling who will be leaving us to take up the Deputy Head role at a local school; we know how lucky they are to be gaining her wealth of knowledge and expertise. We are going to miss everyone terribly but I am sure you will join me in thanking them for their years of hard work and wishing them all the best of luck for their future ventures.

We were delighted this week to welcome back Tina Lawrence who returned from maternity leave. She will be working alongside Jo Murado to teach 1PD from January. We look forward to updating you with more information regarding new appointments for the supporting roles in the new year.

A reminder that there are Christmas parties on Monday for all children, and that school finishes at 2.15pm on Tuesday. I hope you all have plenty of family time over the coming festive break and look forward to seeing the children back in school on Thursday 5th January.

Clare Dimishky

ATTENDANCE

The display board at the front of the school shows each year group's weekly attendance.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE TARGET IS 96%

BEST ATTENDANCE: 95.1%

(CLASS 6S)

WELL DONE

WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE:

81.4%

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES THIS WEEK:

Monday 19th December: (pm)

Christmas Parties

Mr Marvel Show

Tuesday 20th December:

9am: Y5 Christmas Assembly – Y5 parents & carers are invited to attend

2.15pm: School closes early today.
Please be on time to collect your child.

**SCHOOL RE-OPENS TO CHILDREN ON
THURSDAY 5TH JANUARY**

PARENT ZONE

Fruit & Milk:

Please help yourself to any unused fruit or milk which will be put out on a table by the Quad gate every Friday at the end of the school day.

Lost Property:

Please help yourself to any unclaimed lost property which will be periodically put out on a table by the Quad gate.



Buckinghamshire Family Learning



Family Learning Schools courses – January 2023*

*Unless stated otherwise

Welcome to Family Learning Schools. All our workshops and five-week courses are **FREE** for parents and carers to help support your understanding of the curriculum and help your child make progress at school. Booking is essential. **To enrol onto the course, use the QR code* click the link or contact the Enrolment Team on 01296 383582.**

For more information, please contact a member of our Family Learning Schools team:
Kathryn: 07768 044813 Lou: 07814 305345 Nina: 07710 145234

Reception: Support your Child with Phonics and Reading (Online)



Stories

Find out how phonics is taught and learn simple, fun activities and games to reinforce their phonic knowledge and skills.



Monday 9 January, 9:30am-11.30am
Tuesday 10 January, 9:30am-11:30am
Wednesday 11 January, 9:30am-11.30am

Years 1&2: Support your Child with Phonics and Reading (Online)



Stories

Find out how phonics is taught and learn simple, fun activities and games to reinforce their phonic knowledge and skills.



Monday 9 January, 7pm-9pm
Tuesday 10 January, 12:30pm-2:30pm
Wednesday 11 January, 9:30am-11:30am
Thursday 12 January, 9:30am-11:30am

Years 3&4: Support Your Child with Reading and Comprehension (Online)



Reading

Find out what is expected from your child at this age and how they are taught in school. Learn simple, fun activities to help them to progress and reinforce these important skills and understanding.



Monday 9 January, 9:30am-11:30am
Wednesday 11 January, 12:30pm-2:30pm
Thursday 12 January, 7pm-9pm

Years 5&6: Develop your Child's Reading and Comprehension (Online)



Reading

Find out what is expected from your child at this age. Learn fun and easy ways to develop their reading and explore the different question types to ask to improve their comprehension skills.



Wednesday 11 January, 7pm-9pm
Thursday 12 January, 9:30am-11:30am

*To use the QR code: Hold your phone camera over the QR code image so it is clearly visible on the screen. Your phone will read the code and automatically redirect you to BAL Family Learning website.



Buckinghamshire Family Learning



Family Learning Schools courses – January 2023*

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
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<p>Years 3 to 6: Help your Child Build Confidence and Resilience Workshop (Online)</p> <p>Explore ways to build your child's confidence, self-esteem and improve their resilience, both at school and home.</p> <p>Tuesday 17 January, 7pm-9pm</p>	<p>Years 3 to 6: Help your Child Cope with Stress and Anxiety Workshop (Online)</p> <p>Explore strategies to help your child cope with setbacks, stress, and anxiety and how to support them to improve their resilience.</p> <p>Tuesday 24 January, 7pm-9pm</p>
<p>Years 3 to 6: Help Your Child to Develop Positive Friendships and Manage Peer Pressure Workshop (Online)</p> <p>Explore ways to support your child build and maintain positive relationships. Help them deal with bullying and other peer on peer abuse, and online safety and consent.</p> <p>Tuesday 31 January, 7pm-9pm</p>	<p>Years 3 to 6: Happy, Healthy and Safe Online-tips to help your Child Workshop (Online)</p> <p>Explore practical ideas to help your child to stay happy, healthy, and safe online, through child-friendly activities.</p> <p>Tuesday 7 February, 7pm-9pm</p>

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 Hazlemere
church

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
AMERSHAM ROAD
HAZLEMERE
HP15 7PZ

WARM WELCOME

Offering a free, warm,
welcoming space for the
public over the winter months

2-5pm
TUES / WEDS / THURS

hello@hazlemere.org
www.hazlemere.org

 Hazlemere
church

The Warm Space at Holy Trinity Church, (Amersham Road, Hazlemere, HP15 7PZ) opens today. It will be running from 2-5pm every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday in the run up to Christmas, for anyone wishing to access a warm space in which to work (free WiFi), relax or meet for a chat. We'll be providing free hot and cold drinks, toys for children and puzzles and games for adults.

For more information and to find other local warm spaces visit the Warm Welcome website

<https://www.warmwelcome.uk/>