

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNCIL
Education Department

Highworth Combined School & Nursery

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Newsletter: 24th February 2023 Issue: 21

Letters sent home & e-School messages this week: Industrial Action, Nursery Newsletter, Parent Consultations (Rec-Y6), Y3 Basketball Event, PTA Meeting

Dear all

It seems a long time ago already, but I hope you enjoyed the half term break and the spring like weather we experienced for most of it.

The most pressing issue I think is to inform you of what will happen with regard to school operations on Wednesday 1st March. The school will be open as usual to most children. I am writing separately to families with children in classes where industrial action means that the class will be closed for the day. If you do not receive such a letter, please ensure that your child attends school as normal.

The decision to strike has not been taken lightly. I hope the following will help you to understand some of the current pressures on the education sector:

Teacher pay has declined by 23% in real-terms since 2010 and support staff by 27% over the same period.

The average 5% pay rise for teachers this year is some 7% behind inflation. In the midst of a cost of living crisis, that is an unsustainable situation.

Poor pay is directly contributing to a staff recruitment and retention crisis. It is becoming more and more difficult for us to recruit the amazing staff your children currently work with.

No additional money was provided for schools to meet the cost of this year's 5% pay rise. Existing budgets have had to be stretched to provide this much needed increase. This means for example: fewer adults supporting your children's learning; fewer 'extras' such as after school sports clubs and not being able to replace old and poorly functioning laptops and iPads.

Every teacher taking strike action at Highworth regrets the impact of school closure. They have thought long and hard about whether it is the right thing to do. Most are doing it to highlight the very real and significant impact upon the quality of education your children receive.

Please remember that it is World Book Day on Thursday and that we are looking forward to seeing all the children in pyjamas!

Very best wishes

Clare Pankhania

ATTENDANCE

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

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE TARGET IS 96%

BEST ATTENDANCE: 97%

(CLASS: 2M)

WELL DONE

WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE:

93.4%

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES NEXT WEEK:

Monday 27th February 7.30pm

PTA Meeting at school – all are invited

Wednesday 1st March

3.15pm: Football Match at Manor Farm School

Thursday 2nd March

World Book Day – pupils can come to school in their pyjamas.

Friday 3rd March (pm)

Y3 Basketball Sports Hub Event at Holmer Green Senior School



LOST BICYCLE

We have been notified by a local resident that a bike was left on the grass verge outside her house in Tyzack Road during half term.

If it belongs to your child, please come to the school office and we will pass on the resident's email address so that you can arrange to collect it.

FEBRUARY 2023

Primary Schools Parent Resource List from
They Are The Future parent support site,
brought to you by Everlief Child Psychology.



Anxiety

Overcoming Anxiety Together: How to Help Your Child With Anxiety

<https://www.theyarethefuture.co.uk/anxiety-symptoms-children/>

Helping Your Child Cope With Worry

<https://www.theyarethefuture.co.uk/helping-your-child-cope-with-worry/>

The Ultimate Parent Guide to Resolving Night Time Anxiety in Children

<https://www.theyarethefuture.co.uk/night-time-anxiety-children/>

Phobias: Supporting Your Child

<https://www.theyarethefuture.co.uk/phobia-supporting-your-child/>

Separation Anxiety at School Drop-Off: The 7 Most Effective Strategies

<https://www.theyarethefuture.co.uk/separation-anxiety-school-drop-off/>

How to Deal with Morning Anxiety in Children

<https://www.theyarethefuture.co.uk/morning-anxiety-children/>

FEBRUARY 2023

Secondary Schools Parent Resource List from They Are The Future parent support site, brought to you by Everlief Child Psychology.



Emotional Wellbeing

Stress in Children: Powerful Action Steps for Parents [+ Free PDF Guide]

<https://www.theyarethefuture.co.uk/how-stressed-is-your-child/>

5 Emotional Regulation Activities For Children

<https://www.theyarethefuture.co.uk/emotional-regulation-activities-children/>

When Your Child Won't or Can't Talk About Their Feelings

<https://www.theyarethefuture.co.uk/when-your-child-wont-or-cant-talk-about-their-feelings/>

Self-Esteem, Confidence and Resilience

Children's Self-Esteem: Three Actionable Steps to Build It Up

<https://www.theyarethefuture.co.uk/childrens-self-esteem-three-actionable-steps-2/>

10 Best Self Esteem Books For 10 Year Olds

<https://www.theyarethefuture.co.uk/self-esteem-books-10-year-olds/>

8 Ideas For Building Resilience in Children

<https://www.theyarethefuture.co.uk/building-resilience-children/>

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Anger

Powerful Anger Iceberg Worksheet For Children (Free Printable)

<https://www.theyarethefuture.co.uk/anger-iceberg-worksheet/>

When Your Anxious Child Looks Like an Angry Child

<https://www.theyarethefuture.co.uk/anxious-child-looks-like-an-angry-child/>

Why Is My 10 Year Old Daughter So Moody?

<https://www.theyarethefuture.co.uk/10-year-old-daughter-moody/>

Behaviour

7 Easy Ways to Manage Temper Tantrums in Your 7 Year Old

<https://www.theyarethefuture.co.uk/7-easy-ways-to-manage-temper-tantrums-in-your-7-year-old/>

Managing Difficult Behaviour at Home

<https://www.theyarethefuture.co.uk/managing-difficult-behaviour/>

5 Quick Tips for Staying Calm With Your Child

<https://www.theyarethefuture.co.uk/staying-calm-with-your-child/>

Is Your Child's Behaviour Difficult After School?

<https://www.theyarethefuture.co.uk/childs-behaviour-difficult-after-school/>

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Screen Time

Screen Time For Children and Teens: Managing the Boundaries

<https://www.theyarethefuture.co.uk/screen-time-children-teens/>

What Is Screen Addiction And How Can You Help Your Child?

<https://www.theyarethefuture.co.uk/screen-addiction-child/>

Parent Support

**Adult and Child Mental Health: Strategies for Supporting Yourself
and Your Family**

<https://www.theyarethefuture.co.uk/adult-and-child-mental-health/>

Sibling Rivalry Solutions: A Parent's Guide

<https://www.theyarethefuture.co.uk/sibling-rivalry/>

Parenting Tween Boys

<https://www.theyarethefuture.co.uk/parenting-tween-boys/>

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Autism

Autism and Relationships: Supporting Young People

<https://www.theyarethefuture.co.uk/autism-relationships-supporting-young-people/>

Autism and Anxiety: Supporting Children in an Imperfect World

<https://www.theyarethefuture.co.uk/autism-anxiety-in-children/>

Empowering Autistic Children: Top 10 Autism Classroom Ideas For Every Teacher and Parent to Know

<https://www.theyarethefuture.co.uk/autism-classroom-ideas/>

How to Prevent Meltdowns in Children of All Ages

<https://www.theyarethefuture.co.uk/how-to-prevent-meltdowns-in-children-of-all-ages/>

ADHD

ADHD Worksheets For Kids To Empower & Inspire {Free Printable}

<https://www.theyarethefuture.co.uk/adhd-worksheets-kids/>

Understanding Your Child's Attention Difficulties

<https://www.theyarethefuture.co.uk/attention-difficulties/>

5 ADHD Strengths To Harness In Your Child

<https://www.theyarethefuture.co.uk/adhd-strengths-in-your-child/>