

# Highgate Primary School Newsletter



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@HighgateSileby



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We are really looking forward to welcoming all the children back on **8th March**. Please make sure you have read the information sent out about expectations for pick up/drop off etc.

**Drinks Bottles:** As we move towards the summer term, this is a reminder that all children should bring in their own drinks bottles (and take them home daily to be washed). Children should also take these into the hall with them at lunchtime.

**Forest School:** There will be **no** further Forest School sessions until after Easter. We will send information out to you shortly with how these sessions will look.

**World Book Days:** We will be taking part in the National World Book Day events on **Thursday 4th March** that will include children coming to school in their Pyjamas (with something warm and appropriate underneath) and participating in the online workshops. We have also asked children to make some "Story Jars" and film themselves reading a story, poem or excerpt from a book to send on Class Dojo to their teacher.

On **Friday 12th March** we will hold our second World Book Day as we will have all the children back in school then. Again, this will be a Pyjama Day and children can bring in a book of their choice from home too. It would be lovely to see as many Story Jars coming in as possible to be able to decorate our new library. Those doing PE on a Friday should can wear PE kit underneath Pyjamas or bring it separately to change into.

**School Dinners:** There will be a two choice menu available to book through Parent Pay until Easter. A new menu will be released after Easter (these will be available to book later).

**Breakfast Club:** Breakfast Club returns to its original start time (7.45am) from Monday 8th March (food will once again be served). To maintain social distancing we have moved this to the Hall. Please refer to the booking instructions sent on 1st March.

## Covid-safe Expectations:

- All children are expected to return from 8th March.
- If your child has symptoms, keep them off and get them tested.
- Respect 2m social distancing markers around school
- Please use the 1 way system for pick up/drop off
- To contact staff members, please phone or email to avoid having to come to the office.

## Dates for your Diary

### MARCH

**4th**—World Book Day—Pyjama Day & online workshops

**8th**—expected date for all children to return (**government decision**)

**12th** —Second World Book Day—Pyjama Day & Bring a book in!

**19th**—Red Nose Day

**26th**—School Closes for Easter

### APRIL

**1st**—Join Bradgate Education Trust

**12th**—School Opens after Easter

**27th**—Parents Evening (virtual) **TBC**

**28th**—Parents Evening (virtual) **TBC**

### MAY

**3rd** - May Day Bank Holiday

**31st** - Half Term begins

### JUNE

**7th**—children return from half term

**11th** — Class & Y6 Leavers Photos

**15th**—Sports Afternoon (provisional)

**17th**—Reserve Sports Afternoon (provisional)

### JULY

**9th**— End of Academic Year

**Story Jars:** We are starting to see some amazing Story Jars coming in. Keep up the good work; we can't wait to display them in our new library.





**Remote Learning Questionnaire Feedback:** Thank you to those of you who responded to the remote learning questionnaire at the end of January. This enabled us to make a few changes to help address your feedback. In particular, many of you requested more live zoom sessions so we instigated daily register sessions. These allow children to catch up with their friends and as well as enabling teachers to check how children were finding their work. The vast majority of you said that you had sufficient devices for your children (and where we had lent equipment this had helped). The majority of you also said you were happy with the amount of work being set, while a small number said you would have liked a bit more and a small number felt there was too much. Teachers have tried to be accommodating in offering extension work but have also understood the difficulties many parents have in juggling work and child care. With a bit of luck, we hope there will be no further need to lock down in the future.

**A few staffing changes:** We are very pleased to announce that Mrs Gamble has given birth to a healthy baby girl. Mr Hackett will be working with Year 2 until her return. Mr Pearce will be working with Year 4. Mrs Allen will be going on maternity in June. She will be working (with help from Mrs Palmer) remotely with the children until May half term. We look forward to welcoming back Miss Drury (who worked with us for a while in Year 4) from June onwards.

#### Return of Books / Laptops

Please return any borrowed reading books and laptops on the first day back (Monday 8th March).

**PE Days:** All children to come in PE kit (except EYFS who are learning to get changed). Where possible PE will be done outside so children need appropriate outdoor clothing.

**EYFS** - Thursdays (please bring kit in on Mondays)

**Y1** - Polar Bears Monday / Penguins Wednesday all Tuesday

**Y2** - Mondays & Fridays

**Y3** - Tuesdays & Wednesdays

**Y4** - Mondays & Thursdays

**Y5** - Thursdays & Fridays

**Y6** - Wednesdays & Fridays

**Parents Evenings:** These will be re-scheduled to slightly later than normal in the year to allow children to settle back into school following the lockdown. Dates are on the front page.

**After School Clubs:** School run after school clubs will resume for limited numbers and set year group bubbles after Easter. Please look out for further information coming shortly.

#### Pick up & drop off:

This is a reminder about the pick up / drop off arrangements.

**EYFS**—Drop off 9am. Collect 3.05pm, prompt. **Lower Playground Gate.\***

**Years 1 & 2** —Drop off 8.45am. Collect at 3.10pm (Y1) and 3.15pm (Y2). **Top Pedestrian Gate.**

**Years 3-6**—Drop off at 8.50am. Collect Y3 at 3.10pm, Y4 at 3.15pm. Y5&6 collected at 3.20pm (or they can walk home independently). **Lower Playground Gate.\***

#### Collection/Drop off points:

**\*If you have children in Years 1 or 2 as well as children in other years, please use the Top Pedestrian Gate.**

**Please ensure only 1 parent picks up / drops off to avoid too many people being on site and ensure you are prompt with the times.**

**Residential Visits:** We will still need to work within DfE guidance and were sad to cancel our residential visits last year.

We have taken the decision not to pursue trips for this academic year (so unfortunately, no Hunstanton this year) but with luck, we hope to reinstate the Hathersage visit for current children in Year 5 (who will be Year 6) in September. More details will follow shortly but as an indication, previous years have costed around £185-£200 for the 4 days.

**Class/Y6 Photos:** We have Friday 11th June scheduled in for class and Y6 Leavers photos. This date remains booked in at present.

**Internet Safety:** This is a regular reminder to ask you to regularly check your child's devices and monitor their use (including social media and apps such as Whatsapp).

If you need any support with this, please do not hesitate to contact school, or check out our webpage dedicated to safeguarding.

<https://www.highgate.leics.sch.uk/safeguarding-including-e-safety/>