

Highgate Primary School Newsletter



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Thank you for your continued patience during what has been a tricky start to our school year.

We know the threat of Covid is very much still present and as such we are doing our utmost to update you as and when we get cases.

Trust Letter

The Trust have issued a letter from Gareth Nelmes, (CEO) and Dean Pomeroy, (Director of Schools) asking parents to work with us during these difficult times.

Extra Precautions

As we have had a few cases, we have put in some extra precautions, particularly as some cases have been where children (or siblings) have tested negative with a Lateral Flow Test but continued to show symptoms. **We have therefore taken the extra precaution of asking parents to undertake a PCR test** in a measure to try to keep everyone safe as these are more accurate than the LFT. We have enhanced cleaning processes in place, particularly in classes where we have had positive cases and continue to stress that we wash hands regularly.

We understand how difficult and inconvenient this is but hope you understand we are all trying our best to keep everyone safe. *Mr Jenkinson*

Behaviour Policy Consultation: We have recently sent out a short consultation questionnaire to parents regarding changes to our Behaviour Policy. This closes on **Monday 4th October**. If you can spare 5 minutes to give your feedback it would be most appreciated. Please copy and paste the link below into a web browser to complete it.
<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?>

Harvest Service - Friday 1st October: We will hold our Harvest Service on Friday 1st October and would like to encourage children to bring in donations of tinned/dried food into school. This service will be in school but will not be open to parents at this time. All donations will go to St Mary's Church to be included in their collection.

Bikeability - 4th October: Year 6 children will be taking part in Bikeability this year in the week commencing 4th October. Separate letters have been sent out for this and we would like all year 6 to return these. If you need a further copy of this form, please ask. We are also looking into booking this for Year 5 later in the year with a bit of luck. Watch this space!

Dates for your Diary

OCTOBER

1st Harvest Service
4th Behaviour Consultation Closes
4th Bikeability Starts (Y6)
7th Census Day Dinner
18th to 22nd Half Term
26th Individual School Photos
26th Immunisation Day

DECEMBER

21st End of term
More dates will follow...

Hathersage Thanks: We were extremely pleased with the feedback we have got from children, parents and the residential centre alike about how wonderful our children are.

Many thanks to Mrs Saunders, Mrs Palmer, Miss Jarram for going, and particular thanks to Mr Hodder for stepping in at the last minute.

Take a look at some of the photos we took of our group doing such great conservation work.





Pick up/Drop off & Absence: Thank you for working with us as we have got used to our more normal pick-up and drop off systems. Please be mindful that Mr Lees has a routine for opening and locking the gates.

If you find the gates locked in the morning, please direct children to the main entrance.

Good attendance and punctuality is important however, if your child needs to be absent from school, please call by **8.45am** and leave a message on our answer-phone.

A few staffing changes: To meet the needs of a wide range of children whilst also juggling disruption of covid related absences, we have made a few minor changes to the way we deliver English and Maths for some children, considering their academic (and social) needs. This has been done to reduce numbers of children in groups to enable us to still support them in their learning and to address any gaps from the previous year.

Individual Photos: We have **Tuesday 26th October** scheduled in for individual photos at present. Pre-school siblings will be welcome to come along with their older brother or sister from 8:30am, all being well.

Christmas Productions & Parties: We intend returning to a live audience Christmas production this year. We will keep you updated with this by the October half term. We also intend having a Carol Service at the church and children's Christmas parties in the last full week of term.

Recycling ink cartridges: We have recently started recycling used ink cartridges from home printers with Recycle4Charity. If you have any old cartridges, you are welcome to put them in the recycling box in our main entrance. As a bonus this helps the school as well as the environment. Together we can do our bit!

School Dinners: Reminder to book school dinners by midnight on Thursday for the following week. If you don't order by this cut off date, you will need to provide your child with a packed lunch.

Census Day Dinner - 7th October: Each year the school has to complete a census to send certain information to the government; these numbers who have hot dinners affects some of our funding. To encourage more people to have a hot dinner on that day, the kitchen has organised a special menu. Please go onto Parent Pay to book.

PE Reminders: As we settle into our new timetables, this is a reminder of our PE days.

- Y1 - Tuesday & Wednesday**
- Y1&2 - Monday & Tuesday**
- Y2 - Monday & Friday**
- Y3 - Tuesday & Wednesday**
- Y4 - Monday & Thursday**
- Y5 - Thursday & Friday**
- Y6 - Wednesday & Friday**

New Sports Field: I am pleased to be able to tell you we have finally been notified that we will soon be given a new sports field (just below the current school field boundary). Work has been started in clearing a route through to our current boundary and we hope to have a new fence to enclose our new land with an access bridge over the culvert in the not too distant future. We are just waiting for final documents to be transferred so work can continue.



Jubilee Bank Holiday: As the additional Jubilee Day Bank Holiday falls within a school holiday, BEP Trust have advised us to inform you that schools will take this additional day in lieu on **Friday 8th July 2022**. **School will close to pupils on Thursday 7th July 2022.**

New Term Dates—2022 & beyond: Dates for the new school years from 2022 onwards are currently being consulted. We hope to publish future dates shortly.