

Highwoods Community Primary School Newsletter Summer 2 July edition

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Highwoods Community Primary School 'Learning for Life'



Dear Parents and Carers,

As another school year passes, it is a perfect time to reflect on an incredible year. We are so proud of our children and everything they have achieved, from our Foundation Stage children, right through to our Year 6's. They really are quite brilliant and deserve to rest up, play and enjoy their holidays. I would like to wish all of our Year 6's the very best as they move onto secondary school- they are ready for it, and will embrace the challenge head on, with boundless courage and enthusiasm. They have worked tirelessly all year, culminating in incredible results in the end of year SATs tests. Their recent end of year production of Robin Hood was a true highlight of the year- too much talent, comedy timing and energy to comprehend at the end of a school year! We say goodbye to many families this year as their last children move on. I would like to thank each and every one of them who have supported the school so loyally and vocally over the years- you have helped make us what we are.

I would also like to mention our Year 4 children. In the final week of school, they have delivered a quite remarkable show for their parents. The singing, performing and dancing in the show was sensational- I know everyone who attended would agree that this group of children are something special.

Our results for the year are now in and as always, we will share them in more detail in the autumn term, once the scores have been fully verified. What we can say is that the children in Foundation Stage, Year 2 and 6 have all achieved above the national average again- a quite fabulous achievement. In addition to this, our Year 1 phonics check has shown that 97% of the children 'passed' the check, putting us in the top few percent in the country, and a quite astonishing 5th year in row above 90%. It demonstrates clearly that the ambition and drive to see the school continue to develop and improve remains at the core of everything we do. It again highlights how committed our staff, children and families are to see each child be the best that they can be.

Thank you to all the families that attended sports day this year. It was a great success and lots of positive feedback. In the juniors, for the first time, we just focused on races, with the 'carousel' of mini activities removed. This was really well received, and we will be consulting with families in the autumn term to see if this is something that parents would like to see in the infants.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the staff of Highwoods who have given everything to support the children this year- I know it is greatly appreciated by our children who come to school every day with a smile. I would also like to thank the hundreds of families who support us constantly throughout the year to make our school what it is- a community. It is greatly appreciated.

Have a great summer and see you back in school on the **5th September 2019**.

Yours sincerely

Mr Disley

Year 5 and 6 Football.

Last month, we took a group of Year 5 and 6 girls to compete in a football tournament at Colchester United's ground. The standard was incredibly high, with many players from county level playing. Our team was amazing, showing great skill, teamwork and quality.



Summer Reading Challenge

Don't forget to take part in the summer reading challenge at the local library. More details can be found here:

<https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>

<https://libraries.essex.gov.uk/news/space-chase-summer-reading-challenge-2019/>

It's a great way to keep children reading over the summer! There are stickers and medals to collect!



Don't forget Miss Halls has also launched an alternative summer reading bingo challenge (you can do both!) If children manage to fill in a line of the bingo sheet, then they will be entered into a prize draw in assembly- winning bingo cards pulled out in the draw will mean that children can choose any book and we will buy it for them. Children who complete the whole bingo sheet will be entered into an extra special prize draw too!



PTA Summer Fair

I am lost for words about how fabulous our PTA is. They organised a summer fair that was incredible- so many smiles and happy children. Thank you to everyone that came to support the event but a special thank you to the huge team of helpers in the PTA who make this all possible.

Warner Brothers visit.

Year 6 and 4 visited Warner Brothers studios this term. What a trip it was! The children were amazing- brilliantly behaved and great fun. All the children have read the book and used this to develop their creative writing, so it was great to see the prop, sets and costumes up close and personal.



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Bawdsey Manor Year 6 Residential.

We had an absolute blast with our Year 6 children on the residential. Our children were amazing- brave, confident, kind and great fun. We spent 3 days on the coast and pushed ourselves to the limit- zip wires, archery, scaling monstrous walls, trampolining, high ropes, golf- to name a few!



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Don't forget to follow us on Twitter! Daily updates on school life and trips! Follow us @hcpscolchester



A polite reminder that children should not be on scooters or bikes while on school grounds. We had a younger child knocked over recently at the end of day so please help us keep all the children safe.

Thanks

Key Dates:

3 rd and 4 th September 2019	Non pupil days
5 th September 2019	Children return to school
4 th November 2019	Non pupil day
6 th January 2020	Non pupil day

Please note that we can now confirm the final non pupil days for the next academic year.

They will be March 13th and 16th 2020