



Halwill Primary School
Newsletter No.24
Summer Term. 17th May 2021
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Aim High; Be Resilient; Take Care of Each Other

Dear Parents,

Last week as part of 'Mental Health Awareness Week' we spoke to the children about the importance of talking if they have worries or feel anxious. We explained that they could speak to a member of staff if they needed to talk. Some children already have a regular time to speak to a specific teacher or teaching assistant and if you feel your child would benefit from some input, please do let us know. In the parent survey, a couple of parents have mentioned that this would be of value so please do get in touch if we can help.

In assembly, I shared with children about how I would be celebrating Eid -ul- Fitr this year. The younger children were particularly fascinated in the sighting of the new moon, which determines when Eid will be celebrated. They were very keen to know about the moon's phases, something I am sure they will look out for in the night sky. They were all interested to see the sweets and foods that are eaten as part of the celebration and the older children asked very thoughtful questions, the most profound being: 'What did you reflect on during Ramadhan?'

A huge thank you to Chris and Gail Marshall of The Junction Inn, for purchasing books on bullying and road safety for us to use in school as a resource.

You may be interested to know that I am now a governor for Holsworthy College and attended my first meeting last Thursday. This, I am sure, will help strengthen the links between our schools.

Year 6 Transition to Holsworthy and Okehampton College

You should have received letters from the colleges now with their transition dates and information. We have included the transition days in the date list of the newsletter.

Covid-19 Risk Assessment Update

You should have received a letter from me on Friday. Here is a reminder in case you missed it:

The DfE have updated their advice on face coverings in schools:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/984843/10_May_Schools_Guidance.pdf

We have looked carefully at this guidance and assessed the risks to our Federation. We have taken into account the low rates of transmission locally; that all staff now undertake twice-weekly LFD tests and the majority of staff have now had at least the first dose of vaccine. We have also considered the barrier to learning and communication that face coverings are posing.

Therefore, in line with DfE guidance, we have updated our Risk Assessment so that from May 17th 2021, face coverings will no longer be recommended for staff in classrooms. We continue to recommend that face coverings should be worn by staff in situations outside of classrooms where social distancing is not possible.

Some staff members may choose to wear a face covering in class and we support them in their choice.

We still require face coverings to be worn (unless exempt):

- By visitors
- By parents at drop-off and pick-up
- By children 11 years and older on school transport
- If supervising a child with COVID symptoms
- If undertaking intimate care

As well as essential visitors for the maintenance of the schools, we are also able to have professional visitors such as County advisers and governors, who hold us to account. We request visitors to undertake LFD tests before their visit and as stated above, they will be expected to wear face coverings.

All other COVID-secure measures will remain the same at this time.

I hope you feel reassured that the changes to the Risk Assessment have been carefully considered and are in line with DfE advice. If you have any concerns, do contact me via the office.

Summer Term Events

As I mentioned last week, we are awaiting further guidance of what exactly we will be able to do post 21st June but we anticipate and hope that we will be able to have a Sports Day, though this may be run differently to previous years. Likewise we hope to have an outdoor event for Year 6 Leavers. We hope parents will be able to attend so we want to give you adequate notice. We have planned:

Sports Day: Thursday 1st July 1:00 pm – 3:30 pm (timings may vary slightly)

Year 6 Leavers: Tuesday 6th July 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Please note these events, will of course be subject to restrictions easing in the way we anticipate. It is likely that we will have to be flexible in our plans depending on DfE and Government advice, therefore the detail of the events will be finalised nearer the time. Thank you for your understanding and patience.

Trips

We would like to offer each class a trip because the children have missed out on so much in the last year. Thank you to Mrs Skinner who has organised a Class 4 Federation trip to Roadford Lake where the children will undertake outdoor activities. We are finalising the details and a letter will be sent home in the next couple of weeks. We will be subsidising the trip with Sports Grant money so the cost to parents will be **£25** (no charge to those eligible for Pupil Premium). We are a reflective school and it was suggested previously that parents be canvassed to ensure the cost of trips would not cause financial difficulty before the children are told about them and I appreciate people's financial situations may have changed during the pandemic. If you feel the cost of this trip will be a challenge please do get in touch.

Staff are planning trips for other year groups and we will let you know when we have more details.

Parent Remote Learning and Key Worker Survey

This survey is still open. Thank you to those who have already completed the survey, there are some really positive comments and helpful feedback that we will take on board. Please do complete it if you haven't already: <https://forms.gle/f7qCrgThL3Gtmv6o8>

Tempest Photographs

Please return order forms for individual photos by Friday 21st May to the school office.
Please also order group photos on-line by Friday 21st May.

Mrs Ruh Alford
Executive Headteacher

The Carey Qualities

In the Carey Federation, we are aspirational learners who build

Relationships by being **Resilient, Resourceful, Reflective** and **Respectful**

Each Thursday children are awarded certificates in our Celebration Assembly for making a significant effort to develop one of our Carey Qualities. Last week the following children were awarded certificates. Well done to them all.

For building Relationships	For being Resilient	For being Resourceful	For being Reflective	For being Respectful
Evie—class 1 George— class 3	Jack—class 1 Oskar—class 2 Drake—class 3 Summer—class 3	Maisie—class 4 Jack S—class 2	Joseph—class 4 Liam—class 4 Jovann—class 4	Leonie—class 3

Please remember to
order your
School lunches via
schoolmoney by
Friday of each week.
This helps us cater
correctly.
Thank you

Dates for your diary:

May

31st May to 4th June Half term

June

7th Non-pupil day

8th Term starts

11th Holsworthy College visit to year 6 plus parents

July

1st Sports Day. 1.00pm to 3.30pm.

1st Okehampton College year 6 parents meeting 6pm.

6th Year 6 Leavers 6.00pm to 7.30pm

7th Year 6 Okehampton College transition day

13th Year 6 Holsworthy College transition day and parents welcome

14th Year 6 Holsworthy College transition day

15th Year 6 Okehampton College transition day

19th Okehampton College year 6 evening, 4pm.

23rd End of term

September

6th Non-pupil day

7th Term starts

SIMS Parent

If you have not signed on to SIMS Parent, please do take a look. It is your way of ensuring we hold your most up to date contact information as well as your parental consent for day to day things in school



If you have not received your email invitation or are having issues, please email the office.



If your child has:
a runny nose, is sneezing or feeling unwell
But they don't have:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough, or
- a loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste

These are
not normally symptoms of coronavirus

**Seek advice from a pharmacy,
dial 111 or see your GP**

If your child has:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough, or
- a loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste

This could be a sign of
coronavirus

Book a test