



Halwill Primary School
Newsletter No.31
Summer Term. 12th July 2021
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Aim High; Be Resilient; Take Care of Each Other

Dear Parents,

Last week we had our new Reception starter meeting for parents. It was lovely to welcome new and familiar families and see the children playing happily in the outside area. The children have begun their transition sessions, which we are delighted to be able to offer by keeping our school bubbles separate; I know some schools have not been able to offer transition this year so we are happy to have been able to.

Class 3 had a fantastic time at the Eden Project on Wednesday and enjoyed learning and exploring in the bio-domes.



This week Class 4 are at Roadford Lake today, doing sailing and rafting. Class 1 and 2 are very excited about their trip to the Plymouth Aquarium tomorrow. **Don't forget that there is an earlier start of 8:15 am as the bus is leaving at 8:30 am.** For some of Class 1 and 2, this will be their very first school trip because of the restrictions in the last 18 months. We really believe trips are important enrichment for children: widening their world, making learning real and making memories to last a lifetime. We are really pleased to have been able to offer these for the children who have missed out on experiences in the last year and a half.



Wes Pugh from Holsworthy College is delivering 'Beach Sports' activities here today with Class 3 and the children are having a super time.

Congratulations to Sarah Matthews who ran a half-marathon recently. Mrs Matthews has never done one before and had to 'Aim High' and 'Be Resilient' to push herself out of her comfort zone.

Okehampton College Transition

We have been advised that staff from Okehampton College will visit Year 6 pupils who are going there in September, on Thursday 15th July at 10:30 am.

Vision Screening for Class 1 Thursday 15th July

You should have received a letter regarding this from the Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital NHS Foundation Trust with an option to opt-out. If you haven't opted out, then your child will have their vision tested. These can often flag up issues early, which is very helpful. If you have opted-out, we don't receive this information so please let us know so we can double check lists.

End of Term Reports

Teachers are working hard to capture the progress children have made this year. I have been reading through the reports and am really pleased with how well all the children have done, despite the disruptions due to lockdown. Reports will be sent home next week with your child. We will let you know on the day the reports are coming home so you know to look out for them. If we have contact details of separated parents, a copy of the report will also be posted.

Meet the Teacher Evening Wednesday 14th July

We invite parents to meet new teachers and say goodbye to current ones. We intend to hold this outside and will need to have set timings for each bubble with time between each to clean and disinfect seats. We appreciate that if you have children in multiple classes, you will need to attend for more than one session. Following latest guidance, we are able to have **2 parents per child** attending.

There will be a short introduction from the teacher and then opportunity to ask questions at the end. Your child's current teacher will also be present so you will have a chance to speak to them too.

Please do not attend if you have symptoms of COVID-19. On arrival at your child's allocated time, please come to the front of the school, where you will be signed in, this will be necessary for NHS Test and Trace as well as our usual safeguarding procedures. Kindly wear a face covering (unless exempt) while walking around the school site. Once seated for the meeting, this can be removed, as seating will be socially distanced and outdoors.

September Class	Time
Class 2 – Rebekah Warran	3:30 – 4:00 pm
Class 3 – Alix Rothery	4:10 – 4:40 pm
Class 4 – Jayne Miners	4:50 – 5: 20 pm

Year 6 Leavers: Tuesday 20th July 6:00 –7:30 pm

We are pleased to be able to hold a live event this year and to be able to invite parents, as it is such an important occasion for the Year 6 pupils.

Please do not attend if you have symptoms of COVID-19. On arrival, please come to the pedestrian gate, where you will be signed in, this will be necessary for NHS Test and Trace as well as our usual safeguarding procedures. Kindly wear a face covering (unless exempt) while walking around the school site. Once seated for the event, this can be removed, as seating will be socially distanced and outdoors.

COVID Procedures from 19th July

Although the Government are moving the country into Stage 4 of the Road Map, **we will continue with the same drop-off and pick-up procedures until the end of term**, which includes staggered starts and finishes using the one-way system.

In September, we will look to return to a **soft start drop-off from 8:50 – 9:00 am**. Which means you can drop-off any time between these times but children **must be in by 9:00 am**. We hope to return to a **3:30 pm pick-up for all children**. We will continue to drop-off and pick-up from the front of the school, as this has worked well.

We also intend to return Class 4 to their own classroom so the hall will be back in use for lunches.

We anticipate children will bring in PE kits to change in school so uniform will be worn daily.

All of this, is of course, subject to COVID restrictions at the time of return so I will confirm final arrangements prior to the children returning. Thank you for your support with all the measures this year.

Communication with Parents

We do our best to communicate with you as clearly as possible and with as much notice as possible, the newsletter, text messaging and Class Dojo messages from teachers, being some examples. Occasionally, we may miss things, thank you for your understanding and patience with this. I know most parents read the newsletter and we have received positive comments about the information shared, so thank you for this feedback.

In terms of contacting us, emails to admin@halwill.devon.sch.uk are picked up throughout the day and Sarah Revers, kindly checks these outside of school hours and over the holidays. I would like to thank her for this as it is above and beyond our expectation of her. The office telephone is manned during the school day but if the office staff are on another call, supporting another parent or delivering a message to a classroom, they may not be able to pick up the phone. If this happens, I know it can be frustrating but please do leave a message. I can assure you that all messages are listened to and followed up. Class Dojo can also be used to contact the class teacher about curriculum or classroom matters, though if they are teaching, they may not pick up or respond immediately.

If you have signed to agree that someone else can pick-up your child but this person doesn't often do the pick-up, it is really helpful if you can let us know there has been a change of collection, as quite often staff will want to be extra cautious before releasing children so you may get a call if there is ever any uncertainty.

Helmets

We love to see children biking or scooting to school but children **MUST** wear a helmet if they are doing so.

Uniform

Uniform can be ordered from the 'shop' in the SchoolMoney app. If your child's size isn't there, please contact the office and they will do their best to order it for you.

Second hand uniform will be available at the front of the school to take, free of charge, on **Wednesday 14th July from 3.30 pm** for the 'Meet the Teacher' evening.

If you would like to donate second hand uniform, please send it in on Monday 12th July or Tuesday 13th July.

Mrs Ruh Alford, Executive Headteacher

The Carey Qualities

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
Jazmine—class 4 Megan—class 1 Joshua W—class 2	Emily—class 3 Kitty—class 3	Lilian—class 4 Ryan—class 1 Lily—class 2 Billy—class 3	Jamie—class 4 Toby—class 3	Evie—Class 4 Edwin—class 4



Schools' COVID-19 advice to parents and carers - June 2021

Keeping our children, schools and communities safe

One in three people who catch coronavirus (COVID-19) don't get any symptoms, so regular testing is vital to help prevent spreading it unknowingly.

Rapid lateral flow device (LFD) tests are only for people without symptoms and give a quick result in 30 minutes. All adults and secondary/ college pupils should use these tests twice a week.

PCR tests are for people with symptoms. They are processed by a laboratory, with the results usually back the next day. 'Close contacts' of someone with COVID-19 can also get a PCR test, even if they don't have symptoms.

Visit devon.cc/testing for more information.

- **What if my child tests positive using a LFD home test kit?**
 - keep your child at home, tell school the result and report it via GOV.UK
 - your child and whole household should self-isolate at home immediately
 - get a PCR test within two days to confirm the result
 - they can return to school if the PCR test result (taken within two days of the LFD test) is negative and they have no symptoms
- **What if my child tests positive using a PCR test?**
 - keep your child at home and tell school the result
 - your household must self-isolate for 10 full days after your child's symptoms started or from the day of their test if they had no symptoms
 - they can return to school after 10 full days of self-isolation, provided they feel well and have not had a temperature for 24 hours

Stay up to date with the latest advice in Devon at devon.cc/covid-19
sign up to receive updates at devon.cc/connectme



Dates for your diary:

July

13th Class 1 & 2 Aquarium trip
14th Transition afternoon for pupils
14th Transition meeting for parents.
15th Okehampton College to meet Year 6 (in school).
15th Vision screening Class 1
19th Okehampton College year 6 virtual evening, 4pm.
20th Year 6 Leavers 6.00pm to 7.30pm
23rd End of term

September

6th Non-pupil day
7th Term starts

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



An infographic with a blue background. On the left and right are stylized purple silhouettes of a woman's head and shoulders. In the center, white text reads: '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'. Below this, it says 'These are not normally symptoms of coronavirus'. At the bottom, a dark blue button contains the text 'Seek advice from a pharmacy, dial 111 or see your GP' in white.

An infographic with a blue background. On the left and right are stylized purple silhouettes of a woman's head and shoulders. In the center, white text reads: 'If your child has: • a high temperature • a new, continuous cough, or • a loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste'. Below this, it says 'This could be a sign of coronavirus'. At the bottom, a dark blue button contains the text 'Book a test' in white.

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.