



Spring Term Newsletter

April 2019

Dear Parents,

Thank you for supporting all our recent fundraising events. We are very conscious that there have been quite a few recently, but I am sure you will agree they are all in a good cause.

Many thanks to the PTA for organising the Bunny Bounce on Friday and thanks to all the parent helpers who came to count the bounces. It was very well organised. Please send any sponsorship money to the office in a sealed envelope marked "Sponsor money" and include your child's sponsor form inside the envelope. This Friday is the Easter Egg tombola. Nursery will do the tombola in the nursery sessions, so they should bring in £1 in a named envelope. For the remainder of the school, the tombola will take place in the hall (£1 a ticket in exchange for an egg), at the end of the day on Friday. This will be **1.45pm**, as we finish early for the end of term. (**Afternoon nursery children are in their normal time on Friday, but finish at 1.45pm**).

The current people leading The Friends of Whitehill and Highbury Schools (our PTA), bow out at the end of the Summer Term. We are looking for a few willing people who would consider taking over the main roles, including chair. The current model of joint chairs seems to have worked well. The next meeting of the PTA is on Friday 3rd May at 9.15am at Highbury. Please come and support the meeting and hear about future events, including the circus on Saturday 15th June.

We are always grateful for any help and support you can give to our schools. The PTA not only raises money for us, but it also unites the school communities by organising events which can be enjoyed by all our families.

Number Partners

I would like to thank a group of Year 1 parents who have been helping with Number Partners. We have been running this at Highbury for several years. It is designed to support the children's understanding of number and money through the use of specially selected games. Each adult works with a small group of children at a time and these groups then rotate. The children have really enjoyed the sessions.

School Council

The children have recently voted in some new School Councillors. Their pictures can be seen alongside the governors in the dining room. One of the things they are speaking to their peers about is things they could ask the Hertfordshire Catering area manager about school meals. One very sensible question that has already come up, is about the use of plastic.

Class Assemblies

You are invited to join us for Class Assemblies in the summer term;

Thursday 16th May, 9.15am - Blue Class
Thursday 23rd May, 9.15am - Orange Class
Thursday 20th June, 9.15am - Purple Class
Thursday 27th June, 9.15am - Red Class
Thursday 4th July, 9.15am - Yellow Class
Thursday 11th July, 9.15am - Green Class
Thursday 18th July, 9.15am - Year 2 Leavers assembly

Clubs

Many thanks to the teachers who give up their time to run clubs in school. Computer club, Hula-hooping club and Netball club have now finished. French club, Drama, Football and Yoga continue to run for Year 1/2 next term. Multi-sports will run for a new group of children (this is now fully booked). Miss Collins and Ms Hellyer are running an "Adventurers Club" next half-term and have already invited some children to attend this.

Term Dates- PLEASE NOTE INSET DATES MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

2019

April 5th- Term finishes at 1.45pm (including afternoon nursery)
April 23rd- Term starts
May 2nd - INSET day, school closed (pending election date)
May 6th- Bank Holiday
May 24th- INSET day, school closed
May 27th - May 31st- Half-term
July 19th- Term finishes at 1.45pm
September 3rd- Term starts for children
October 28th-1st November- Half-term
November 29th- School closed, occasional day

December 20th - Term finishes 1.45pm

2020

January 6th - Term starts

February 17th- 21st - Half-term

April 3rd- Term finishes 1.45pm

April 20th - Term starts

May 4th- Bank Holiday

May 7th- INSET. School closed (pending election date)

May 25th - 29th May- Half-term

June 1st- INSET. School closed

July 17th- Term finishes 1.45pm

Term Time Holidays/Absences

We are sending home a copy of your child's attendance for this academic year so far. Regular school attendance is essential in order for pupils to maximise the opportunities available to them. Absences due to illness cannot be helped, but please avoid other term time absences.

If children are off sick with sickness or diarrhoea, **they should not be sent into school until 48 hours of being clear of both of these.** If your child is off, you should ring school on the first day of their absence and then send a letter in on your child's return.

Governing Body Update from The Governors

Another term has gone by, filled with fun and learning. The governors would like to thank all the staff at Highbury for their relentless drive to ensure pupils make the progress they are capable of, while having so much fun. This term has had many successful events. One of many was Book Day with children and staff all dressing up as a book character. Another was a visit to Hitchin museum undertaken by year one. I accompanied them and was impressed that despite the wet and windy weather, they all remained cheerful and learnt a lot about Hitchin in the past.

We are pleased to welcome Ed Hawker and Tony Side to the Governing Body. We look forward to welcoming their expertise into the Governing Body to support the staff in keeping up the high standards the school already sets for itself.

Finally, the Governors would like to wish everyone a very happy break. We look forward to seeing you all in the Summer term.

Jackie Wilcockson LA governor

Thank you for your continued support. Have a very happy holiday.

Yours sincerely,

H. Avey

Mrs H Avey

Headteacher