

Hawkinge Primary School

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Dear Parents or Carers,

I know I say it every week – but it has been another busy week at Hawkinge Primary School this week!

On Monday I launched our Anti Bullying Week with an assembly. We talked about the acronym STOP which stands for Several Times On Purpose and identified 5 people each child felt confident to tell if anyone was being unkind to them or that there was any bullying behaviour. The children all felt confident in knowing what to do – please do ask your son/daughter over the weekend to tell you more!

On Tuesday we held our open day for children starting school in September 2024. Over 50 families came to look around. It was so nice to be able to have a chat to them after the tours to answer any questions they may have about starting school and our school. There were so many compliments about how the children behaved in lessons and the general feel for the school, which was very pleasing!

Then in the afternoon our School Improvement Partner came to visit. She visited most of the classrooms in the school and was pleased to see so much purposeful learning, children engaged in their tasks, excellent behaviour and good quality of teaching. She also had a look at some of the children's exercise books and once more enjoyed looking at the variation in tasks and work in these books. She felt the children all wanted to do their best. It was lovely to show our school off to so many people on Tuesday!

Thank you to the John Harvey Driving School who brought a fleet of cars into the school playground on Wednesday afternoon in support of Children in Need. The children had great fun writing and drawing on their spots before placing them on the cars. I believe the cars will be on the roads for the next few weeks with their spots, so keep an eye out for your spot! Money is still being donated today so as yet we haven't got a final total, but we will share that with you next week. Thank you again to all those that donated!

Today has ended with the first Pupil Voice session of the year. Each term children in Year 6 (our Pupil Voice Leaders) teach a short lesson to all the other children in the school and ask the children their opinions about a variety of things – ranging from their enjoyment of PE lessons to the Geography fieldwork children take part in. This term the Pupil Voice Session is auditing pupil's views about Hawkinge Primary School in general! I will let you know their views in the next couple of weeks after Miss Dawe number crunches the information!

The children in Year 5 and 6 took part in the Primary Maths Challenge last week. All children that took part received a certificate and some children were awarded bronze, silver and gold certificates. Gold certificates were awarded to: Alice Kay, Thomas Arnold, Luca Cinelli, William Smith, Ethan Skingle, Enzo Ives, Rhys Manning, Jaxxon Woodall & Archie Clatworthy. Well done to everyone that took part!

Have a lovely weekend

Cost of Living Support for Hawkinge Families

We know that many people are struggling in the current financial climate and hope you would feel comfortable approaching us for support and advice if needed. Many of our families have accessed these services and found them a great help. We are very grateful to Hawkinge Councillor and parent at our school, Louise McGettrick, for compiling this information about support available locally.

If you have found other services useful or are aware of any local support not covered here, we would love to hear from you so we can share these with our school community too. Thank you.

The Rainbow Trust visits the Hawkinge Community Centre every Wednesday from 10.00-12.00, providing two services:

The Mobile Food Bank - To use the food bank you will need a referral, we can do this for you in school so please get in touch. At weekends or outside of school hours, please contact the Help Through Hardship line on 08082 082138 to be assessed for a Food Voucher.

The Pantry - You do not need a referral but you will need to complete a self-assessment via their website - <http://yourlocalpantry.co.uk/> - in order to join. For a £5 weekly fee, those experiencing financial difficulties can choose at least ten grocery items, saving on average £21 a week. Spaces are limited, and allocated on a need basis. It's a system that has offered a really important safety net to over 90,000 people over the last decade. If you are in a situation where you are having to make very difficult decisions on budgeting, the pantry might be a good fit for you and help shoulder some of the weight.

RSPCA Folkestone - If you are concerned about the wellbeing of your pets and making sure they have enough food, the wonderful team at RSPCA Folkestone have reached out in the past to offer support to Hawkinge residents. Their local officer can be reached on 07936 911613.

The Folkestone Community Fridge at Wood Avenue Library, 17 wood Avenue, CT19 6HS is an ecological community project to reduce waste by redistributing food that would otherwise be destined for landfill. They also work with the RSPCA to distribute pet food, and Simply Money Solutions CIC, a free project set up to assist people with managing their finances and navigating options with debts. It is open to everyone.

Monday, Thursday & Friday: 10.30 - 16.30

Wednesday & Saturday: 10.30 - 13.00

Simply Money Solutions CIC offer a drop-in clinic in a private room at the library on Friday: 1.30 to 3.30

Links: <https://www.facebook.com/Folkestonecommunityfridge> & Simplemoneysolutionscic@gmail.com

The Community Network in Cheriton (378A Cheriton Road) has set up a local larder, offering free food without means testing.

Monday: 12.00-14.00

Tuesday: 11.00-14.00

Thursday: 10.00-15.00

Friday: 10.00-16.00

Hythe Salvation Army Foodbank is open on Wednesdays from 10.00-12.00 at the Salvation Army Hall, Hythe CT21 6EG. No referral is needed.

Citizens Advice are part of the largest advice giving network in the UK and can provide a wide range of advice and assistance on different issues including:

- Benefits
- Universal Credit
- Debt
- Employment
- Housing
- Legal issues

Their office is not currently open for drop in services, but may offer appointments where needed after an initial assessment. Anyone needing advice you can contact them on:

01303 241435 - Local advice and call back service.

0808 278 7846 - Free Kent advice line service.

Website: <https://citizensadvicekent.org.uk/>