## Hawkinge Primary School

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Friday 17th January

Dear Parents,

This week has been a busy week for rewarding children in school which has been wonderful! In the weekly assemblies Mr O'Brien has given out many book tokens for children who have read 100 times this school year already! It is such a great achievement for children to have read at home so many times this year already! This week I have also had many visits from children who have been sent to me to share their good work, from writing to Maths. It has been so nice to celebrate such good quality work.

Our Year 3 and 4 classes were lucky enough to be visited by a rugby coach on Wednesday who taught them a range of rugby skills before they were able to join in with a mini game. This will support their curriculum this term which is to develop the skills of rugby.

On Monday the children in Years 1, 2 and Reception attended a music workshop – the children had the opportunity to learn about beat and rhythm and then play a range of different drums! I could hear it all clearly from my office!! The smiles on their faces were delightful!

As you are aware this year we have re-written our PHSE scheme of work to update it and make it more relevant to the children in our school. This term is all about 'how to keep yourself, and others, safe'. The teachers have been telling me how much the children are gaining from this unit of work. The children in a Year 3/4 class were learning about what they could do if they saw someone having an asthma attack. They had to give the teacher a number that rated their confidence at the start of the lesson and again at the end. Some children rocketed from 2 at the start to 9/10 at the end. This is so empowering. I am sure you will agree! Please do ask your children how they are finding the new PHSE lessons.

Next week the School Nursing Team will be in school delivering hearing tests to children in our Reception classes – if you have a child in Miss Milborrow or Mrs Rand's class you will have completed your consent for this already.

I have been asked by several parents this week when we will be starting back to school in September. The first school day for children will be on Wednesday  $3^{rd}$  September. We will be having 2 Development Days for staff on the  $1^{st}$  and  $2^{nd}$  September. The  $3^{rd}-5^{th}$  September are really important days for children to be in school as they are key in the children getting to know their new class mates and establishing the new routines for the new school year. If you are thinking of taking a holiday at the end of the summer, please do make sure your son/daughter is ready to start back at school on Wednesday  $3^{rd}$  September 2025.

Our current year and the year ahead term dates are always on our school website, if you ever need to check further dates.

Have a lovely weekend