

# Hawkinge Primary School

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Dear Parents/Carers,

This week started with European Day of Languages which is held every year on 26th September to celebrate the different languages spoken in Europe.

On Monday Miss Dawe took the assembly and talked to the children about why this day is special and why we celebrate it. The children learned about the importance of language learning for making new friends, travel, studying, living or working abroad and understanding about different cultures. They also learnt that there are actually over 200 European languages, however, the European Union has 24 official languages; the most commonly spoken are French and English. Incredibly, there are about 7100 languages spoken in the world! If your son/daughter in Years 1 – 6 have not told you all about this, please do ask them over the weekend.

The much anticipated Fire Alarm practice happened on Thursday. All children exited the school and were assembled at their fire assembly point within 3 minutes, all children (and staff) were safely accounted for and the last pupil was back in school within 8 minutes of the fire alarm actually sounding! Mr Bullard also managed to train three more members of staff about how to operate our new fire alarm panel! A very successful evacuation – and all just before lunch!

Talking about lunch. Next Thursday (5<sup>th</sup> October) is our first School Census Day of this academic year. On this day it really helps our school budget if as many children as possible eat a school dinner! So we provide free school lunches for all children, whether they usually have them or not. This Thursday an old favourite will be served of sausages, herby potatoes, beans and a pudding (to be decided!) If you are in Years 3-6 please remember to subtract Thursday's lunch from your dinner money this week.

On Monday we have the school photographer coming to school to take 'class photographs' (not individual photographs). Please send your children into school wearing their usual burgundy school uniform – no PE kits, and looking extra smart! Thank you!

After many sleepless nights, a very steep learning curve and digging deep to use every bit of resilience we have (!) I am proud to share with you our new school website! It is certainly a significant update to the one we have been using for years! I think that you will find it easier to navigate, clearer to read and absolutely up to date! We were hoping to launch it today – but you know how tech works (or does not!!!) The launch date will now be Monday! I will send a text home to remind you and let the anticipation build over the weekend!!!! Let us know what you think when we see you at Parents Evenings next week! [www.hawkingeprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.hawkingeprimaryschool.co.uk)

Whilst you are on the website please make a special visit to our curriculum pages – especially the Geography and Science curriculum pages. Since September we have been awarded a Silver Award for our Geography Curriculum (from the Geography Association) and a GILT (higher than Gold) award for our Science Curriculum (from the Primary Science Quality Mark team). Both award bodies praise the subject leadership of each leader, the breadth of our curriculum and the quality outcomes for the children.

I am, once more, ending the week feeling very proud!  
Have a super weekend.

**Aly** ☺