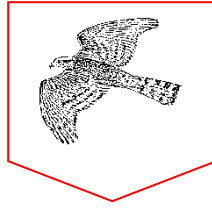


Hawkinge Primary School

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Friday 8th November

Dear Parents,

The first week of term in school is always exciting and very busy with the launch pads for each year group and this week has been no different!

As you know we 'launch' each new theme with an exciting activity to set the scene for the learning of the term ahead. Our pupils in Years 5 and 6 are learning about deserts around the world this term so they launched their theme by visiting Dungeness. Did you know that Dungeness is classified as a desert? Whilst there, the children completed a litter pick, some observational drawings, investigated the types of plants that grow in the area (and hoped to do a bit of Ed Sheeran spotting I think!) It was a great day – however the children and staff looked exhausted by the time they returned to school!!

The children in Years 3 and 4 launched their theme about World War 1 by attending 4 workshops – they completed activities ranging from propaganda art to looking at food rationing. Please do ask them to tell you all about it – they really had a fun day. We are very excited to be taking them to the trenches in Elham later on this term too.

Years 1 and 2 went on a field work trip around Hawkinge. The children were shown old photographs of the area and were asked to spot changes to the local area. They found out how Hawkinge has changed over the years and noticed several buildings that have remained the same (including the front of the school!!) Children in Reception are learning about seasonal celebrations this term and launched their theme by attending a dance workshop in the school hall with the theme 'fireworks'. They listened to fire work music and created dances under disco lights!!

In addition to the busy week we have had a visitor from Shepway Sports Partnership on Thursday who worked with children in Years 5 and 6 to teach them some boxing skills – the children really enjoyed this.

Some dates for your diary for the term ahead:

- 11th November Year 5 pupils Footsteps to The Few Event – Remembrance Ceremony
- 12th November Open Morning for children starting school Sept 2025
- 15th November Children in Need Day (see overleaf)
- 21st November Individual and sibling photographs (more info to follow)
- 25th & 29th November Year 3 & 4 visit to Elham trenches

- 1st December Hawkinge Community Carol Concert in the Community Centre (our choir will perform)
- 3rd, 4th, 5th December Parents Evening
- 11th December Nativity at the Community Centre (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) More info to follow
- 16th December Year 3 and 4 Landing Pad Assembly
- 17th December Year 5 and 6 Landing Pad Assembly
- 18th December Christmas Lunch at school
- 20th December Last day of term

FRIDAY 15th NOVEMBER is

ODD SOCKS DAY!

for

Anti-Bullying Week & Children in Need

Next week, 11th – 15th November is **Anti-Bullying Week**. Our pupils will be taking part in activities to highlight what bullying is, understand why people bully and to remind them what they can do if they or their friends are being bullied.

Children at Hawkinge Primary generally report feeling safe in our school and say that adults deal with incidents of bullying as soon as they are reported (*Ofsted, 2019*). However, we know that 1 in 4 children aged 10 to 15 years in England have experienced bullying at school and 1 in 5 have experienced online bullying behaviour (*ONS, 2020*) with 26% of those children saying they did not report their experiences to anyone. That is why it is so important for us to regularly highlight the issue of bullying at the primary school level so children learn early on that it is never ok to bully someone and that there is help if they are being bullied themselves.

This year's theme is "**Choose Respect!**" so throughout the week, children will be thinking about what "respect" means to them, why respecting differences is so important, the people they respect and how we can show respect to others. This will build on the learning the children did in PSHE last term about team building, social skills and acceptance.

Children will also be completing the Project Salus Anti-Bullying Survey between now and the end of term, along with 60,000+ other pupils in Kent. This is something we do every year and when the results come back, it is a great way for us to take stock of children's experiences with bullying at our school and ways we can continue to improve this for them.

Then on Friday, we are inviting all pupils and staff to wear brightly coloured and/or mismatched socks to school for **Odd Socks Day** - An event run by the Anti-Bullying Alliance as a way of celebrating our differences. We will be using the event to raise money for **Children in Need** so it would be wonderful if children could bring in a **donation of 50p**, or whatever you can afford, to support vulnerable children across the UK.

Perhaps our parents and carers would also like to join us by wearing brightly coloured and/or mismatched socks on Friday too?!

We look forward to seeing them on the gate at drop off and pick up time!