## Parent/Carer Newsletter - September 2022

## School Improvement Planning

This year we will be focusing on developing the following areas: working with parents, developing the use of digital technologies, raising attainment and improved learning & teaching. We have made a substantial investment in a reading and phonics programme called Read, Write, Inc which will be accessed by all pupils from P1-5. Our pupils in P6 & 7 will work on an aspect of this programme called Fresh Start. There is a summary of these areas of development on our school website <a href="https://hawthornden.mgfl.net/">https://hawthornden.mgfl.net/</a>.

As part of my role as Head Teacher, I have to undertake a post graduate certificate in Leadership. In order to complete this, I will be out of school on a Wednesday morning to study.

### Stay and Play

It was wonderful having so many of you in school on Tuesday spending time with your child(ren) in their learning environment. We have more sessions in the calendar throughout the year and look forward to welcoming you all into school again.

# Digital

Thank you to all the parents who have signed and returned the 1:1 device parent/carer agreement form. If you have yet to return/complete on line, please do so asap as your child will be unable to take their device home. We hope to start sending devices home on a staggered basis after the October break.

### Covid

Please be advised that if your child is experiencing symptoms that would have previously been related to Covid, you no longer need to test them. If they are unwell the guidance is to keep them at home, as you would normally do, but if well enough to cope with a day of learning, they can come into school.

### Uniform

Thank you again for your support in encouraging your children to wear their school uniform. We have had so many lovely comments about how smart the pupils look. However, in discussion with several parents, we have taken the decision to allow pupils to wear leggings as part of the uniform. Our preference would be to wear these under a skirt, but we appreciate that this may not always be possible. As mentioned previously, and as the weather begins to worsen in Autumn, we ask that all children have shoes to change into inside. These can be their gym shoes from their PE bag.

### Parent Council

It was wonderful to see so many parents/carers at our parent council meeting last night. We have agreed that fundraising events this year will take the form of a Halloween Disco (03.11.22), Christmas Fayre (02.12.22) and a Duck Race (date tbc). More information for these events to follow.

#### New arrivals!

We are delighted to announce that Mrs Harvey has given birth to a baby boy - Blair Jackson Harvey. Both mum and baby are well! Mr McCutcheon and his wife are expecting their baby in October. Miss Bowen, a student teacher with us, will lead the learning in P6A during Mr McCutcheon's paternity leave.

### Coffee Morning

Our Youth Worker, Lynn Reid, will be running coffee mornings and a pre-loved clothes stall on the following dates from 9.00-10.15am in our Health Zone:

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February Friday 31<sup>th</sup> March Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May

# Dates for the diary

16th - 19th Sep - Holiday weekend

23<sup>rd</sup> Sep - Read, Write, Inc talk 11am and P2/3 assembly 11.40am

26th Sep - Maths week will be acknowledged across school, Book Fair arrives in school

11th and 13th Oct - Parent Consultations sessions

17th - 24th Oct - holiday week, staff return 24th, children return 25th

27th Oct - Board Game Family Learning Event P1

Thank you for your continued support.

Jackie Mellon