

UPCOMING

EVENTS

OCTOBER

Monday 6th	Year 3 & 4 Harvest Festival. Year 2 Dental workshop.
Wednesday 8th	Year 5 & 6 pupils swimming.
Friday 10th	Year 6 CPR & Defibrillator training.
Tuesday 14th	Parents evening 3:40pm - 6pm.
Wednesday 15th	Parents evening 3:40pm - 6pm. Year 5 & 6 pupils swimming.

W HIGHWEEK
h Primary School

Parents Evening



SCAN ME

Tuesday 14th and
Wednesday 15th October 2025
To book please go to:
<https://highweek.schoolcloud.co.uk>

Friday 17th	Non Uniform in aid of HITS Foodbank.
Tuesday 21st	Year 5 & 6 WW2 Day supported by Cleverchefs.
Wednesday 22nd	Year 5 & 6 pupils swimming

EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION AND OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL

Autumn Term 2025 Friday 3rd October

National Poetry Day 2025 – A Celebration of Playful Poetry

Enjoying, performing and writing poetry has so many benefits for children's learning, well-being and social development. This year's **National Poetry Day** took place on **Thursday 2nd October**, and the theme was "Play." The whole school took part in exploring this theme through a range of high-quality poems, performances and creative writing activities.

In **EYFS**, the children loved listening to and learning poems from *Michael Rosen's Ready for Spaghetti*. Their favourite was *I'm Ready for Spaghetti*—they couldn't stop laughing at the silly rhymes and joined in with the words enthusiastically. The paddling pool poem was another hit, bringing lots of giggles and joyful participation.

KS1 explored *Monster March* by Jane Newberry and Carolina Rabei, focusing on rhythm, repetition and actions. In groups, they confidently learnt and performed verses with fantastic expression, before writing their own imaginative verses in a similar style.

In **Year 3/4**, pupils delved into *All Together Now* by Michaela Morgan, using reciprocal reading skills to clarify meanings and learn exciting new vocabulary like "peevish," "humble," and "devour." Each class then prepared and performed a poem from the anthology:

- **Exe Class** brought Words to Whisper, Words to Shout to life with expressive voices and onomatopoeia.
- **Plym Class** adapted Ice Cream, turning its ending from sad to happy.
- **Dart Class** explored As Smiley as a Simile, experimenting with descriptive similes.

They also created brilliant alphabet poems, with each line starting with a different letter.

Finally, **Year 5/6** explored *Rules for a Good Walk* by Lucinda Jacob, learning about poetic devices such as metaphor, repetition and onomatopoeia. After performing the poem with actions, they designed their own free verse poems, thinking carefully about the messages they wanted to express.

The day was a wonderful celebration of poetry across the school—full of creativity, performance, laughter and learning.



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What a load of rubbish!

Today Mr Rogers collected this amount of rubbish from our school field in 10 minutes. Look how much plastic would have entered the environment... Please consider your plastic use and what goes in your child's lunchbox. As a school we are working towards eliminating our use of single use plastic.

Today, years 3 to 6 explored the journey of a single-use plastic item from source to sea, and the impact it can have in the environments it travels through. Please ask them about this.

Further information can be found here: <https://plasticfreeschools.org.uk/>

For plastic-free kids' lunches, pack foods like pasta salads, mini frittatas, and sandwiches into reusable containers. Include a variety of fruits and vegetables, such as chopped fruits, veggie sticks with hummus, and roasted sweet potatoes, along with reusable cloth napkins and stainless steel or bamboo utensils. To avoid packaging, buy items like crackers, yogurt, and dried fruit in bulk and store them in reusable containers. This can also save you money in the long run!

School Trips – Your Support Matters

At Highweek, we take great pride in the wide range of enriching school trips and workshops we offer our children each year. These experiences are carefully selected to complement the curriculum and provide memorable, hands-on learning opportunities beyond the classroom.

We work hard behind the scenes to keep the cost of trips as low as possible, ensuring families receive the best value. However, we are currently facing a shortfall in payments for some upcoming events. Unfortunately, if this continues, we may have no choice but to cancel the Year 3–4 workshop and the KS1 trip to Exeter.

We kindly ask all parents and carers to check their child's payment status on MCAS (MyChildAtSchool) under the Trips and Clubs section. If you are having difficulty making payments, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Lowe—we are more than happy to discuss flexible payment plans to help support your child's participation. Thank you for your continued support in helping us provide these valuable opportunities for our children.

SCHOOL DISCOS

Please be aware that the school discos are organised and run by the parents (PTFA). They will not be able to go ahead without more parental support.

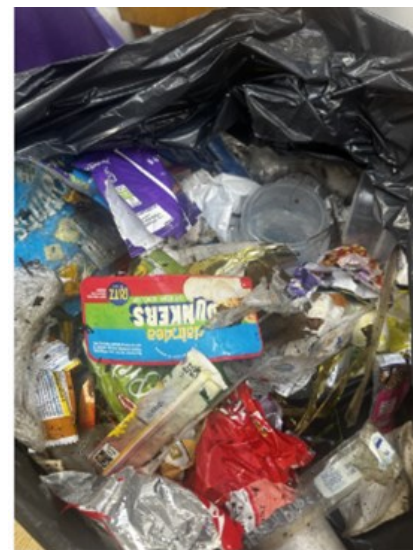
Please see any of the following if you can help:

Carole Rogers, Samantha Atkinson, Tara Grant, Serena Firch, Kathryn Searle, Faith Mitchell, Jacky Dawes, Claire Joint & Ewa Ziubryniewicz.

Or pop into the office and let us know.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Ms Claire Redwood.



THE MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM & HIGHWEEK
PRIMARY SCHOOL INVITE YOU TO OUR

MHST COFFEE MORNING

FOR PARENTS/CARERS



24th October 2025 | 8.45am-9.30am

JOIN US FOR A FREE COFFEE MORNING & CHAT ABOUT THE
MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM.

WHERE? AT HIGHWEEK PRIMARY SCHOOL.

WHAT WE WILL BE EXPLORING?

- WHO WE ARE
- WHAT SUPPORT WE OFFER PARENTS, CARERS & FAMILIES



Parking Reminder

Please refrain from using the lower car park unless you hold a Blue Disability Badge. We've had several recent near misses in this area, and we must prioritise everyone's safety.

We understand that parking near the school can be difficult, so if you're able to walk, park further away, or car share, we'd be very grateful.

Thank you for your co-operation, patience, and understanding.



We are delighted to invite our year 3 & 4 parents to join us for our
**Harvest Festival celebration at
Highweek Church on Monday 6th October at
10:30am.**

This special event is a wonderful opportunity for our school community to come together, celebrate the season, and give thanks.

This year, our Harvest Festival will have an Egyptian twist, with the children sharing songs, readings, and reflections inspired by their learning about Ancient Egypt.

The children have been working hard to prepare, and we are very excited for you to see their performances.

We would love for you to join us in celebrating this special occasion.



Friends of



Highweek
Primary School

Parents & Carers Coffee Afternoon

Tuesday 7th October at
2:30pm in the main school hall

Come along and join our lovely PTFA for a warm drink,
a slice of cake, and a friendly chat!

Whether you're new to the school or have been with
us a while, it's a great chance to:

- * Meet other parents
- * Find out what the PTFA is all about
- * Hear how we support the school
- * Discover what events are coming up!

Everyone is welcome – just pop in!
We'd love to see you there



Please check your contact details on the MCAS app are correct.

We kindly ask all parents and carers to review their contact information on the MCAS app. It is essential that the school holds accurate and up-to-date details at all times to ensure effective communication and the safety of our pupils. If you notice any information that needs updating, please either:

- . Email us at admin@highweekprimary.co.uk, or
- . Send a message directly through the MCAS app.

Thank you for your support in keeping our
records accurate.



The poster for Year 1 & 2 has a dark grey background. It features stylized green tree branches in the top corners and three black bat silhouettes in the center. The text is white and centered.

Year 1 & 2

Halloween Disco

Thursday 23rd October

3:30pm – 4:45pm

£5 per pupil

This will include a food bag & drink
Please purchase your child's ticket
through the MCAS app.

The poster for Year 3, 4, 5 & 6 has a solid orange background. It features stylized orange tree branches in the top corners and three black bat silhouettes in the center. The text is white and centered.

Year 3, 4, 5 & 6

Halloween Disco

Thursday 23rd October

5pm – 6:30pm

£3 per pupil with unlimited drinks.

Pupils can bring in spending money to buy
spooky treats.

Please purchase your child's ticket through
the MCAS app.



Well done to our Friday Flyers.
Our Friday Flyers promote our work around
developing Growth Mindset and a can do attitude.

Theme

Learning from feedback

Date

Weekending Friday 26th September

Bovey

Alisa Filonenko

Hazel Rouse

Dart

Zion Oluwatayo

Amari-May Pengilley

Exe

Harley Newman

Jimmy Mead

Mardle

Henry Pratt

Ellie Harrison

Plym

Harper Stevenson

Kayden Breslan

Tamar

Austin Carter

Caroline Hooper

Tavy

Alyssia Broad

Teddy Williams

Teign

Tommy Underwood

Christina Madley

Torridge

Caira Bourne

Lewis Dale

Well done to **Mini Mole** class who had **99.3%** attendance for the period of **15th - 19th Sept.**

Well done to **Tavy** class who had **97.2%** attendance for the period of **22nd - 26th Sept.**

Remember our whole school attendance target for the year we are working towards is 96.2%.

It is essential for children to attend as much school as possible if they are to get the most from their education and achieve their full potential.



Class	W/C 15th September 2025	W/C 22nd September 2025
Taw	87.2%	87.3%
Mini Mole	99.3%	94.9%
Mole	93.7%	88.8%
Mardle	97.5%	93.8%
Bovey	94.1%	89.4%
Tavy	97.8%	97.2%
Dart	93.3%	96%
Plym	98.4%	96.3%
Exe	94.4%	96.7%
Torridge	93.2%	97.5%
Teign	88.8%	97.6%
Tamar	91.6%	94.4%

✓ Set a Routine

A consistent bedtime and early morning routine makes getting to school on time much easier.

✓ Plan Ahead

Lay out uniforms, pack lunches, and check school bags the night before to avoid morning delays.

✓ Schedule Appointments Wisely

Whenever possible, book medical or dental appointments outside of school hours so children don't miss key learning time.

✓ Keep Sick Days for Genuine Illness

If a child is only mildly unwell or tired, they can usually still attend. If in doubt, check with the school.

✓ Talk About Why School Matters

Help children understand that showing up every day helps them learn, build confidence, and stay connected with friends.



Ways to Wellbeing

Autumn 25 Issue #3



World Mental Health Day

10th October is World Mental Health Day!

What is mental health?

Mental health is all about how our brains and bodies feel – how we feel emotionally. Just like physical health, our mental health can go up and down – it is a scale. Some days we might feel more sad or worried, other days we might feel really amazing!

EVERYONE has mental health – that's why MHST is here, to help everyone with their MH!

World Mental Health Day is about celebrating the importance of mental health and thinking about how we can make the world feel like a better place for people mentally and emotionally – both for you and the people around you!

Why not have a go doing some of these things to help promote positive mental health for people around you?

- Asking someone new to play at lunch time
- Complimenting someone on something kind
- Showing friends and family you love them with a hug or card

If you want to learn more about mental health, have a look at these links:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sgCtfRGLmi8>

<https://childrenandfamilyhealthdevon.nhs.uk/our-pathways/mental-health-support-team/>

If you need support for your mental health, please talk to a trusted adult at school or home.

Call 111 and select option 2 for mental health. In an emergency, call 999.