



06.12.24

	Hawthorn Community Primary School <i>The Hawthorn Herald</i>	
Website: hawthornprimarykettering.co.uk		
Head Teacher: Emma Jacox Email: head@hawthorn.pfschools.org.uk		@hawthornpri
		Tel: 01536 512204

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy December! We have a lot going on over the next couple of weeks so please see below for key diary dates and keep an eye out for emails which will give you the details of all events taking place.

Update from Pathfinder Schools

You will have received a letter from Jo Woods, Chair of Trustees for Pathfinder Schools yesterday, detailing the news that the academy trust will disband and all schools, including Hawthorn will be transferred to alternative multi-academy trusts. The time-line for this will be several months long. Here at Hawthorn there will be no changes in the day to day running of our school. Staff are committed as always to doing the very best for our children and families and it is very much 'business as usual'. If you have any questions on this process, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Hawthorn House System

This week the children have had assemblies about the launch of our new Hawthorn house system. We talked about the purpose of the house system and the kinds of things they can earn house points for. Some members of our fantastic School Council even joined our staff meeting this week to talk to the teachers about the research they have carried out into the

house system, and their visit to St Peter's School where they were able to speak with the House Captains.

The children have been coming up with names for our houses; we have now shortlisted the names and are inviting parents to vote on the final six! You will have received this separately on a Microsoft form today. Please submit your vote by Monday (9th) at 11am. On Tuesday 17th, we will have a special 'Choosing Ceremony' where the house names will be revealed to children and staff and everyone will find out which houses they are in! This will be an incredibly exciting moment for our Hawthorn community and I'm sure your children will enjoy telling you about it! Further information about our house system will come out to you in the coming weeks.

KS2 Christmas Musical Evening

*A reminder that the KS2 children will be performing the Nativity at the United Reformed Church, London Road on **Tuesday** evening (**10th December**). The service will begin at 6:00pm however children should arrive between 5:30 and 5:45pm so they can be ready for the performance. Classes will be performing a selection of poems and musical items. The service should finish between 7:00 and 7:30pm. Tickets cost £1.50 and are available to purchase before Monday on MCAS in the store. Due to the capacity of the Church there is a limit of two tickets per family.*

Christmas Crafts

Thank you to everyone who signed up for Christmas Crafts and Coffee on Thursday 12th December. This event proved really popular and was booked up very quickly! Mrs Brown will be running two sessions as a result - from 1-2 pm and 2-3 pm. The sessions will take place in The Palm. A confirmation message has been sent to parents who registered to confirm which session to attend.

KS2 Pantomime

KS2 will be walking to the Lighthouse Theatre on Friday (13th) to watch the pantomime Beauty and the Beast. The payment deadline is today, if you have not already done so please pay on MCAS under Trips & Events.

Christmas Fair

The children have had a wonderful time today at our Hawthorn Christmas Fair, organised by the Friends of Hawthorn. They were able to take part in a range of fun, festive activities and looked fantastic in their Christmas jumpers!

School Uniform Discount Code

My Clothing are offering a 10% discount on school uniform. Please use the code UNIFORM10 on your order. This offer expires on 20th December.

Scout Post

If you wish to send any local Christmas cards by Scout Post, the post box will be at the school office until Monday 16th December. 50p per card delivered.

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes

Emma Jacox

Head Teacher



1 - Hawthorn Christmas Fair



Upcoming Events

KS1 Christingle Workshop

On Tuesday 17th December, KS1 will be hosting their Christingle workshop in the school hall. This fun-filled workshop will give you the opportunity to make Christingles with your children. We will have the Friends of Hawthorn on hand to provide refreshments. We are requesting a voluntary contribution of £1 to go towards the Christingles. Please pay on MCAS in the store. No cash please. Please let us know if you will be coming to the workshop by completing the form using the link below:

[*KS1 Christingle Workshop*](#)

Carols Around the Tree

Please join us at 3pm on Friday 20th December for Carols Around the Tree. This will take place at 3pm on the main playground. Entry via the Broadway gates at 2.55pm. The children will sing a selection of Christmas songs, with which you are welcome to join in, and the Friends of Hawthorn will have refreshments available. This year, we are delighted to announce that the Hawthorn Choir will be joining us to lead some of the Christmas songs.

Reception Nativity

On Wednesday 18th December we will be holding our Reception Nativity 'The Wriggly Nativity' at 9.30 am and 6 pm. If your child is taking part in the nativity please ensure they are back at school by 5.35pm for the 6pm performance. If you have requested tickets, they will be distributed by teachers on Monday 16th December. If you are coming to the 9.30am performance please join us for refreshments which will be served from 9am.

Tickets can be requested using the link below (2 tickets per family per performance only).

[*Tickets for The Wriggly Nativity*](#)

Advent Trail

The local Advent Window Trail will be running again this year - for the 5th year!

This year Hawthorn is Day 7!

Please see the route below showing how you can follow the advent trail.

A group walk round on Christmas Eve morning, looking at all of the windows, will take place (meeting 10am at St Michaels Church). What a wonderful, festive way to burn off some energy with over-excited children!

LONDON ROAD TO HEADLANDS ADVENT WINDOW TRAIL

Follow the trail around our neighbourhood as a new festive window is revealed each day in the run up to Christmas!

2024



Join us on Christmas Eve morning for a walk round together. Spotting guides and maps available for the kids with hot drinks & mince pies to finish. All welcome. Meet at St Michael's Church at 10am.

Want to be involved next year? Text 07792 510671

Sports Clubs

 WE HAVE LIMITED PLACES LEFT ON OUR TERM 2 AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS 

KS2 Girls-Only Football Club (Tuesdays):

Our Play Their Way football sessions are a fun, supportive space for girls in Years 3-6 to develop their football skills, build confidence, and work as a team. These sessions focus on creativity, collaboration, and enjoyment through sport. If your child is interested in football or simply wants to try something new, this is a fantastic opportunity!

Runs until the end of term.

KS1 EcoClub (Wednesdays):

For our younger children in Key Stage 1, we're introducing EcoClub – a hands-on, creative club where children can explore the world of nature, crafting, and sustainability. From art projects to eco-workshops, the children will engage in fun and meaningful activities that promote care for the environment.

Runs until the end of term.

To sign up, please visit the booking page at <https://bookwhen.com/ecocoach> or get in touch with the school office for more information.

Book your child's Christmas Dinner!



KINGSWOOD
EDU-CATER LIMITED

Christmas Dinner

This year's Christmas Dinner will be held on
Thursday 19th December

This **must** be booked by 10am on Thursday 12th December

Please book in the usual way at
www.kingswoodcatering.co.uk

NOT REGISTERED
Then simply goto our website, register and book

Need to Contact Us?
Please e-mail enquiries@kingswoodcatering.co.uk

www.kingswoodcatering.co.uk
KingswoodKitchen / Kingswood Education Catering Ltd



ASDA - Cashpot for Schools

Thank you to everyone who has been shopping at Asda over the last few months and has contributed to the Cashpot for Schools scheme. An amazing £225.03 has been raised for Hawthorn.

Ash: 94%

Apples: 94%

Bay: 92%

Cherries: 89%

What Parents and Carers Need to Know About: Mental Health Apps

At The National College, our **WakeUpWednesday** guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING APPS

When looking at options for supporting a child's mental health, the sheer volume can be overwhelming. There are many wellbeing apps available, but unfortunately not all are trustworthy. It's important to evaluate which resources are suitable, reliable and effective. This guide lets you know what to consider before installing such an app, to determine just how useful it's going to be.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

- QUALITY & RELIABILITY**

Mental health apps can be a useful starting point when looking for wellbeing advice and strategies and can be a useful extension to the in-person services available. However, they aren't a substitute. Information on the quality of some of these apps is scarce. They may look cute and child-friendly, but have they been designed by a mental health professional? Furthermore, do they have research to back up their content?
- PLACE RESPONSIBILITY ON CHILDREN**

Some apps add the words 'kids' or 'children' to their title or use cartoon icons to make them more appealing to young people. When signing up for some of these apps, some will speak to the parent directly, saying something along the lines of "Your child is good to go. Let them take it from here". It's important to remain involved in the child's mental health journey, so regular check-ins are recommended.
- DISREGARDING APPROPRIATE SUPPORT**

Young people who feel anxious and have trouble sleeping may download a mindfulness app to help. While this is a good strategy initially, it's not addressing the root of the problem. A child could simply try managing these symptoms themselves (as opposed to speaking out and seeking professional help), which could potentially worsen their anxiety in the long run.
- LACK OF PERSONALISATION**

Mental health or wellbeing apps are useful tools for the short term, teaching users several helpful habits to manage their condition – such as keeping an illness diary, improving nutrition and practising mindfulness exercises. As every person is unique – and children especially will grow and develop in different ways – these apps struggle to tailor themselves to users' individual needs. For example, many apps don't distinguish between the ages of users and can offer extremely generic advice.
- DATA SECURITY**

As with any other app – not just those for mental health and wellbeing – it's wise to check out the privacy policy before downloading it. Some of these applications may share data with third parties for numerous reasons (such as targeted advertisements), and if a user is sharing personal and sensitive information within the app, they probably don't want it ending up elsewhere without their consent.
- IN-APP PURCHASES**

Many apps will provide their most basic features for free but will require you to pay for other aspects – such as a more tailored experience or access to additional resources. This could be a one-off fee or a regular subscription. Consider whether this is actually required, is it benefiting the child, or could they receive the same support from a medical professional?

Advice for Parents & Educators

- CHECK THE CREDIBILITY OF THE APP**

Before you download a mental health and wellbeing app, investigate the developers. Have they consulted with qualified mental health professionals to create their resource? Also check whether the app is affiliated with any government or mental health organisations, as these are solid indicators of legitimacy. Reviews can also be a useful signpost to the app's quality. There are many good apps out there, but there are just as many that miss the mark.
- READ THE PRIVACY POLICY**

Look into the app's terms of service – especially its privacy policy. Do so by yourself first, then go over it with the child who is considering using the app, to ensure they know what data will be collected and how exactly it will be used. Use all of this information to make an educated decision on whether or not to download that particular app.
- SEEK PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT**

Trusted mental health and wellbeing apps designed by qualified, reputable organisations can be used alongside the personalised advice and support of fully trained professionals. These apps should never be considered a substitute for counselling or other tailored medical help. If you have real concerns about a child's mental wellbeing, you should seek appropriate advice from a suitable source, such as their GP – or Childline, who can be contacted by calling 0800 1111.
- ENCOURAGE OPEN COMMUNICATION**

Mental health and wellbeing apps can be useful for writing down feelings, tracking your own health and other such activities. These can help if the problem is short-term and temporary – such as a child getting stressed about approaching exams – or if you're currently waiting for professional support. Nonetheless, it is important that children aren't solely reliant on the app and have a safe space to talk about their feelings and experiences in the real world.

Meet Our Expert
Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

#WakeUpWednesday The National College

Sources: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/mental-health-apps>

@wake_up_weds | www.thenationalcollege | @wake.up.wednesday | @wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 04.12.2024

For information on talking with child about social media, please click on the following link which will take you to the Internet Matters website: [Internet Matters: Talking with your child about social media](#)

Internet Matters also offer The Family Digital Toolkit where parents can get personalised online safety advice based on a number of factors such as age, popular apps and platforms their children use, tackling online issues and more. [My Family's Digital Toolkit - tailored online safety advice | Internet Matters](#)

Friends of Hawthorn - Upcoming Events

FRIENDS OF HAWTHORN

CHRISTMAS EVENTS

NOVEMBER

FRIDAY 22ND - Jam Jar Non-Uniform Day

DECEMBER

FRIDAY 6TH - Christmas Fair Day

TUESDAY 17TH - Christingle Refreshments

FRIDAY 20TH - Rainbow Raffle Day

FRIDAY 20TH - Carols Refreshments

Could you volunteer to help at these events?
Contact 07792 510671

ORGANISED BY THE FOH TO RAISE FUNDS FOR THE SCHOOL
IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT
FRIENDSOFHAWTHORKETTERING@GMAIL.COM

RAINBOW



XMAS JUMPER DAY & HAMPER RAFFLE

FRIDAY 20TH DECEMBER 2024

You are invited to wear your Christmas jumpers to school for the day!
Please bring in an item to donate to our Rainbow Raffle Hampers in the colour of your year group...

Year Group Colour Key:
 EYFS - Red
 Year 1 - Orange
 Year 2 - Yellow
 Year 3 - Green
 Year 4 - Blue
 Year 5 - Pink or Purple
 Year 6 - Black or White
This can include drinks, sweets, snacks, toiletries, stationery, games, toys etc

HAMPER RAFFLE
 Top prize - **£100 cash**
 2nd prize - **£50 cash**
 plus at least 9 amazing family hampers to be won to enjoy over the Christmas holidays!

Purchase your whole family's entries on MCAS by 3pm on Thursday 19th Dec. £5 = one entry, £10 = two, £15 = three entries...

The raffle draw will be held around 10am and witnessed at school. Winners will be contacted and able to collect prizes from the office.

FRIENDS OF HAWTHORN
 Any questions, please contact
friendsofhawthornkettering@gmail.com

Join the Hawthorn School Lottery!

Some years ago, the Friends of Hawthorn set up a school lottery for Hawthorn, through Your School Lottery.

Your School Lottery creates and runs lotteries for schools across the UK. The lotteries raise money through local communities to improve educational facilities and the school environment for thousands of pupils.

There are great prizes to be had, tickets only cost £1 each and apparently there's a high chance of winning! Even better, proceeds go towards improving our school for our Hawthorn children.

If you have not yet signed up the The School Lottery, you can do so, following the link below:

[Your School Lottery: Easy online fundraising for schools & PTAs - Your School Lottery](#)

Community News & Events

Please follow the link below to the school website to find information on events happening in Kettering and surrounding areas:

[Hawthorn Primary - Community News and Events \(hawthornprimarykettering.co.uk\)](http://hawthornprimarykettering.co.uk)

Be Prepared for Christmas with

Scoutpost 

<http://glendonscouts.org.uk/scoutpost>

Scouts deliver your local cards

**Post your cards from December 1st
to December 16th**

Cost 50p per card

**Look out for our collection boxes
(see website for locations)**

We can deliver to

Barton Seagrave	Desborough	Little Oakley	Pytchley
Braybrooke	Geddington	Little	Stanion
	Rockingham		
Broughton	Grafton Underwood		Loddington
	Rothwell		
Brigstock	Great Oakley	Mawsley	Rushton
Burton Latimer	Gretton	Newton	Stanion
Corby	Isham		Orlingbury
	Thrapston		
Cranford	Kettering	Orton	Warkton
Cransley	Little Cransley	Pipewell	Weekley
			Weldon

Please do not post cards for other places as we will be unable to deliver them. We DO NOT deliver to Finedon or Wellingborough



Address Recipients name
cards: House number / road

Town
Postcode (if known)

To join Scouting visit
glendonscouts.org.uk

*St Michael's & All Angels
Garfield Street NN15 6BU*

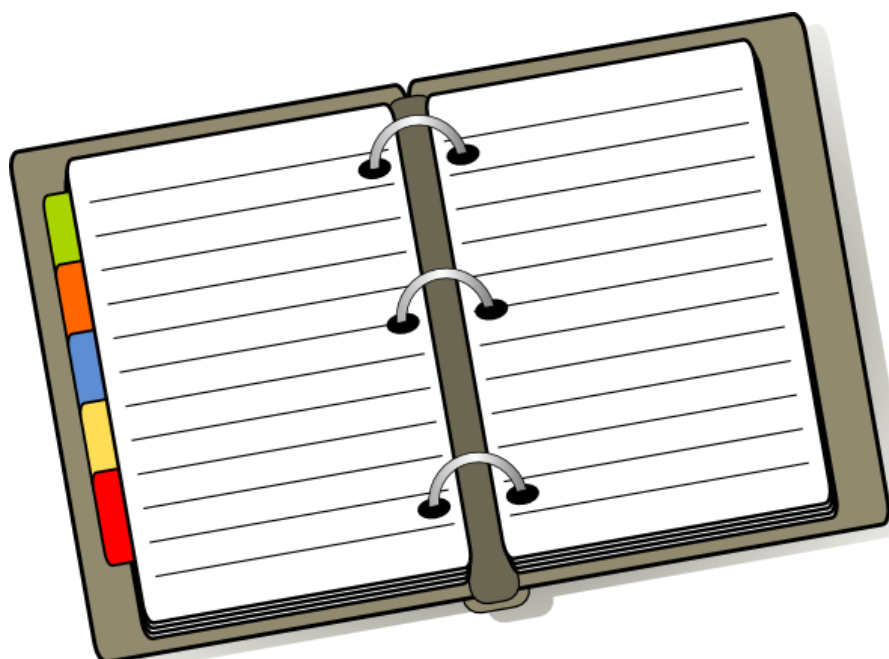


Toy service Sunday 8th December at 9am.

Donations of any new toys (unwrapped) for gifting welcomed at during the service.



Dates For Your Diary...



Tues 10th Dec: KS2 Carol Musical Evening at The United Reformed Church (6pm)

Weds 11th Dec: Rocksteady Concert for Weds Bands - parents welcome (2pm)

Thurs 12th Dec: Coffee Afternoon - Christmas Crafts (2pm)

Fri 13th Dec: KS2 Pantomime 'Beauty and the Beast' at the Lighthouse Theatre

Rocksteady Concert for Fri Bands - parents welcome (2pm)

Tues 17th Dec: Hawthorn Houses 'Choosing Ceremony'

KS1 Christingle workshop - KS1 parents welcome. FoH providing hot chocolate and mince pies (2.30pm)

Weds 18th Dec: EYFS Nativity performances at 9.30am (coffee in The Palm from 8.45am) and 6pm

Thurs 19th Dec: Kingswood Christmas Lunch

KS1 Christingle (PM)

Fri 20th Dec: Rainbow Raffle Day

Santa's Grotto open

Carols Around the Tree, FoH providing hot chocolate and mince pies (3pm)

Break Up

Mon 6th Jan: Back to School

House Launch Day - wear House colours

Thurs 9th Jan: Super Scientist Club starts
