

Highnam C of E Primary Academy



@HIGHNAMACADEMY

CHILDREN WITH CONFIDENCE

1ST MARCH 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

After a recent Headteachers' meeting I was able to have a quick pop into all the classrooms during the afternoon and it was lovely to see the variety of exciting learning experiences: Year 3 were completing a magnetic investigation, Year 4 were learning about electrical circuits, Years 5 and 6 had started exploring the territories of Australia, Reception pupils were making tasty smoothies, Year 1 were planning their Collective Worship and Year 2 were learning using the computers. Thank you to all staff for planning and teaching such exciting lessons.

Year 2 Dance Festival

Last week a number of Year 2 pupils took part in the Gloucestershire Dance Festival held at the Cheltenham Town Hall. For the past few weeks Miss Coldrick had been working with the pupils to practise their routine. On the day the pupils were a real credit to the school and they performed the routine very well.



My thanks to Miss Coldrick and our great team of parents who helped to transport and support the pupils while at the festival.



Year 1 Pirate Day & Collective Worship

On Friday last week pupils in Year 1 did a fantastic job of leading our Collective Worship. It was lovely to see all their learning about pirates and to see their wonderful pirate ships created at home. Before half term they had a great pirate day when they took part in three pirate themed lessons. The biscuit decoration was a highlight!



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Years 5 and 6 @ Bristol

Pupils in Years 5 and 6 had a thoroughly engaging and inspiring time @ Bristol, an interactive Science museum. On their return pupils wrote to the museum to say thank you. Calum said: 'Thank you for our amazing trip to your museum, which was probably the best museum I have ever been to! The workshop, hosted by Dee, an enthusiastic teacher, flashed by: dry ice, stinky cheese, super-fun pop rockets, flaming cereal and best of all, cake! Thank you so much for my great visit.'

Primary QuEST iSingPOP Special

On the 17th March we will be performing with Staunton and Corse and Redmarley Academies in Gloucester Cathedral. A reminder that doors open at 6:15pm for a **6:30pm start** and pupils will be collected from the front of the main tiered stage in the main nave of the cathedral at 7:30pm. It promises to be a wonderful experience. Please purchase tickets via School Money Shop online by **Friday 3rd March** as we need to know how many tickets are available for parents requesting additional ones. Please leave your requests for further tickets with Mrs Honan and all tickets will be sent out the week beginning the 6th March.



Parents Evening

Parents Meetings will take place on Thursday 23rd and Tuesday 28th March between 4-7pm. Pupils' work will be available to see before or after your appointment. Please use the online booking service to arrange your appointment.

Cross Country Success

Congratulations to Nathan, Woody and Martha who have qualified to represent the Forest of Dean in the County Race on Saturday 11th March. Nathan finished 1st in the selection race, Woody 4th and Martha was 3rd in the girls' race.

Reception enjoy their China Day!

Our Reception pupils have had a superb time learning all about China. During their topic they have: produced some lovely artwork; created the China inspired Great Wall of Friendship; eaten Chinese food (it was very tasty); and shared their learning in a wonderful Collective Worship. Thank you to our Early Years team for creating so many memorable learning experiences.



Gloucestershire Wildlife Quiz

Well done to Calum, Duncan, Joseph and Zoe who took part in the nature quiz against reigning champions Deerhurst and Apperley yesterday. The team worked well together and won 33-29.

Science and Engineering Challenge

We are taking part in the King's School Science and Engineering Challenge on Saturday 25th March. All the best to the Highnam representatives: Caleb, Evan, Ollie and Tom.

PTA News

The next pupil event is the Film Night on Friday 24th March straight after school. The next parent evening planned is the Pudding Evening on Friday 31st March.

Year 5 trip to Newent

Year 5 were invited to view the eagerly anticipated Buggy Malone performance at Newent School last week. They were entertained throughout the day and were also treated to a special Science lesson.

It was lovely to see ex-Highnam pupils performing in the show!



Football Teams' News

Well done to both the Boys and the Girls teams for winning their respective leagues. The knock-out cup competition is now under way. The B team played well against a strong Elmbridge team losing 3-0. The A team played against Hillview and a gale, often seeing the ball kicked in one direction and it flying back over their heads! After a tense game the match went into penalties with Highnam losing with the final penalty kick. A valiant display! So it is now up to the girls team who play Field Court tonight - all the best!

World Book Day

World Book Day is tomorrow the 2nd March. We won't be dressing up this year but we will be spending time working with some great novels.

Our next non-school uniform day is on Friday 24th March which is **Comic Relief** Day. Please bring in £1 to support this worthy cause.



24 March

Life Bus Visit

All classes had the opportunity to have an interactive lesson in the life bus last week. The topics included: Decisions, Friends, It's Great to be Me, Meet the Brain, Feelings, My Wonderful Body and All About Me. Each lesson was age appropriate and we look forward to our next visit in a couple of years time.



Youth Hub

The Youth Hub will be run by Scripture Union, volunteers from Highnam Church and Mr Dean during the first two days of the Easter holidays. On Monday 10th and Tuesday 11th April the sessions will be held from 1:30 - 4:00pm and open to pupils in Years 5, 6 and 7.

The cost will be £3 per session or £5 for both days. Please see the attached flyer for more information on how to book.



Messy Church

The next Messy Church is planned for Wednesday 15th March straight after school. It has been lovely to see so many families attending. Please let Mrs Honan know if you would like to attend this time.



Book Fair

Our annual Book Fair is on this week in Home Lodge. Please take the opportunity to buy a good book and spend your World Book Day voucher.

Home School Values

This term's Value for Life is: *Responsibility*. There are family activities available under the links sections of the website.

Big Pedal 2017

In previous years we have finished very high on the Big Pedal County and national leaderboards. This year the competition runs from the 20th - 31st March. All you need to do is ride or scoot to school. It would be fantastic to see the bike shed full and pupils cycling from various places around the village. If you are able to join them there are additional points along with younger siblings as well.

There are prizes being offered for the best schools in Gloucestershire this year so let's see how we get on our bikes!

There will be a bikers breakfast on the first day of the Big Pedal (**Monday 20th March**) join us in the hall for a tasty breakfast. On the final day of the Big Pedal (**Friday 31st March**) we will be holding a 'Be Bright Be Seen' non-school uniform day. Awards for the brightest pupils and bikes if you'd like to!



Bench of Honour — February:

It has been wonderful to see so many pupils demonstrating positive character traits this year. Congratulations to Teyah, Ellie, Max, Isabelle O, Belle H, Phoebe, Ilsa, Finn, Tyler, Talia, Alannah, Jessica M, Gracie, Jack W and Joseph who were on the bench in February.

And finally, a quick reminder that we are collecting the **Sainsbury's School vouchers**.

Kind regards, Stephen Dean, Headteacher