

Highnam C of E Primary Academy



@HIGHNAMACADEMY

CHILDREN WITH CONFIDENCE

7TH SEPTEMBER 2017

Dear Parents

Welcome back, I trust you had a wonderful summer break. At the end of last term we fitted two new interactive panels into Year 3 and 4 so now all classrooms are up to date with the latest technology. Homelodge had the floor completely removed and a new one fitted and is ready for a new academic year. If you require the before or after school club please contact Mandy and the team on 01452 520849. I look forward to working with you all this year.



Get Caught Reading

It has been exciting to see the great variety of entries to the Get Caught Reading Summer challenge. Miss Coldrick will find it tricky to pick a winner! Thank you for all the entries so far, the deadline for photos to be submitted is Friday so please send to admin@highnam.gloucs.sch.uk.

SATs Results

This was the second year of the new Year 6 testing arrangements and was based on the 2014 National Curriculum and this resulted in changes to the marks with scaled scores being used and a score of 100 being the mark which was deemed to be 'Secondary Ready'.

This year we had 32 pupils in Year 6, each child was worth 3.1%. The national averages and our school results for 2017 were as follows:

Subject	National	School	Difference
Reading	71%	94%	+21%
Writing	76%	91%	+15%
Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling	77%	91%	+14%
Maths	75%	78%	+3%

Thank you to all staff involved in the preparation for the assessments. Their dedication and enthusiasm, along with the hard work of the pupils involved, have resulted in some very pleasing results. The pupils leave Highnam having fulfilled their potential and ready for the next stage of their education at the various local secondary schools.

We had a fantastic final few weeks with our Year 6 pupils. There was a Leavers' disco, the traditional BBQ and rounders match, Leavers' Hoodies and a superb Leavers' Service. A big thank you to Miss Read and all the parents who contributed to the enjoyable and memorable end of term celebrations.

Tel: 01452 525872

www.highnam.gloucs.sch.uk

email: admin@highnam.gloucs.sch.uk

Harvest Festival

This year the Harvest Festival will be held at Holy Innocents Church for Years 1-6 on Wednesday 11th October at 10am. Parents and pupils are warmly invited to join with us for the celebration. This year we would like tinned donations which will be donated to the GARAS [Gloucestershire Action for Refugees and Asylum Seekers](#). Pupils will be walked to and from the church so if you are able to help please let Mrs Honan know.

New Staff

It is my privilege to welcome Miss Gent to Highnam Academy. She will be teaching in Year 5. Mrs Kirby has joined the teaching assistant team and will be working in Year 3. Please help to make them feel at home with us.



Miss Gent



Mrs Kirby

New routine to the start of the day

This year, to help with congestion on and around the playground, at the start of the day there will be a bell for the pupils to line up and a second bell shortly after. Please can parents begin to leave the playground after the first bell so pupils can use the footpaths. Please can you help us with this new procedure

Accelerated Reader Club

Pupils in Key Stage 2 are invited into school at 8:15am - 8:45am when they complete an Accelerated Reader book to take the quiz in the ICT suite. Mrs Wilson will be supporting the pupils and helping them select their next book. This will be available **Monday-Wednesday**.

Home School Values

The new Home School Values are available for parents and carers to download from the Academy website under the Links tab. This term in Collective Worship we start by looking at '[TRUST](#)' and the PDFs provide follow up activities and discussion points. We trust your family will find these ideas helpful as you explore the values together. You can also access the resources via the hyperlinks below.

2017/2018

Term 1	TRUST	PEACE
Term 2	COURAGE	
Term 3	COMPASSION	SERVICE
Term 4	FRIENDSHIP	
Term 5	JUSTICE	GENEROSITY

Walk to School Zone

In the Summer the Academy Council worked with the Thinkwise Travel team to set up the 5 minute walking zone around the school please take time to read the flyer which will be sent home soon.

Parents Evening

These will be held from 4-7pm on Thursday 16th November and Tuesday 21st November. The online booking system will be open later in the term.

Music Opportunities

It was great to see the fantastic musical talent on show at the end of last year during the Summer Concert. There are a variety of music lessons available for pupils in Key Stage 2:

Drums (Austin Rose) - currently a waiting list

Guitar (Simon McCarthy) - This lesson will be taught by teachers from the Gloucester based Schools Music Agency.

Flute lessons - provided by Mrs Smith

Prices of lessons vary: Please see Mrs Honan for further details.

Finally, brass club is open to pupils in Years 5 and 6. The first club will be on Monday 25th September. If your child would like to attend please let us know.

Thank You

On behalf of all the staff and myself please can I pass on our thanks for the lovely cards and generous gifts received at the end of last term. We were overwhelmed by your kindness.

PTA

Every year the PTA do a fantastic job of raising money for the Academy. Last year over £6,000 was donated to the school to help contribute to the installation of the HUB kitchen room and the Year 1 outdoor area.

The PTA AGM will be held in school on Monday 25th September at 7:30pm — all are invited to attend. The PTA will be organising a coffee morning for new Reception parents on 25th September after morning drop off, 9-10am in the school hall.

Calendar

A calendar for this academic term is attached to this newsletter. The four remaining teacher training days, when the academy will be closed this year, are:

Monday 4th June

Monday 23rd July

Tuesday 24th July

Wednesday 25th July

Tesco Bag of Help

If you are in your local Tesco store over the next six weeks please support the Highnam Academy Project for a path around the school grounds. All tokens from local stores will be added up to determine the size of grant received.



New Prayer Tree

A big thank you to Mrs Hazelden who has created our beautiful new prayer tree in the school hall.



October Holiday Club

Mrs Evans, a teaching assistant in school is planning to run a holiday club in October half term to help parents with childcare provision. Please see the letter about the club and express your interest via the school office or speaking to Mrs Evans in person.

Naming Clothes / Drinks in School

It is great to see all the pupils looking so smart. Please could I remind you to name their clothes, shoes and folders to help us keep a track of clothing in school.

Please can pupils only bring water into school in their bottles. There are a number of filtered water stations around the school where they can refill their bottles.

School Hoodie

A reminder the school hoodie is available from 'Your Name on it'. You are able to purchase a Navy blue hoodie for PE, if your child is in Key Stage Two, which can also be used when representing the school in various sporting activities. It is available in various sizes and costs £12.50

Please order at:

<http://www.yournameonitshop.co.uk/highnam.html>

There is a sample in the school office if you'd like to view it first.

PE Uniform

Please can I remind parents that pupils need a plain white T-shirt, navy shorts and daps/trainers for PE. These should be named in a bag and in school all week.

Extra Curricular Clubs

Mrs Townsend will be sending out the clubs letter this week. Please check through the options carefully and return to school asap. Clubs will begin Monday 18th September.

And finally...

A warm welcome to all the new pupils, parents and staff who have joined us at Highnam this September. We trust you will feel at home with us here and I look forward to a successful year together.

Contact details and Pick up List

Attached to this newsletter is a blank contact list. Please complete this with the most up to date information and return to school asap.

In Key Stage One (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) only the people named on the contact list will be authorised to collect your child at the end of the school day.

On the odd occasion another adult is due to pick up your child and is not on your completed form please inform the school office.

Open Classrooms

Throughout the year we like to give parents and carers the opportunity to see the great work the pupils are producing. Therefore you are invited to visit your child's classroom, known as 'Open Classrooms' between 3:20pm and 4pm on the last **Wednesday** of every term. The first one for this term will be **Wednesday 18th October**.

Vaccine Update

To give your child the best protection against Measles, Mumps and Rubella a child needs two doses. Therefore if your child has not had a second MMR as part of pre-school vaccines, I would encourage you to do this by contacting your GP/ Practice nurse.

Pupils in Reception-Year 4 are able to have the flu vaccine this year which is administered through a nasal spray. The nurse will be in school to administer this on Friday 13th October if you don't want your child to receive this please inform Mrs Honan before this date.

Kind regards, Stephen Dean Headteacher

Dates for your diary**September**

11th	Year 4 Residential Meeting	3:20pm
18th	School Clubs start this week	
25th	PTA Coffee morning for Reception Parents	9am-10am
	Messy Church after school	3:15pm
	PTA AGM	7pm
28th	Reading Meeting for New Reception Parents	AM

October

4th-6th	Year 4 Mini-Residential to the Wilderness Centre	
9th	Money Week	
11th	Harvest Festival at Holy Innocents Church, Highnam	10am
13th	Class 2TC Collective Worship	9am
18th	Open Classrooms	All day
19th	Maths Curriculum Evening	6pm
20th	Class 4T Collective Worship	9am
	End of Term 1	3:20pm
30th	Term 2 begins	8:55am

November

3rd	Class 3HR Collective Worship	9am
8th	Academy Open Day for Prospective Parents and the Highnam Community	10-11:30am 1:30-3pm
10th	Class 1S Collective Worship	9am
15th	Messy Church	3:15am
16th	School Photographs	AM
16th (Thurs)	Parents' Evening	4-7pm
21st (Tues)	Parents' Evening	4-7pm

December

1st	Class 5G Collective Worship	9am
3rd	Christingle Service at Highnam Church	4pm
8th	Class 6O Collective Worship	9am
	Key Stage 2 Experience Christmas at Highnam Church	All day
13th	KS1 Christmas Production	9:30am
	KS1 Christmas Production	2pm
14th	Key Stage 2 Christmas Church Service	2pm
	Key Stage 2 Christmas Church Service	6:30pm
15th	Upper KS2 Christmas Party	PM
18th	Lower LS2 Party	PM
19th	Daylight Theatre	AM
	Key Stage 1 Party	PM
	End of Term 2	2:30pm

January

4th	Term 3 begins for pupils	8:55am
23rd March	Reception Class Assembly	9am