

Highnam C of E Primary Academy



@HIGHNAMACADEMY

CHILDREN WITH CONFIDENCE

2ND OCTOBER 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

Over the past it has been good to visit each classroom and to see how quickly the new pupils have settled into the school year. This month we have our Year 4 mini-residential, Gloucester Rugby working with Year 5, a mini-marine programme in Year 6, our Harvest Festival and much more topic learning.

Bronze Award for Highnam Academy

Last year the Academy Council (our Junior Travel Ambassadors) worked with the Think Travel team from Gloucestershire County Council to create a 5 minute walking zone. As a result of this hard work - the Walk to School Week and the Big Pedal - the school was awarded the Bronze award from Modeshift STARS. This year we are aiming for silver!



Pupil Voice

It is fantastic to see how many pupils want to contribute to the running of the school. This year can I extend my thanks to the Academy Council, House Captains, the Sports Crew, Reading and Maths Champions and our Worship Committee. It is so encouraging to also see the pupils so willing to help out around the academy.

Class Collective Worship

We are looking forward to our Class Collective Worships which begin later this month with Class 2TC and Class 4T. Parents from these classes are invited to share with us at 9am on Friday mornings.

Parental Maths Workshop

We really value parents supporting pupils with their learning at home. On **Thursday 19th October** we will be holding a maths evening to update parents with the latest maths terminology, methods and home learning opportunities. For this workshop we will be focusing on Addition and Subtraction and teachers will be leading various sessions. The Key Stage 1 and Reception part of the evening will begin at 6pm and the Key Stage 2 part will begin at 7:15pm. Tea and coffee will be served in the hall from 7-7:15pm. Please inform Mrs Honan in the school office if you are able to attend.



Please join us on Thursday 19th October at either 6pm or 7pm.

Tesco Charity Tokens

Thank you to all who have been adding to the Highnam total when shopping in Tesco stores. This is the final month for the tokens to be registered so please ask for a few at the checkout and help us raise funds for our field path.

Tel: 01452 525872

www.highnam.gloucs.sch.uk

email: admin@highnam.gloucs.sch.uk

Harvest Festival

We are looking forward to our annual harvest festival at Holy Innocent's Church in Highnam on Wednesday 13th October at 10am for pupils in Year 1 to Year 6. This year, we will be supporting GARAS (Gloucestershire Action for Refugees and Asylum Seekers). This charity works in and around Gloucester. Please send in tinned produce and any financial donations in marked envelopes. If you can help walk the children please let Mrs Honan know.



Messy Church

The first Messy Church of the year was held last Monday. It was great to see new families joining in after school. The next one will be held on Wednesday 15th November.



Parent Helpers

Please can I pass on my thanks to the parents who have been working in school to support our classes - your support is much appreciated by staff.

Water bottles

Please can we request that the water bottles pupils use are a similar size to the school ones as the larger ones don't fit in the water coolers.

New Reception Pupils

It has been super to see how well the new Reception pupils have settled into the school. They are now into the routine of hot lunches and have been working very hard in class. Their portraits of the staff are now around the school. Thank you to Miss Cooney, Mrs Cresswell, Mrs Hayes, Mrs King and Mrs Watts for supporting the pupils.

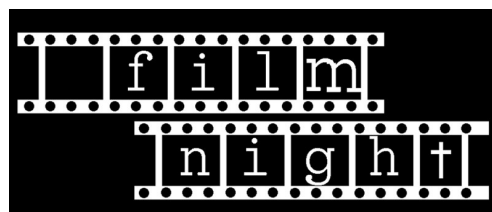


New Reception Parents Meeting

This meeting was held last week. Thank you to all who attended. The PowerPoint used has been uploaded to the school website.

PTA 5K Challenge

This year the PTA has set the challenge of raising £5,000 for the school. This will go towards various projects around the school, including updates to the new reading scheme. All pupils in the school will benefit from this new facility and we need your help. The first event is a film night on **Friday 13th October** and there will be a KS1 and KS2 film shown simultaneously.



Before School

Thanks for assisting us with the new procedure at the start of the day. This has helped ensure pupils come into school in a calm way and has especially helped our new pupils in Reception. We are also able to bring the pupils into school in a more orderly manner - many thanks.

Family Support Worker

Gill Clapton has been assisting families connected with the Academy for a number of years now. If you would like to find out more about the advice and support she can offer please see Mrs Honan.

School Website , App and Twitter

The school website, App and our Twitter feed are all good ways of keeping up to date with the latest news from the Academy.

Currently there are over 330 followers on Twitter and the diary on the school website has an up to date sporting fixture list. Over 125 users have the Highnam App on their phones and the school calendar will now 'sync' with your phone to help keep up to date with school events.

Bench of Honour

A few years ago the Academy Council wanted to reward pupils who 'went the extra mile' - those who carried out deeds of kindness without being asked or prompted. Congratulations to Joseph and Ellie who were on the 'Bench' in September.

Gloucester Health and Well-being Visits

Pupils in Year 5 have been taking part in a 5 week project with Niki from Gloucester Rugby. Last week the pupils learnt all about having positive body language and how communicating face to face is important for building up successful teams. At the end of the session the pupils put into practice what they had learnt through the haka. Thanks to Miss Gent for organising this exciting opportunity.



Pupils in Year 5 enjoying performing the haka

The Summer Reading Challenge

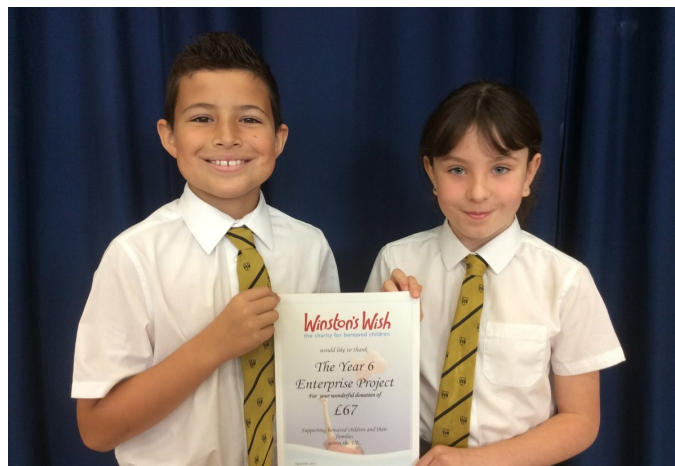
Congratulations to the readers who completed the Summer Reading Challenge 2017 at Newent Library. It has been great to award some of the certificates during our Collective Worships.

Term Dates

A quick reminder that Term 1 finishes on Friday 20th October at normal time. Term 2 begins on Monday 30th October.

Thank You from Winston's Wish

Last year the Year 6 pupils hosted their enterprise project called Highnam Quays. Three charities were chosen to support and we received a lovely letter of thanks from Winston's Wish. Thank you to our previous Year 6 for all their hard work and to all who supported this venture.



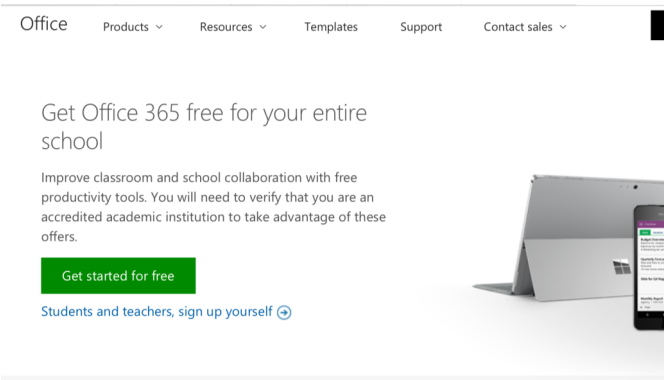
Get Caught Reading

Thank you to all pupils who took part in the Get Caught Reading competition over the summer. Congratulations to Lottie, Isabelle, Daniel and Finn who all received book tokens for their entries.



Microsoft Office for Pupils

Thank you to Mr McGillion who has informed us that all pupils are entitled to a free version of Microsoft Office. We use these programmes in school and may also be useful for pupils to have access to at home.



Football Teams

Both football teams began their season with pleasing victories. The girls secured a 5-0 victory at Churchdown Village Junior School and the A team beat Hillview Primary School 9-0. Thank you to Mrs Townsend for preparing the teams.



The girls after their match at CVJS

And finally...

Next week is 'Money Week' in school. We are going to be exploring what we can do with money and providing pupils with a wide variety of money related learning opportunities.

Highnam Brass Club

A couple of weeks ago the Brass Club for pupils in Years 4-6 began again. There are currently a few places still available if your child would like to try the club, it is held after school on Mondays. A big thank you to the volunteers from Gloucester Brass for running the club.



Introducing the 2017/2018 Academy Council

Open Classrooms

We are looking forward to sharing pupils' work with parents at our first Open Classrooms which will be held on Wednesday 18th October straight after school.



Marvellous potions written by pupils in Year 3

Kind regards,
Stephen Dean, Headteacher