

# Highnam C of E Primary Academy



@HIGHNAMACADEMY

**CHILDREN WITH CONFIDENCE**

4TH NOVEMBER 2019

Dear Parents,

We have just started term 2 which is always a very busy term in school with class led collective worships, Christmas Productions and our end of term parties. This month we will also be holding our parents' evenings, and the Academy Open Day. The pupils and staff are looking forward to welcoming visitors into the Academy.



## Year 4 Mini-Residential

At the start of last month Year 4 had a great trip to the Wilderness Centre. We had a fabulous few days...the food was tasty and the activities were enjoyable and challenging. The pupils were great to be with and my thanks to Miss Thomas, Miss Coldrick and Mrs Gilchrist for their support and hard work during the trip.



## Harvest Festival

Thank you to all the pupils and parents who supported our Harvest Festival before half term. This year we held the festival with the village and church community on Sunday 13th October.

Thank you to all who attended and took part and to the staff who came to support the pupils.

The donations collected were taken to support the work of Gloucester Foodbank.

## Introducing Owen Westall

We are delighted to welcome a new Children and Families Worker to the Highnam Benefice. Owen Westall will be splitting his time 50:50 between the Highnam Benefice and the Leadon Vale Benefice. He spent some time in school with us before half term and ran the Light Party during half term. We look forward to working alongside Owen and supporting his ministry in the local area.



Owen supporting Year 4 pupils on a recent visit

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### Erasmus+ Trip to Croatia

It was a privilege to travel with Julia, Ellie, Oliver and Jay and Miss Gent to Croatia a few weeks ago. This was the fourth part of the project called: Coding in a Cultural Europe. At the start of our trip we visited the capital of Croatia - Zagreb and the stunning Plitvice Lakes. Once we arrived in Pozega we had two days in school sharing our learning with the other pupils and taking part in a number of Coding workshops. The pupils had an amazing time with their host families and it was an emotional goodbye on Friday when we headed back to the airport. They were great ambassadors for the school and we are looking forward to welcoming our five partner schools to the UK in March.

We are beginning to plan some of the excursions and would encourage those pupils who would like to host visiting pupils to let the school know ASAP. These pupils will join with our visitors on some of the days out. It will be a great week and we want as many pupils to be part of the experience!



### Colour Run

On Friday 11th October Highnam Academy held a special charity colour run. The run was completed by staff, parents and pupils and raised over £1250 for 3 charities. The money was split between iReach Africa, Diabetes UK and supporting Worcester schoolboy Oscar Saxelby-Lee to get specialist leukaemia treatment in Singapore. It was a fantastic afternoon and thank you to all who collected sponsor money, took part or came along to support the runners. J-Beau Photography photographed the event - a big thank you to Mrs Bottomley. Finally, a massive thank you to Mrs Carpenter who organised the event ably supported by Mrs Honan in the school office. Finally, it was fantastic to see another great fund raising event at Highnam Academy!



### Primary QuEST Launch and Website

It was great to bring all the staff, members, directors and local advisors of Primary QuEST together for a special evening at Hartpury College earlier in the term. The new Primary QuEST website [www.primaryquest.co.uk](http://www.primaryquest.co.uk) is now live and we look forward to a variety of staff and pupil events this academic year.



### Parents' Evenings

This year Parents' Evenings will take place on Thursday 14th and Tuesday 19th November between 4-7pm.

We will be using the teacher2parents appointment system to aid parents and staff in the booking of appointments.

An email later this month will invite you to choose a 10 minute appointment time online. If you need to change your appointment for any reason then this can be completed online by selecting a different slot.

### Poppies on Sale in the Academy

Pupils in Year 6 will be selling poppies to raise money for the Royal British Legion who provide thousands of modern day veterans, service men, women and their families with much needed support.

### Open Day

Our annual Open Day will be held on 13th November. There are two sessions 10-11:30am and 1:30-3pm. Please come along and see the new learning areas and the classes in action.



### Life Savers Banking

A big thank you to the volunteer parents who are helping to run the Life Savers Banking mornings on Thursday and Friday. If you would like your child to start learning about savings through this scheme please see Mrs Carpenter in Year 1.



### Cross Country Success

Recently, the girls' and boys' cross country teams headed over to Five Acres High School in the Forest of Dean for a special team event.

Both teams performed well with the boys finishing in first place over all in the team event.

Thank to Miss Owen who supported the pupils and to all who helped with lifts.



### Class Collective Worships

A reminder to check your dates for the term or visit the school website to keep up to date with the events planned for this term.

Each class will be leading a Collective Worship which parents are invited to attend. Before half term our Year 4 class shared their learning from their recent visit to the Wilderness Centre.

### Great Work Reception

A big well done to all our Reception pupils who have been working so hard this term and settled so well.

Thank you to the Year 6 buddies who have helped to support them at playtimes and lunchtimes.



Pupils in Reception enjoying the outdoor area

## Children in Need

We will be supporting the BBC's Children in Need appeal on Friday 15th November. Please can pupils wear non-school uniform and bring in £1 on the day.



## Messy Church

The next Messy Church will be on **Wednesday 6th November** and will be held in the school hall.

### Visit by Mark Harper MP

We were delighted to welcome Mark Harper MP into Highnam Academy last month. Mr Harper was interviewed during Collective Worship, presented the new Academy Council members and House Captains with their badges, enjoyed a tour of the school and had two debates in Years 5 and 6.

Afterwards, Mr Harper wrote to the school to thank us for the visit and to say how informative and interesting he found the visit. The class ambassadors did a great job welcoming our visitors into each classroom – well done!



Mark Harper MP with the new Academy Council

## And finally,

It is amazing to see how well the school is supported by parent and friends of the school during the day. Your help is invaluable and much appreciated — thank you.

## Sport News

My thanks to all the staff and parents who support our various sporting teams during the year. This term we have had a number of football and netball matches and have had great side line support - thank you!



### Year 2 Nature in Art Visit

A few weeks ago pupils from Year 2 headed to Nature in Art, near Twigworth for a day of art. They made self portraits and clay fish.

"I had a great day of learning!"

said Zoe enthusiastically.



Year 2 visit Nature in Art

### Local Studies

In the short week before the end of term, a number of classes headed out around Highnam to complete geographical and historical studies of the local area. Pupils in Year 1 visited Highnam Court, thank you to Roger Head for enabling this and Years 3 and 4 visited the new housing estate. Thank you to staff for planning these local trips and to the parents who supported them.

Kind regards, Stephen Dean, Headteacher

## Dates for your diary

### **November**

4th	Term 2 begins	8:55am
6th	School Photos	AM
	Messy Church in the school hall	After school
8th	Year 2 Class Collective Worship	9am
	Flu vaccine school visit	All day
9th	LIFE celebration at All Saints Academy, Cheltenham	2-5pm
12th	Year 3 Trip to the Wilson Museum	AM
	Years 5 and 6 Trip to the Steam Museum, Swindon	All day
13th	Academy Open Day for Prospective Parents and the Highnam Community	10-11:30am 1:30-3pm
14th (Thurs)	Parents' Evening	4-7pm
15th	Year 3 Class Collective Worship	9am
	Children in Need non-school uniform day	All day
19th (Tues)	Parents' Evening	4-7pm
22nd	Year 6 Class Collective Worship	9am

### **December**

6th Dec	Year 5 Class Collective Worship	9am
13th Dec	PTA Disco	After School
16th Dec	Year 6 to sing in the Cathedral	PM
17th	KS1 Christmas Production	9:30am & 1:30pm
18th	KS2 Christmas Church Services	2pm & 6pm
19th	Lower Key Stage 2 Party	AM
	Key Stage 1 Party	PM
20th	Community Coffee Morning	9:30am
	Upper Key Stage 2 Party	
	End of Term 2	2:30pm

### **January 2020**

6th Jan	Term 3 begins for pupils	8:55am
17th Jan	Young Voices trip to Birmingham	PM
14th Feb	Reception Class Collective Worship	9am
20th March	Year 5 Collective Worship	9am
3rd April	Year 1 Collective Worship	9am
15th May	Year 4 Collective Worship	9am
22nd May	Reception Collective Worship	9am
5th June	Year 2 Collective Worship	9am