

Highnam C of E Primary Academy



@HIGHNAMACADEMY

CHILDREN WITH CONFIDENCE

2ND DECEMBER 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have been enjoying our class-led Collective Worship this term. It has been great to see the enthusiasm and confidence shown by all the pupils. In the past month, Year 2 enjoyed a Coding workshop, pupils from Year 3 enjoyed the Into Film Festival and Years 5 and 6 have visited the STEAM museum in Swindon. It is fantastic to see the pupils enjoying the Highnam curriculum so much!



Christmas Performances and Parties

On Wednesday 18th December at 2pm and 6pm in Highnam Church our Key Stage Two pupils will be leading a Christmas Carol Service. There will be two tickets available to families for each performance. The Key Stage 1 show — 'Lights, Camel, Action 2!' will take place in the school hall on Tuesday 18th at 9:30am & 2pm and two tickets will be available per family per show. Tickets will be sent home later in the month.

The children's parties will be held in school time on the following dates:

Thursday 19th December	Year 3/4 AM
Thursday 19th December	Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 lunchtime & PM
Friday 20th December	Year 5/6

**Please note:
All clubs will
finish at the
end of next
week.**

Children may wear non-school uniform on their party day.

Thank you to CaterCater who will be cooking the sausages for the juniors and providing food for the infant party.

Community Coffee Morning

On Friday 20th December we will be hosting a Community Coffee morning on Friday morning, starting at 9:30am with friends from Highnam Church. There will be a performance from the Year 6 choir and some of our musicians and mince pies to accompany your refreshments.

If you know of any neighbours who would enjoy a visit to school please encourage them to join us.

Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day

We would like to encourage Christmas jumpers to be worn on our Christmas dinner day which is **Monday 16th December 2019.**

This year we will be supporting the Spinal Muscular Atrophy UK charity. SMA UK supports Jack in our Reception class and other children across the country with spinal muscular atrophy. Please bring in £1 to wear your jumper and support this great charity.

iReach Africa Visit to Highnam Academy

Our thanks to Miss Read, for visiting the school last month to share updates from the Mozambique school. She has been teaching in Year 6 and has shared her experiences from the last year with a number of classes and it has been good to hear about the enthusiastic questions being asked by the classes.



Christmas Post-box

The post box will be available in the school's entrance area. Children are welcome to post their cards. These are sorted and delivered by pupils from Year 6. Please make sure the envelope has the child's surname as well as their first name and their class to aid our sorters!

Reindeer Food For Sale

Again this year £1 bags of magic reindeer food will be available to buy during December from either Mrs Kirby or from the school office. All money raised is donated to the Cystic Fibrosis Trust.

PTA News

Christmas Disco — The Christmas disco will be on Friday 13th December straight after school until 5:15pm. We are looking forward to working with the school staff. All pupils can wear 'disco' non-uniform on Friday.

Hampers — The PTA need your help to fill Christmas hampers. Please send items into school this week. Finally, thank you to our team of volunteers who helped to make the film night run so smoothly last month.

Shoe Boxes

Thank you to everyone who contributed a shoe box for Operation Christmas Child, the parcels have now been collected and sent to the distribution centre.



Office Updates

School Outdoor Equipment

A quick reminder, due to insurance, the outdoor equipment should not be used without a Highnam staff member present. Thank you for your understanding.

Naming of Clothes

Please can I encourage the naming of all clothes which come into school. We often end up with a number of unnamed items at the end of each week.

Academy Open Day

Well done to our Year 6 pupils who were superb ambassadors for the school during our Open Day last month. The parents were very impressed with the passion and confidence displayed. Thank you to pupils and staff involved on the day.



Thank you Year 6



Five ways to well-being

We have a number of lunchtime clubs which run to help promote the five ways to well-being throughout the school. My thanks to all our helpers who provide these experiences for our younger pupils.

We have also purchased some new equipment to be used during lunchtimes so we look forward to seeing our sports crew in action!



Children in Need

For the first year in a while we had a 'quieter' Children in Need day with our pupils encouraged to wear non-school uniform.

There were some great spotty outfits on show and we raised £215 for this great charity.



Attendance and Lateness Update

A big thank you for your help with children's attendance since September. Our school attendance is currently 97.9%. The target is above 98%.

I know we have been experiencing traffic problems in the locality but can I encourage pupils to be on time for school as lessons begin promptly at 9am straight after registration at 8:55.

And finally... A quick reminder school finishes at **2:30pm on Friday 20th December**. Term 3 begins on **Tuesday 7th January for pupils**.

On behalf of all the staff may I wish you all a very Happy Christmas.

Kind regards, Stephen Dean, Headteacher

B Team Football Festival

On a very wet and cold Thursday evening a few weeks ago, the B team entered a festival at Oxstalls. The team played extremely well drawing two even contests 0-0 and their final game 7-0 versus King's. Thank you for all the great support on the night.



Primary QuEST

It has been a privilege to share the vision and values of the Trust with the 500 pupils across the multi-academy trust. In the New Year, we will be planning a variety of events to support the Trust vision:

Together in LIFE, flourishing through LIFE, faith for LIFE

December

6th Dec	Year 5 Class Collective Worship	9am
11th Dec	Year 6 to sing at the Alzheimer Christmas Lunch held at the Farmer's Club, Gloucester	Midday
13th Dec	PTA Disco	After School
16th Dec	Christmas Dinner Day	Midday
	Year 6 to sing in the Cathedral	PM
17th	Infant Christmas Production	9:30am & 2pm
18th	Key Stage Two Christmas Church Services	2pm & 6pm
19th	Lower Key Stage 2 Party	AM
	Infant Party	PM
20th	Community Coffee Morning	9:30am
	Upper Key Stage 2 Party	
	End of Term 2	2:30pm

January 2020

6th Jan	INSET Day — Staff Training	
7th Jan	Term 3 begins for pupils	8:55am
15th Jan	Acorn Toy Sale run by Year 6 (donations welcome)	PM
17th Jan	Young Voices trip to Birmingham	PM
20th Jan	Knex Challenge - Year 6	AM
27th Jan	Gloucestershire Dance Festival (Year 1 pupils)	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

**December Accelerated Reader House Competition**

Until the end of term we will be holding a special Accelerated Reader competition for pupils in Years 3 to 6. All the reading and quizzes completed in this month will be added up to see which house has been doing the most reading.

A reminder on Monday-Wednesday from 8:15am pupils can come into school to read and quiz.

Thank you for supporting your pupils reading at home.