

Highnam C of E Primary Academy



@HIGHNAMACADEMY

CHILDREN WITH CONFIDENCE

2ND MAY 2017

Dear Parents,

At the end of this month (22nd-26th May) we will be holding a special curriculum week. We have called it TEAMS which stands for Technology, Engineering, Art, Maths and Science. There will be a variety of exciting learning opportunities for the pupils and we look forward to an inspiring week.

PTA Support

This month I start by asking for your help. The PTA have been an important part of the school for many years, arranging great events for pupils and parents. This year there has been the disco, pudding evening, film nights and cake sales. Coming up we have the Cheltenham Lido evening, a great social event, which was definitely a hit with my family last year, and the annual Summer Fayre.

The money raised (typically between £3,000-£5,000 per year) is so important: for example, this has enabled the school to update reading books, provide a new kit for our netball team, create the fantastic outdoor learning space for Year 1 and the much used Hub room.

Please read the attached letter about how you can help with this invaluable support next year. A big thank you to Mrs Fraser-Hook and the team who have been working hard to support the school this year. Their next meeting is in Homelodge on the school grounds, on **Wednesday 7th June at 8pm**.

How to help:

- Sign up for the PTA Lido event - Saturday 10th June. Early bird tickets available at just £3.50 per person.
- Offer to help out at the Summer Fayre - Friday 8th July.
- Be on the team

Your support is much appreciated.

Well done to Mandy and her team at Highnam Under Fives on their 'Good' OFSTED last month.

Governors News

Over the past few years the Academy has invested wisely in updating the school with solar panels and by installing new doors and windows. You may have seen in the News there are financial constraints in the education sector which will tighten over the next few years. At this time it is so important that we have such a strong team of governors, a number with financial backgrounds, to support the Academy through tight financial controls and good budgeting.

Thank you to our governors who carry out their roles so diligently and effectively. Their support for the Academy is invaluable.



Enjoying the pools at the Lido last year

Big Pedal House Competition

Once again we took part in the national Big Pedal Competition at the end of term 4. Thank you to all who cycled or scooted to school. As a result of the efforts from the pupils and supporters Highnam finished in 2nd place in Gloucestershire and 3rd place regionally. This has resulted in an exciting prize... an Extreme Mountain Bike Show.

National Walk to School Week

Our Junior Travel Ambassadors (aka the Academy Council) are busy planning a new challenge for Highnam pupils. The National Walk to School Week takes place between the 15th-19th May. Pupils who walk, cycle or scoot to school will contribute to a class total. The class with the highest percentage will win the weekly challenge.

During this week please park at the two laybys in the village if you normally drive to school and let's see which class will be victorious. There will be medals and certificates for the winners!



K'NEX Challenge

Well done to Megan and Ruth who represented Highnam at the County K'Nex Challenge at Millbrook Academy last week. The challenge this year was to make a moon buggy which had to pick up various material.



Easter Services

My thanks to Reverend Helen and the Worship Council for leading our Easter Collective Worship on the final day of Term 4. It was lovely to share with parents and grandparents. Well done to the pupils in Key Stage 1 who were part of the drama and to the whole Worship Council team for their efforts.



Youth Hub Holiday Club

We had a great two days working with Steve Hutchinson, from Scripture Union, James from Psalms, Reverend Helen and Dr Taylor. It was good to see the pupils enjoying themselves and working on the buzz saws, using the pyrography kit and baking some tasty treats. Thank you to the parents who provided us with the positive feedback from the event.



Ex Highnam Pupils - Inspire us!

It is always great to hear what past Highnam pupils have been up to since leaving us. Please share news via: admin@highnam.gloucs.sch.uk. We are hoping to develop a part of the website for this.

Highnam Tag Rugby Festival

On Tuesday 25th April Highnam hosted the Annual Tag Rugby Festival for pupils in Years 3 and 4. This year 4 other schools joined us: Churchdown Village Junior School, Hempsted, Redmarley and Staunton and Corse. The teams played in tricky conditions in one afternoon, one minute the sun was shining, the next it was snowing! It didn't put off the players and the festival was played in a great spirit. Congratulations to Hempsted who were overall winners. Well done to the Highnam team who finished in 3rd place.



The Highnam Tag Rugby Team

Highnam's Henson On Show at the Docks

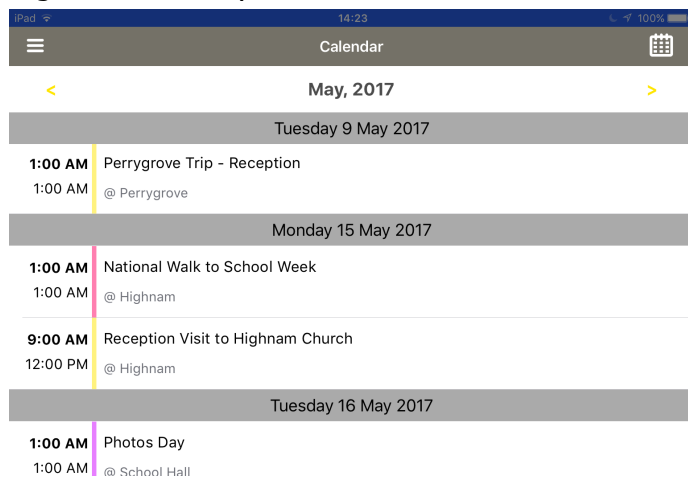
Thank you to Rebecca, Teyah and Mrs Hazelden for preparing the Highnam Henson Pig. Rebecca's design was chosen as a winner of the Gloucestershire Competition and has been on display at the Three Counties Easter Show and at Gloucester Docks.



Rebecca and Teyah with the Highnam entry

Highnam App

A number of people have been regularly using the Highnam App which is great to hear. It is a quick and easy way to see the latest newsletter, view photo galleries and keep an eye on important dates. I have just discovered the alternative dates view which is most helpful. Download from the App store today searching for Webanywhere and Highnam Academy.



Wildlife Quiz

A big thank you to Duncan, Joseph, Calum and Zoe for representing the school in the Gloucestershire wildlife quiz. They have made it through to the semi-finals and are in action tomorrow up against Hartpury and Huntley.

Hockey County Finalists

Before Easter the Highnam team represented the Forest of Dean in the County Finals held at Cheltenham College. Well done to Jack H, Amber, Taran, Caleb, Alice and Hannah for playing so well and finishing 9th overall.

500 Words Stories

Well done to Grace in Year 5 and Lucia in Year 4 who have both had awards for their 500 words stories.

Dance Spectacular

Well done to Freya and Zoe who performed in the Gloucester Academy Mixed Community Dance before Easter.

Bench of Honour — April:

It has been great to see a number of pupils on the bench this month. On the bench in April were: Jack W, Joseph W, Amie K, Phoebe B, Gracie H and Teyah P.

Kind regards, Stephen Dean, Headteacher