

Highnam C of E Primary Academy



@HIGHNAMACADEMY

CHILDREN WITH CONFIDENCE

3RD JULY 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

It is a real privilege to work with our pupils on a regular basis and last week was no exception. Year 6 had a fabulous activities week at Butlins Minehead — taking on the various individual and group tasks, supporting one another and growing in confidence ready for the new challenge of Secondary school. Back at base, Year 5 enjoyed the Tewkesbury Sailing Regatta and cycling. Thank you to staff for providing Highnam pupils with such fantastic learning opportunities.

Year 6 pupils return from residential

The Year 6 residential is always a highlight of the year. The trip to Butlins in Minehead was no exception. The pupils had a wonderful time taking on the challenge of the aerial adventure, archery, fencing, Splashworld, drums, dance, magic and circus workshops. The free-time trips to the funfair and beach were also highlights. The pupils were so great to be with and the support and encouragement they showed to each other was superb. We've all got some great memories from the week away...

"The highlight for me was the splash float battle during the Splashworld swimming evening. At the end of the evening it was the teachers and boys versus the girls - it was completely epic!" commented Megan in Year 6.



Year 6 pupils heading off to the legendary Thursday evening disco

Collective Worship

Over the past few weeks we have enjoyed our pupil-led Collective Worship. We have been taken into outer space, headed back to Ancient Egypt and visited the Jurassic Period.

We are looking forward to the Reception and Year 2 Collective Worship in the next couple of weeks and the Year 6 Leavers' Service in the final week of the term.

Thank you for all your support with learning of lines, make-up and help with costumes. We trust you have enjoyed them as much as we have.

Finally, thank you to staff for preparing the Collective Worship and pupils for taking part so well.



Harrison, Lydia and Emily during the Year 3 Collective Worship

Cricketers perform well at the County Finals

Well done to the girls' cricket team for reaching the County Final. The team were impressive at the Newent event after winning all their games. At the county finals the team was unfortunately knocked out in the group stage - winning one game, drawing one game and losing one game. Thank you to parents and Mrs Townsend for supporting the team.



Well done to the **tennis team** - Finn, Kate, Oliver and Eilidh who reached the County Finals.

Quad Kids Reach County Finals

The 3/4 Quad teams also reached the county finals this year. The team headed to Hartpury College a couple of Fridays ago to take part. It was lovely to see the Year 4 members of the team willing to forgo the Three Counties School Trip to represent the school. Congratulations to Lucia who finished in 3rd place out of the 50 girls who took part.

Thank you to Mrs Townsend and parents who supported the team and helped to provide lifts.



The Year 3/4 Quad Kids Team

Magnificent Moog Visit

Congratulations to Jesse and Keagan, pupils in Year 5 who won a competition to visit Moog an engineering company based in Tewkesbury. "There were 5 schools which had been selected to be part of this exciting project. The best bit about our day was we got to sit in a Formula 1 racing car. It was a tight squeeze because the seat in the car had been specially designed for the racing driver. We had a great visit - thank you to Mrs Harris for transporting us."



PTA Lido Night

A few weeks ago the PTA organised a lovely evening at the Cheltenham open air Lido. Over 75 people attended and it was lovely to see ex-Highnam pupils and other friends there as well. The evening raised £100 for the school, which was great, and it also gave parents and pupils the opportunity to catch up and have a relaxing evening swim. Thank you to Mrs Fraser-Hook and the team for all their hard work.

PTA News

This Friday is our annual Summer Fayre. Every year a lot of work goes into this great community event. It takes a lot of time and effort to set up the Summer Fayre and to tidy away afterwards; if you could assist in any way on the day your help would be much appreciated. We look forward to seeing you on Friday after school at the fayre. This year there are some wonderful raffle prizes, bouncy castles, BBQ and many more stalls. Please come along and support the school. Thank you to those who have responded to the request for PTA help next year, it will be gratefully received.

Highnam Fun Day

It was great to see so many Highnam pupils involved in the Highnam Fun Day last weekend. This most enjoyable community event saw Highnam pupils taking part in the opening procession and maypole dance whilst the Highnam Girls Football team were honoured to receive the Highnam Community Award for their great season. Thank you to Mrs Shuttleworth and her team of supporters for organising the day.



School Visitor

A week ago we had a visit from our new school improvement advisor. Mr Shaw will work alongside the Senior Leadership Team and the governors and brings a wealth of educational experience which includes 3 headships as well as being an OFSTED and SIAMS inspector. Following his learning walk around the academy he wrote:

"The culture across the academy is one of high expectations, quality provision and pride in achievements. The ethos is overwhelmingly positive and firmly rooted in enabling all pupils to grow with confidence, through their enjoyment of learning. Pupils showed positive behaviours for learning and in many cases collaborative working was seen to be enhancing their learning considerably. In all the classrooms, pupils were actively engaged in well-structured learning activities. Good quality resources were being well used and teaching was seen to be effective in all settings." We look forward to working alongside Mr Shaw next year.

Wonderful effort at Wildlife Quiz

Well done to the Wildlife Quiz Team who competed so well at the Gloucestershire Semi-Finals. They lost by just half a point and represented the school superbly. Thank you to Miss Coldrick and parents for your great support.

3rd at the Cotswold Athletics Festival

A few Saturdays ago Highnam Academy took part in the annual Cotswold Athletics Festival at the Prince of Wales Stadium. This year 5 teams entered the competition.

Our team was made up of over 30 participants from Years 3 to 6. After the sprint qualifiers there were the long distance races. It would be hard to mention all of the events as Highnam pupils performed so well throughout the whole event. It was wonderful to see the spirit and determination shown by all the athletes. A special well done to: Sienna for winning the throwing event, Harrison for winning the Year 3 sprint; Emily for winning the Year 5 200 metres; and the girls / boys relay team in Year 3 and the girls team in Year 4 who all finished first in their respective races.

At the end of the morning the results were announced...Highnam finished in joint 3rd place with Woodchester School.



Ollie and Sienna share the Rose Bowl Trophy with Woodchester School

NQT Programme

We are delighted to announce that Highnam has been chosen as one of the bases for newly qualified teacher training for Gloucestershire County Council next year. Over the past couple of years, Highnam has benefitted greatly from NQTs as they bring the latest teaching strategies and a fresh enthusiasm and energy to a school. I am passionate about training the next generation of teachers and look forward to running this induction programme with the staff and supporting Miss Gent and over 40 other NQTs next year.

Bench of Honour — June:

It was great to see so many pupils on the bench last month. On the bench in June...

Vi, Poppy, Martha, Bodhi, Emily L, Gethin, Dylan, Theo, Freddie, Eliot, Oscar M, Oscar H, Piers & Jay.

Tewkesbury Regatta

Year 5 had a fabulous day on the water last week at the Tewkesbury Sailing Regatta. It was great to have a number of parents along to help on the water. Thanks to Mrs Stephens, Mrs Townsend and Mrs Harris for accompanying the pupils. Congratulations to the parents who won their race



Dates for the Diary

Year 2 Transfer meeting — Wednesday **12th July at 2:45pm.**

End of year reports will be handed out on Friday **14th July.**

New classes — where the pupils meet with their next teacher — will take place on the morning of the **17th July.**

The final Open Classrooms for the year will be on **19th July:** Pupils' work from the year will be available to take home, so if you are able to make it, please bring a large plastic bag.

The final day of Term 6 is **Friday 21st July** and the day finishes at **2:30pm.**

The staff have an INSET day on Monday 3rd September so term begins for pupils on **Tuesday 4th September** at 8:55am.

And finally...

At the end of this term we are saying goodbye to Miss Read. She has been a wonderful teacher, colleague and friend and will be missed greatly by staff and pupils. Miss Read will soon be volunteering for iReach Africa in Mozambique training teachers. This will be a voluntary position so we'd like to send Miss Read off with a Highnam helping hand. Over the next few weeks outside Mrs Honan's office will be a bucket for all your small change. This small change added together will help to make a big change for the pupils in Africa. Your help is much appreciated.

Three Counties Visit

The pupils in Years 4, 5 and 6 had a great educational experience at the Three Counties Show at the Malvern Showground. This year specialised workshops were provided and Year 4 and 5 were fortunate enough to be selected to attend. After, the classes headed to the main arena and watched the fabulous bike display, had the opportunity to show some of the sheep and goats and met a pack of hounds after a display. Thank you to all parents and staff who supported the pupils on this trip.



Ollie, Darcey, Fran and Tom in charge of the goats and sheep

La Jolie Ronde

Congratulations to La Jolie Ronde for winning the 'Best National Activity for 5-12 year olds at the recent 'What's on 4 Juniors Award'.

There is a letter with Vicky Sivell's details on if you would like further information about the French classes.

Saying Goodbye to Year 6

We would like to wish our Year 6 pupils all the best as they leave us and prepare for Secondary School. We loved spending a week with them on residential and look forward to their Leavers' Collective Worship on Wednesday 20th July at 2pm.

We also realise we are saying goodbye for the last time to a number of parents. We would like to thank you for your support over many years.

Kind regards, Stephen Dean, Headteacher