

Highnam C of E Primary Academy



@HIGHNAMACADEMY

CHILDREN WITH CONFIDENCE

1ST NOVEMBER 2017

Dear Parents,

We have just started Term 2 which is always a very busy term in school with class led assemblies, Christmas Productions and our end of term pantomime. This month we will also be holding our parents' evenings, and the Academy Open Day. We look forward to welcoming visitors into the Academy.



Thank You Mrs Townsend

After 16 years working at Highnam Academy I am sad to announce Mrs Townsend will be moving on to a new job in a couple of weeks time. Mrs Townsend will be working for the diocese in the Parish Giving Scheme team.

The school has benefitted greatly from her energy and enthusiasm in the classroom where she has supported the learning of so many pupils. More recently, Mrs Townsend has been responsible for so much of the sport organisation across the academy and achieved great success with the girls' football teams.

We will miss her and wish her every success in her new role.

Year 4 Mini-Residential

On the final day of last term we enjoyed Class 4 leading our Collective Worship when they shared all about their adventures at the Wilderness Centre. We had a fabulous few days...the weather was lovely, the food was tasty and the activities were enjoyable and at challenging. The pupils were great to be with and my thanks to Miss Thomas and Mrs Gilchrist for their support and hard work during the trip.



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Harvest at Highnam

We had a very special harvest time at Highnam. Before half term pupils from Year 1 to 6 shared in the harvest service with parents, grandparents and friends. Thank you for the very kind donations of tinned produce and for contributing to the collection at the church: In total we raised £119 which was given to Gloucestershire Action for Refugees and Asylum Seekers (GARAS).



Thank you Year 6 pupils for leading the service so well

Parents' Evenings

This year Parents' Evenings will take place on Thursday 16th and Tuesday 21st 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 will invite you to choose a 10 minute appointment time. If you need to change your appointment for any reason then this can be completed online by selecting a different slot.

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"1 new text message received"
From your son's "English Teacher"

Dear Mrs. Peterson, congratulations your son has just been awarded best Spelling Bee of the Month.

Oh and one more thing, can you please ask him to leave his pet spider "Sparky" at home.

Many thanks,
Miss Roberts.

Information

- ☐ **Benefits**
Frequent communication with parents to keep pupils on track.
- ☐ **How it Works**
Innovative, easy to use and extremely user friendly design. Just 'click' to text parents.
- ☐ **Pricing Plans**
Our unique price structure brings you the most cost effective solution on the market.
- ☐ **Contact Us**
Our sales consultants can answer any questions and arrange a demonstration.

offers real potential for sharing information quickly and easily with parents. Many schools are using e-mail and text

Account Login:

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Interested?

Book Parents Evening online soon

Open Day

Our annual Open Day will be held on 8th 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.

OPEN DAY

School Receives STEM Award

At Highnam Academy we strive to provide pupils with a broad and enriching curriculum. This month we received a lovely letter from STEM ambassadors to recognise the commitment of staff who are 'encouraging and inspiring young people in STEM subjects.' Well done team.



Cora and Harley with the STEM Certificate



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 veterans, Service men, women and their families with much needed support.

Daily Mile Path

Over half term we have been installing our new daily mile path. Thank you to all have dropped tokens into the Highnam pot in Tesco stores to help fund the project. The finished path has enabled us to create an all weather path to be utilized throughout the day and we have also create a horseshoe teaching area up in the Forest area. Thank you to Glebe Contractors for their help with this project.



We are looking forward to using the new field path

PTA News

Thank you to those who attended the film night before half term when we raised £277. Reception also held a cake sale which raised £90 for the school.

Thank you to all who bought and donated cakes. Thank you to those who attended the 'Night at the Theatre'.

The next PTA meeting will be held on Monday 6th November at 7pm in school.

Highnam Heritage Day

An open afternoon is to be held on Saturday 25th November, between 2 and 5pm in the Gambier Parry Hall. Highnam Heritage will be displaying some of the archives that it currently has, including those from Highnam Court, Highnam Church, the Canal Trust, the Gambier Parry family and Highnam Players. Roger Head will be giving a talk on the history of the Court at 3pm. There will also be audio and visual demonstrations during the afternoon of material that has been recorded by the group. Please bring along anything that you think would be interest, the group would love to see it.

Save the Date — 26th January 2017

Dr Tom Robson, a leading educationalist, will be visiting Highnam on 14th March. Please put this date on the calendar as he will be leading a parental meeting in the evening which will focus on a variety of areas including Growth Mindset and pupil well-being. More details to follow.

Photographs in School

Once again we have arranged to use Astracolour for our school photographs this year and photographs will be taken on Thursday 16th November. Every child will be photographed individually and with siblings (if in school) in the morning. If you would like photographs with younger siblings, please complete the attached letter and return it to school by Friday 10th November.

Shoe Box Appeal

We are delighted to be supporting the world's largest children's Christmas project, run by the Christian relief and development organisation T4U. The Academy Council have been working with Miss Coldrick to prepare for this project and introduced it to the school community before half term.

Hopefully you have received information about the project and, if you have the opportunity, please prepare a shoebox with your child. We will be collecting shoe boxes up until **Friday 17th November**. Once your shoe box has been completed please bring it into the school hall and place it in front of the correct house to see which house has made the most shoe boxes.

Children in Need

We will be supporting the BBC's Children in Need appeal on Friday 17th November. Please can pupils wear non-school uniform and bring in £1 on the day. This year the strapline is 'Do your thing for Children in Need.' We will also be collecting loose change in the week leading up to the event to decorate a playground Pudsey with.



Football Teams get off to a great start

The football teams have had a great start to the season. So far the girls team is undefeated scoring a number of goals and are top of their league. The A team have also started the season well with 3 straight wins — well done to both team!

Bench of Honour

Congratulations to the following pupils who appeared on the 'Bench' in October:

Ed M, Nathan B, Ellie B and Ellie G

Messy Church

Please note the next Messy Church will be on **Wednesday 29th** and not 15th November as previously advertised. This will be our Messy Advent celebration held in the school hall.

Parental Maths Workshop

Thank you to all who attended the maths workshop for parents on the 17th October and to staff for all their hard work preparing for the evening. Resources used during the evening are also available on the school website.

<http://www.highnam.gloucs.sch.uk/links/parents/parental-information-evening>



And finally...

We have had two great class led Collective Worships so far and we are looking forward to more this term. A big thank you to all staff involved and to the children for displaying so much confidence and composure in front of everyone.

Kind regards,
Stephen Dean,
Headteacher