

Highnam C of E Primary Academy



@HIGHNAMACADEMY

CHILDREN WITH CONFIDENCE

1ST APRIL 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

March has been a fantastic month. Reception enjoyed a visit to Perrygrove Railway, we had our SIAMS inspection, the next leg of our Erasmus+ Project took place, we held a number of charity events and our annual Spring disco. I have also handed out a number of headteacher awards and been part of some excellent class Collective Worship. Thank you to all involved.

SIAMS Feedback



Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Thank you to all involved in the recent SIAMS inspection. There are many from across the school community who helped leading up to the inspection and on the day. It was so encouraging to receive the positive feedback, in particular about our vision, links with the local church and schools and the pastoral heart of Highnam C of E Primary Academy.

Key Findings:

- The school has a distinctive Christian vision which enables children and adults to flourish with confidence. The creative interpretation of the vision for each year group, supported by excellent behaviour and relationships, ensures that children have the confidence to face challenges and do their best.
- Through collective worship and religious education (RE), children develop strong Christian values to guide them through life, and a deep sense of respect for those who may be different from themselves.
- The wide-ranging academic and pastoral support offered by the school allows all children to progress confidently to the next stage of their lives and learning.

A special mention must go to the groups of pupils who spoke to the inspectors on the day and were so proud to share their school and were fantastic ambassadors.

Support for Mozambique

A big thank you to Cater Cater and all who supported our Mozambique breakfast last week. The event raised £461 which will be used to help rebuild houses and to extend the food programme which will be needed in the villages as their crops were destroyed so close to harvest time.

Miss Read wrote:

"Thank you for all your thoughts and prayers at this time. Wow, £461 is an incredibly generous gift. Thank you Highnam."



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Big Pedal 2019

We are in the middle of the Big Pedal competition at school. This year points are awarded for walking, scooting and cycling to school. Bonus points are provided when parents and siblings join in the fun! Thank you to all who are taking part and contributing to the event. As with the 5 minute walk to school campaign it is so important to encourage healthy lifestyles and one way is to park a little bit away from the school and cycle, scoot or walk the final part of the journey. We are up against schools locally and nationally so join in this week and make a difference.



Henry and Freddie joining in the Big Pedal 2019

County and National Cross Country

It has been a busy month for our cross country runners. Nine runners represented the Forest of Dean in the county race in Cheltenham. Well done to: Ellis, Martha, Gracie, Lucia, Ilsa, Jessica, Gethin, Dylan and Oliver.

For Oliver and Martha their finishing positions meant they represented Gloucestershire in the national championship held in Loughborough. Martha finished in 56th and Oliver in 75th. Such a great achievement - well done!



Ellis, Ilsa and Jessica at the county race

Tempting Treats

It has been good to see (and smell) the wonderful cooking and baking that has been going on during March. I have tasted some delicious homemade pizzas, Oreo truffles, sampled some great Easter rock buns and enjoyed seeing pupils develop their culinary skills at our after school club. Thank you to all who have supported the pupils during these experiences.



George, Dan and Dan with their pizza creations

Toy Sale

A big thank you to Miss Gent, Rafi, Jack W and the Academy Council for running the recent toy sale to raise funds for Gloucester City Mission and iReach Africa.

£80 was raised for each charity, thank you for your help and support.

Over £200 was raised for Comic Relief a couple of Fridays ago. Your generosity and support is much appreciated.



Key Stage Two SATS Week

Pupils in Year 6 will be taking their SATs during the week beginning 13th May. Please avoid making appointments for eye tests, dental checks etc. that week. For information for Year 6 testing, follow this link: <https://youtu.be/2H2D1UI4pjE>.

Visit by Jack Rutter

On 11th March we welcomed to Highnam Academy Jack Rutter. At the age of 18 he was signed to Birmingham City FC and was on the verge of signing as a professional when he was knocked to the ground and suffered brain damage as a consequence.

The incident forced his retirement from professional football in 2010. On his Paralympic debut Jack helped the Paralympics GB side to secure a fifth-place finish.

It was inspirational to hear about Jack's journey - thank you for your visit.



Parent Questionnaire

A big thank you to all who completed the online parent questionnaire this month. Over 50 parents contributed to the average data below and the Highnam C of E Overall score was 4.7 out of 5.

School Discipline / Good Behaviour	Achieving our Vision: Children with Confidence	Creating a caring and nurturing environment	School security / safety	Developing an anti-bullying ethos	Happiness of pupils	Developing our 'Highnam' family (community spirit)
4.7	4.5	4.7	4.7	4.6	4.7	4.8
Developing the character of our pupils	Celebrating diversity and difference	Standard of school facilities	Caring nature of staff	Quality of curriculum	Range of extra-curricular clubs	Links with local church and community
4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.8	4.5	4.9

There were some lovely comments attached to the survey, thank you so much. If your questionnaire scores were or would be very different to the average we'd love to hear from you so we can make further improvements. Please arrange an appointment with any member of the Senior Leadership Team.

Wildlife Quiz Team

Well done to Danny, Eilidh, Martha and Violet who qualified to represent the school in the Gloucestershire Nature Quiz at Hartpury School. After a close contest Hartpury, had a great final round and progressed through to the next round. Good effort team.



Reception Trip to Perrygrove

As part of their Transport topic, our Reception class visited Perrygrove and got to ride on a real steam train! They took part in a treasure hunt, having to spot items during the journey and used these clues to find their hidden box in the indoor village. The children had a very special lunch time, getting to eat their sandwiches on a static train and got to witness how the train can pull both ways when it changed ends at the last station. Thank you to all involved in supporting the trip.



Football News

Well done to our A, B and girls' teams who reached the GPSFA finals last weekend. The girls got off to a great start with a 2-0 win against Finlay. This meant that Highnam has won the competition for 5 years in a row! This is a great achievement and much thanks must go to Mr Holmes and FC Highnam. The B team played Hempsted and after a close game lost 2-0 - a battling display well done to the boys. In the afternoon, it was the turn of the A team and they once again played Hempsted. After a very close game it was 1-1 going into extra time. Harrison scored a 'golden goal' in extra time which meant Highnam were crowned the winners. A super weekend of sport — thank you to our great supporters, staff and pupils.



Girls celebrating their GPSFA success



The B team before their knock out final



The A team celebrating their GPSFA success

Regional Champions

Well done to the girls' team who represented Gloucestershire in the south-west finals on Saturday. After the group stage the girls qualified for the semi-finals (on goal difference) and went on to win the whole competition. An amazing achievement. They now go on to the nationals! Thank you to Mr Holmes, Miss Owen and all the great support on the day. Well done girls!



Regional Champions - well done girls

Highnam Clubs

Staff led clubs will begin the first full week back after half term so Monday 29th April. Please see the club sign up sheet for Term 5 which will be sent out later this week.

Erasmus Trip to Lithuania

It was a privilege to travel with Mrs Trotman, Hattie, Lottie, Arlo and Max to Lithuania last month to take part in the Coding in a Cultural Europe project. We had a great time at school and exploring the beautiful country of Lithuania. The four pupils were superb ambassadors for the school and left with new friends and amazing memories. Today the four pupils led our Collective Worship and shared their trip for pupils, staff and parents. Thank you for all your efforts: Arlo, Hattie, Lottie and Max.



PTA

A big thank you to the PTA for hosting the Spring Disco on Friday. It was an enjoyable afternoon and the pupils looked so smart in their disco outfits. Thank you to all staff and parents who assisted on the night it raised over £750.



Jess and Bella
enjoying the disco

Netball Winners

Congratulations to the netball team who finished top of their league. Over the past term, the team have played four matches, winning 3 and drawing 1. Thank you to Miss Spry and Miss Hepburn for training and supporting the team this season and to all the parents who come along to support the team.



The pupils with their host
families

Experience Easter

Thank you to our friends from Highnam Church for hosting Experience Easter on Wednesday. If you are available to support a group for the morning please let Mrs Honan know. Years 2 & 3 will be visiting first (leaving at 9am for a 9:30am-11am workshop) and Years 4 & 5 leaving at 10:40 (for a 11am-12:30pm workshop). If possible please can pupils in Years 4 & 5 have a packed lunch on Wednesday. Many thanks for your help.

Book Fair, World Book week and Reading Update

A big thank you to all who supported the school by purchasing new books from the book fair a couple of weeks ago. It was super to hear about the great reading times during World Book week. Reading is so important as it unlocks our pupils potential. We are delighted extra reading support is being provided in school by our church helpers on a Thursday but please take time to read with your child as often as possible. It makes such a difference. Have a lovely Easter break. Term 5 begins on Tuesday 23rd April.

Kind regards,
Stephen Dean,
Headteacher

Dates for your diary - Term 5**April**

Wednesday	3rd	Experience Easter (Year 2 - Year 5)
Thursday	4th	Farewell to Mrs Ruxton
Friday	5th	Year 1 Collective Worship
	5th	End of Term 4 (normal time)
Tuesday	23rd	Start of Term 5
Thursday	25th	Mountain Biking event at Newent School
Tuesday	30th	Highnam Year 4 Tag Rugby Festival
	30th	Chance to Shine Cricket Training

May

Thursday	2nd	Reception visit to Highnam Church
	2nd	Large Schools Swimming Gala
Saturday	4th	Girls' National Football Finals
Monday	13th	SATs Week Year 6
Wednesday	15th	Year 3/4 Football Festival at Oxstalls
Mon-Fri	20th-24th	Erasmus+ Trip to Poland
Tuesday	21st	Knex Challenge (County Competition)
	21st	Year 6 Golf Event at Hartpury College
Wednesday	22nd	Primary QuEST TRAC day - Years 3 and 4
		Open Classrooms and Books for Bugs Book Fair
Friday	24th	Ledbury Tag Rugby Festival
		End of Term 5
Saturday	25th	Tall Ships Combined Schools Choir Event

Dates for your diary - Term 6**June**

Monday	3rd	Inset Day
Tuesday	4th	Start of Term 6 for pupils
Tuesday	4th	Year 6 Leavers' Service (pupils only) at Gloucester Cathedral
Wednesday	5th	Year 6 + Class Photographs
Thursday	6th	Swimming Gala Finals
Friday	7th	Year 6 Maths 24 Challenge
Wednesday	12th	Girls Cricket Festival
Thursday	13th	B team Netball Festival at Staunton and Corse
Monday	17th	Masterpiece Workshop with iSingPop
Friday	21st	Year 3 Collective Worship
	21st	PTA Summer Fayre
Saturday	22nd	Prince of Wales Athletics Festival
Mon—Fri	24th—28th	Year 6 Residential
Thursday	27th	Year 5 Regatta
	27th	Year 4 Cricket Festival
Friday	28th	Year 4 Collective Worship

July

Monday	1st	Lego challenge at Redmarley Academy
Tuesday	2nd	Pulse Games (Highnam Key Stage 2 Pupils)
Wednesday	3rd	Year 6 to Chestnut Club in the village
Thursday	4th	Year 3/4 Cricket Festival at Redmarley CC
Friday	5th	Reception Class Collective Worship (9am)
Tuesday	9th	Dress rehearsal for KS2 show
	9th	Evening Performance for KS2 show
Wednesday	10th	Afternoon Performance for KS2 show
	10th	Evening Performance for KS2 show
Monday	15th	Year 6 Leavers BBQ
Wednesday	16th	Collect school work after school
Thursday	18th	Year 6 Leavers Service at 2:15pm
Friday	19th	End of Year at 2:30pm