

# Highnam C of E Primary Academy



@HIGHNAMACADEMY

**CHILDREN WITH CONFIDENCE**

7TH JANUARY 2020

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! I do hope you had a lovely Christmas break. On behalf of the staff, can I thank you for your generosity at the end of last term: the cards and gifts were very thoughtful and we very much appreciated the comments and emails regarding the Christmas productions. Your generous donations at the end of the shows raised £657 which will support the work of the NSPCC and Acorns Children's Hospice.

## **Fabulous Christmas Productions**

My thanks to all staff and pupils involved in the Christmas Productions at the end of last term. The singing in Highnam Church was superb, well done the pupils who read and to all involved in the singing.

The Key Stage 1 production 'Lights, Camel Action 2' were a real highlight at the end of last term. The pupils looked amazing in their costumes and performed so well under the lights. It is always a very special time of year and the pupils' enthusiasm and enjoyment shone through...10/10!



Pupils sharing in the KS2 Carol Service



Pupils on stage during the Christmas Production of Lights Camel Action 2

## **PTA Update**

Thank you for your support last term. The School Christmas Disco raised over £900 for the school. The PTA Raffle raised over £500.

It was great to see the PTA members and staff providing the pupils with such an exciting disco this year. My thanks to the whole PTA team for all their hard work.

## **Home School Values**

This term's Value for Life is:

*Courage.*

There are family activities available under the links section of the website.

Tel: 01452 525872

[www.highnam.gloucs.sch.uk](http://www.highnam.gloucs.sch.uk)

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### Extra Curricular Clubs

Young Voices starts TODAY along with guitar lessons on Thursday. All other after school clubs will begin the week beginning Monday 13th January 2020. My thanks to all staff who provide these clubs for the pupils.

### Swimming

Year 3 and 4 begin their swimming lessons on Friday, 24th January 2020.

### Reindeer Food

Thank you for supporting the Cystic Fibrosis Trust by purchasing Reindeer food. We raised over £25.

### Choir bring Christmas Cheer

Last term Year 6 pupils visited Gloucester Farmers Club to sing some carols at the Alzheimer's Society Christmas meal. The pupils were a real credit to the school and we look forward to visiting again soon.

My thanks to Mrs Smith for running the school choir and organising the trip and to all the parents who helped the transport the pupils on the day.



Year 6 pupils visiting the Alzheimer's Society Christmas meal



Pupils singing at Gloucester Cathedral during the Meningitis Now Concert

### Community Coffee Morning

On last day of term, we welcomed members of the local Highnam Community and beyond into school for a festive coffee morning. Pupils shared songs from the recent Christmas shows and we were treated to a performance from the school choir and the Gloucester Brass Band team. Friends from Highnam church joined with us to help with the teas and coffees. Thank you to all who attended and shared during the morning.



Gloucester Brass Band and Highnam Pupils

### Pupils sing at Gloucester Cathedral

The Year 6 pupils were once again invited to sing at the Meningitis Now Christmas Celebration Concert in Gloucester Cathedral. It was a privilege to be part of this event and support such a worthwhile charity. Led by Mrs Smith, the children sang three festive songs: The First Noel, Joy and Ding Dong Merrily On High. They sounded incredible – singing harmonies, three-part rounds and some solo parts – and received a huge cheer from the audience.

We have since had many people contacting us to comment on the children's performance. Here is an email we received:

*I just want to send you heartfelt congratulations on the performance of your choir last night.*

*I was there in the Everyvoice choir.*

*We were bowled over by the arrangements of your songs and the confident voices of your children. They stole the show, outstanding!*

Thank you to all parents and family members who came along to hear the pupils sing, to Mrs Smith for all your hard work and preparation, to Mr Smith for playing the piano, to the staff who supported the pupils on the day and of course to the children for singing so beautifully.

Well done to you all!



### Sportshall Athletics Festival

Congratulations to the Sportshall Athletics Team who took part in the large schools event at the Forest High School.

The team finished in 6th place overall and performed with real determination throughout.

Thank you to all the parents who supported on the day.

### Christmas Lunch and Jumper Day

On the final Monday of term, we hosted a tasty Christmas lunch and wore our Christmas jumpers to raise money for Spinal Muscular Atrophy UK. It was a wonderful day and in the process £355 was raised to support this great charity. Thank you for your generosity.



### House Accelerated Reader Competition

Well done to all the Key stage 2 pupils who took part in this friendly reading challenge. Throughout the month of December, reading and quizzing on AR books contributed not only to reading skills but also to a special reading competition.

Congratulations to Lassington who won overall, Oakridge house was second, Wetherleigh third and Maidenhall fourth.

### Super Science

It is always exciting seeing the pupils immersed in their learning and this term has been no different. My thanks to the whole staff team for providing our pupils with such inspiring learning experiences.

And finally— A big thank you to all parents, grandparents and church friends of the school who support pupils during the school week. Your help is much appreciated.



The Sportshall Athletics Team in action!

### House Quiz

Well done to all the pupils who took part in the House Quiz last term. It was an exciting event with some excellent answers to a variety of questions. Congratulations to Oakridge house who won overall.



Kind regards, Stephen Dean, Headteacher

**Dates for your diary — Spring Term****January**

Monday	6th	Staff INSET Training
Tuesday	7th	Pupils return to school for Term 3
Monday	13th	Football match v Birdlip (Home)
Tuesday	14th	Girls Football Festival at Newent School
Wednesday	15th	Acorns Toy Sale (donations required on the day) PM sale
Thursday	16th	Primary QuEST Year 3/4 Football Festival
Friday	17th	Young Voices concert - Birmingham
Monday	20th	Knex Challenge for Year 6
Wednesday	22nd	GPSFA 5-a-side at Bentham domes
	22nd	Messy Church after school
Thursday	23rd	Primary QuEST Year 5/6 Football Festival
Monday	27th	Gloucestershire Dance Festival in Cheltenham — Year 1 pupils

**February**

Tuesday	4th	Oliver Performance at Newent School
Friday	7th	PTA Film Night
Wednesday	12th	Open Classrooms
Friday	14th	End of Term 3
Monday	24th	Start of Term 4
Wednesday	26th	Messy Church after school

**March**

Thursday	5th	Bedtime Reading Evening at school — for pupils and parents
Thursday	12th	Quick Sticks Hockey Festival in Lydney
Friday	20th	Year 5 Collective Worship
	21st	Mothers' Day Messy Church
Mon-Fri	23rd-27th	Erasmus Week in School
Tuesday	31st	Parents Evening 4-7pm

**April**

Thursday	2nd	Parents Evening 4-7pm
Friday	3rd	Year 1 Collective Worship
Friday	3rd	End of Term 4 (normal time)
Saturday	10th	Good Friday Messy Church (to be held at the Old School) 10am-12
Monday	20th	Dr Tom Robson — Parent meeting at Hartpur School

**Please return to Mrs Honan if you have recently changed your details:**

**Additional changes :**

**Name:**

**New Mobile Number:**