

Highnam C of E Primary Academy



@HighnamAcademy

Inspiring Everyone to Shine

November 2022

Highlights From Last Term

Colour Run Fun

Once again, Highnam pupils and families took to the school field, Wetherleigh Drive and Lassington Woods to complete the latest Highnam Colour Run. A huge thank you to everyone who contributed and helped our event to be such a success. We raised an amazing £1080. for the charities Phab Kids and Cystic Fibrosis Trust.



World Mental Health Day



On 10th October, we held a 'Wear it Green Day' in aid of World Mental Health Day. We spent time considering what it means to have good mental health and the importance of talking to someone when we are struggling. Thank you to everyone who helped us to raise money for TIC+.

Year 5 Class Assembly



It was such a pleasure to be part of year 5's class assembly, the first one of the school year. The children did a fantastic job of sharing their learning with the rest of the school and their families, all about the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings.

Year 3 Trip

The year 3s had a wonderful, educational trip to Severn Valley Country Park. They spent time finding out about and hunting for fossils and different types of rock and followed a tributary of the River Sever from a natural spring to where it fed into the river.



Sporting Success

During October, our sporting teams have been working hard both in training sessions and when competing against other schools in tournaments. Well done to everyone involved in our netball, cross country and football teams (boys, girls and mixed team), who have performed brilliantly and demonstrated excellent team skills throughout.



OPAL Stay and Play Session

Thank you to all the parents and carers who joined us for our OPAL open afternoon last month. We loved seeing so many get involved in a range of Outdoor Play and Learning with the children.



PTA Fundraising

A big thank you to our PTA for all of their efforts and hard work so far this school year. Not only did they help to organise the Colour Run but they also held the year 5/6 cake sale and our Break the Rules day. A total of £382 was raised for the school from these two events. Thank you to everyone for supporting the school in this way. Details of future PTA events, such as the Christmas disco, will be shared on Class Dojo.

A Few Reminders

We have noticed that some children are bringing toys, cards and other small objects from home. Unless they have been asked by a teacher to bring something in, please can these items be left at home.

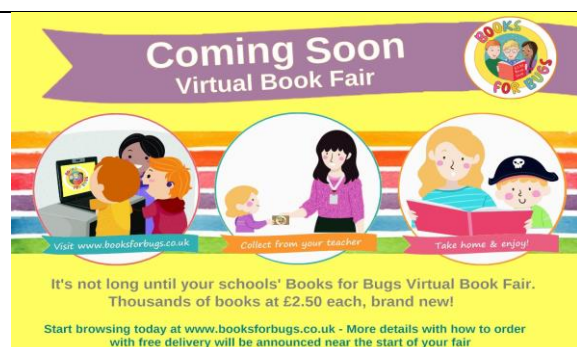
Uniform Reminders:

- Children should wear sensible dark shoes to school, no boots please.
- Earrings should be studs only and not worn at all on PE days.
- On PE days, the children should wear a **navy or grey hoody**.

Drinks: We encourage children to drink throughout the day and to always have their drinks bottle in school. Water is preferable, but weak squash is also allowed.

Snacks: If children bring their own mid-morning snack, please can this be a **healthy snack**.

Visitors to school: Please can any parents that have signed in when visiting school, remember to also sign out using the iPad on the wall in the reception area. Recently, we had a fire drill practice and it became apparent that parents/visitors who had signed in to say they were in school, had not remembered to sign out. Thank you.



Book Fair

We are looking forward to our Books for Bugs virtual book fair that takes place later this month.

Books for Bugs is a local bookseller with a wide range of excellent brand new books at only £2.50 each! The book fair will start on Monday 7th November and for every five books that are purchased, we get a free book for the school. Further details will be posted on Class Dojo later this week.

Christmas Dinner

A reminder that we will be having our Christmas Dinner day on Thursday 8th December. You can book for this in the normal way, via school money. A copy of the menu options can be found on Class Dojo.

Tibberton & Taynton Rainbows

The Tibberton and Taynton Rainbows meet on Wednesdays, 5-6pm at Taynton & Tibberton Village Hall Taynton Lane, GL19 3AN and they are looking for members. For any girls aged 4-6 (who are at school) who would be interested in joining, please contact Margaret Highton on 01531 820245 or 07581 312585 or mg@gmbhighton.plus.com

In the last year activities have included building a robot from rubbish, making fruit salad, making bird feeders, learning to play hop scotch, learning about coins and female explorers, making trails, scavenger hunts and games on the field.

The Highnam Vision

Parents and family members are invited to join us on Monday 7th November at 2.30pm in the school hall to find out more about our new school vision, Inspiring Everyone to Shine. There will be a short meeting and then the opportunity for you to see what the children have been doing in class linked to our vision.



Highnam Open Day

Open Day is on Wednesday 9th November. This is mainly for prospective parents but all visitors are welcome; it is a great opportunity to see the school in action, speak with the pupils and get a feel for what life is like at Highnam. Tours of the school will be led by our wonderful year 6 pupils between 10.00 and 11.30am, and 1.30 and 2.30pm.

Attendance

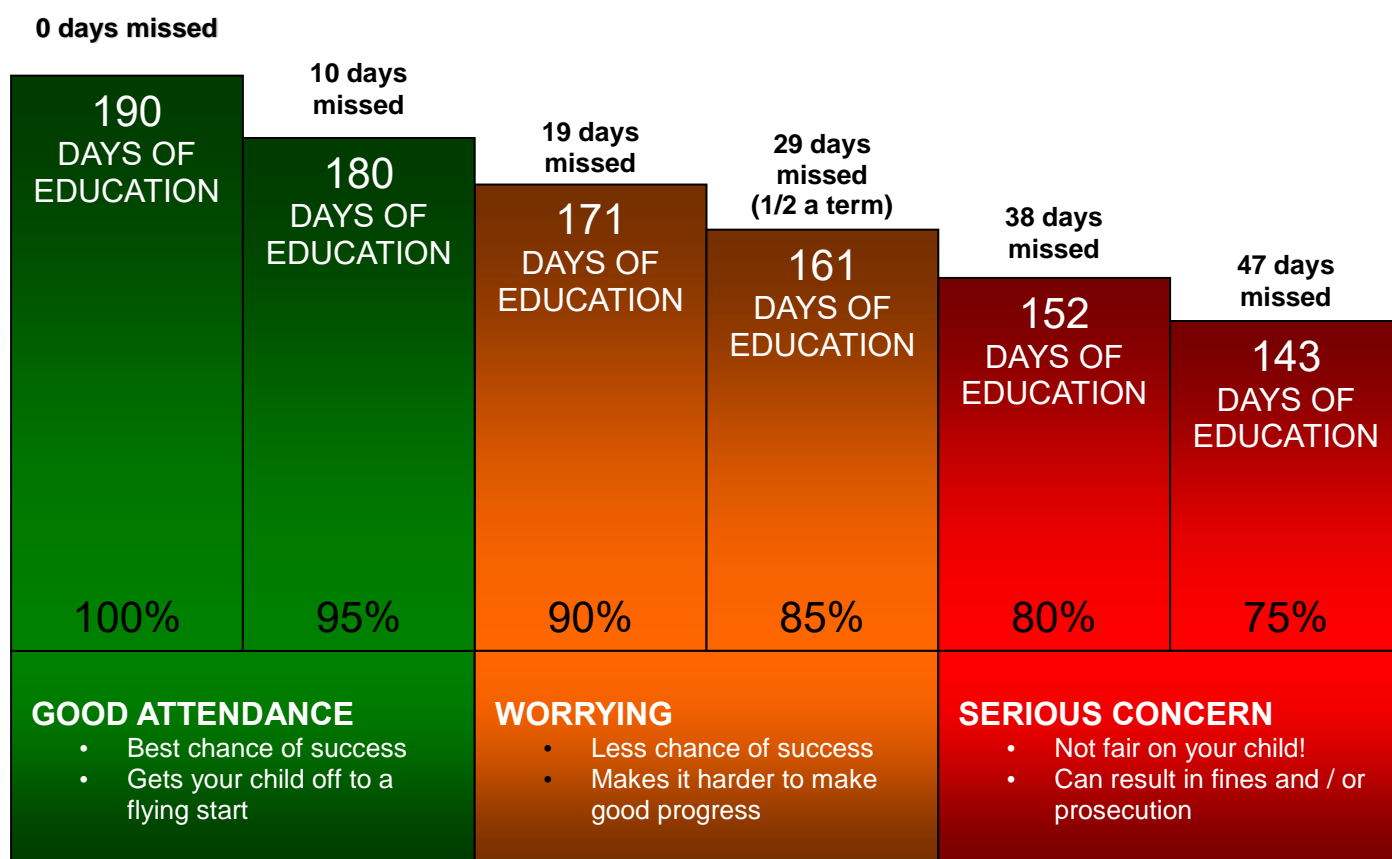
At Highnam, we take school absence very seriously and identify pupils whose attendance drops below 95% and provide support and intervention to help improve this if required.

If a pupil does not attend school or is not taking part in an approved educational activity, they are classed as absent from school. This means that if your child is off school for any reason, even if they are ill or have medical permission to be off school, they will be marked as absent.

Who to contact to report absence or discuss any barriers that may impact on your child's attendance:

Mrs Bottomley: admin@highnam.gloucs.sch.uk 01452 525872

1 or 2 days a week may not seem like a lot but.....



Providing Reasons for Absence

Parents are required to contact school every morning of absence. When contacting for a pupil who is off school, we require an actual reason for the absence. The more information you provide will enable us to consider if the absence is authorised or unauthorised.

Medical Appointments – We ask that you make every effort to ensure that any medical or dental appointments are not made during school time. Where this is unavoidable, we request that parents and carers send pupils to school prior to appointments and return to school after. Please put this in writing to the school prior to the appointment and include the date and time. Please request when attending appointments an appointment card from the receptionist at the surgery as school will require this as proof of appointment upon your child's return to school. Failing to provide this information may result in the absence being unauthorised. If arriving late for school following an appointment, please ensure that your child is accompanied and signed in by an adult at the school office for safeguarding reasons. School may request that medical evidence is provided to support absences.

Thank you for your support with this.

With best wishes, Liz Coldrick, Head Teacher

Dates for your diary:

Wednesday 2 nd November	Year 4 return from Viney Hill residential
w/b 7 th November	Books for Bugs virtual book fair
Monday 7 th November	Vision launch day – parents and carers are welcome to the school at 2.30pm to find out more about our new vision, Inspiring Everyone to Shine.
Wednesday 9 th November	Year 3 class assembly at 9am in the school hall – parents and carers are warmly invited to this. Highnam Open Day from 10.00-11.30am and 1.30-2.30pm – year 6 pupils will lead tours of the school.
Thursday 10 th November	Photographer in – individual and sibling photos
Friday 11 th November	Remembrance Day – children who are part of Rainbows, Beavers, Cubs, Brownies, Scouts, Guides, etc. can all wear their uniforms on this day. We will observe two-minute silence at 11am.
Tuesday 15 th November	Parents evening 4-7pm
Wednesday 16 th November	Parents evening 4-7pm
Thursday 17 th November	Year 4 trip to Chedworth Roman Villa Pudsey Bear may be paying us a visit!
Friday 18 th November	Children in Need – this will be a non-uniform day (wear something spotty if you can). Please can children bring £1, or whatever you can afford, to raise money for this charity.
Sunday 20 th November	PTA will be holding a car boot sale at school from 12.30 – 4.30pm. Details of this have been shared on Class Dojo
Wednesday 23 rd November	Year 1 trip to the Edward Wilson Museum
Friday 2 nd December	Year 6 will be performing at the Meningitis Now Christmas Carol Concert at Gloucester Cathedral. Tickets for this will be available to buy from Wednesday 2 nd November.
Wednesday 7 th December	Junior Carol Service at Holy Innocents Church, Highnam. There will be two services – at 2pm and again at 6pm. All children from Y3, 4, 5 & 6 will be involved.
Thursday 8 th December	Christmas dinner day Christmas jumper day – To support the charity Save the Children, we will be inviting all children to pay £1 to wear a Christmas jumper (no need to buy a new jumper, you can decorate an old jumper with stickers, tinsel, felt, baubles, etc.). This is not a non-uniform day; children can wear their Christmas jumpers over the top of their uniform.
Friday 9 th December	PTA Christmas disco – more details nearer the time
Monday 12 th December	Infant Nativity performance at 2pm in the school hall
Tuesday 13 th December	Infant Nativity performances at 9.15am and 2pm in the school hall
Wednesday 14 th December	Infant trip to The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury – Snow White panto.
Friday 16 th December	Last day of term 2. We will finish at the usual time of 3.15pm for the infants, 3.20pm for the juniors.

Future Dates:

Tuesday 3rd January 2023: First day of term 3

Thursday 16th February: Last day of term 3 (for the children)

Friday 17th February: INSET day for teachers (children not in school)

Monday 27th February: First day of term 4

Friday 31st March: Last day of term 4

Monday 17th April: First day of term 5

Monday 1st May: Bank Holiday (children not in school)

Friday 26th May: Last day of term 5

Monday 5th June: First day of term 6

Friday 21st July: Last day of the 2022-2023 school year