



**Friday 8th
March 2019**

High Down Schools

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NEWSLETTER 12

Dear Parents,

What a busy start to Term 4! The children have had a busy but exciting start to the term and have enjoyed the many learning opportunities provided across both schools. It was great to see so many parents at the recent infant parent's evenings and we look forward to seeing many more in the coming weeks at the junior school. Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Rhodri Hopkins
Executive Deputy Headteacher
High Down Schools

Term 4 Value- Creativity

This term, we are able to celebrate creativity across the school and we have already had a number of opportunities to demonstrate this from World Book Day to the Circus Skills workshop in the Infant school. The Junior School took part in the annual Eisteddfod last week where we had many fantastic entries. Well done to everyone who entered and congratulations to all of the year group winners. The results can be found below:

Eisteddfod Winners 2019

		Year 3	Class	Year 4	Class	Year 5	Class	Year 6	Class
ART	1st	Finn	3AB	Callum	4D	Violet	5S	Ella	6D
	2nd	Annabel	3AB	Matthew	4D	Evie	5S	Abi	6G
	RU	Ludo	3AB	Caitlin	4M	Millie	5S	Emily	6HW
	RU	Alice	3L	Francesca	4D	Jessica	5S	Fin	6G
HANDWRITING	1st	Sophie	3W	Phoebe	4F	Erin	5W	Isla	6G
	2nd	Florence	3L	Euan	4D	Evie	5S	Abigail	6G
	RU	Cathryn	3AB	Ruby	4D	Jessica	5S	Femke	6HW
	RU	Meghan	3AB					Isaac	6G
WRITING	1st	Sophie	3W	Phoebe	4F	Louisa	5S	Frankie	6D
	2nd	Amelia	3AB	Emily	4M	Erin	5W	Ella	6D
	RU	Evelyn	3L	Megan	4D	Libby	5S	Erin	6HW
	RU	Meghan	3AB					Olivia	6D
SINGING	1st	Lexie	3W	Laura	4F	Joanna	5C	Tori	6D
	2nd	Seren	3AB	Charlotte	4M	Derin	5W	Meadow	6B

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	RU	Victoria	3L	Matthew	4D	Ella	5S	Neve	6HW
	RU	Poppy	3T						
RECITING POEM	1st	Romilly	3W	Archie	4D	Alex	5S	Saskia	6B
	2nd	Jacob	3L	Emily	4M	Polly	5C		
	RU	Amelia	3AB			Richard	5W		
	RU								
PLAYING INSTRUMENT	1st	Clio	3T	Bethany	4F	Seb	5W	Femke	6HW
	2nd	Cecily	3W	Euan	4D	Eden	5S	Saskia	6B
	RU	Olwyn	3L	Heidi	4M	Thomas	5C	Josh	6D
	RU							Fin	6G
DANCE	1st	Eliza	3W	Elsie	4D	Abbie , Rosa , Grace	5W	Jessica	6B
	2nd	Miah, Cathryn, Annabel	3AB	Willow	4M	Violet	5S	Meadow	6B
	RU	Jessica, Sophie Andrews, Maggie	3L	Ava	4M	Ashton	5C		
	RU	Leia, Lucy, Evalyn	3T						

Bardd-Playing an Instrument – Seb 5W

Highly Commended ART

Amber 4M

Bethany 4F

Holy 4F

Dylan 3W

Meghan 3AB

William 3W

Emelia 3W

Lexi 3W

Cecily 3W

Highly commended DANCE

Oliver 4F

Highly Commended WRITING

Alfie, Isaac Ruth, Ruby, Isla, Jamie, Abbie and Lexi 6G





More photos on our school website

A message from Mrs Cowan:

I was extremely proud of all the children that participated in the school Eisteddfod both in their class/ year group competitions as well as in the school final where they performed in front of the whole Junior School. I am always impressed not just by the talent demonstrated by our children but by their confidence and enthusiasm.

Thank you for a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon.

Mrs Cowan

Pancake Races in Nursery



Message from the 'Friends of High Down Junior School'

Book Drop



A very big thank you!

What a generous lot you are!

We were blown away by the quality and volume of books that arrived for this year's Book Drop.

The books are being distributed to classrooms around the school so will benefit all children with newer resources in the classroom.

Thank you!

Quiz 'n' Chips

Over 20 teams are registered for the fundraising evening on 15 March - everyone looking forward to a fun evening of quizzing, chips and laughter! See you there! Doors open at 7pm.

Textiles Collection

20th March - see ParentMail for further information.

The FHDJS met this week for their March meeting.

Planning has started for the Children's Disco in April and the Summer Festival in June.

If you are able to help in June with the preparations, or on the evening please do let us know. If you have an idea for a stall or a talent that can be shared, contact us! Likewise if you can donate a raffle prize, we'd be very pleased to hear from you.

This year we are making a very significant financial contribution towards the redevelopment of the Junior School IT Suite. The children deserve up to date and current equipment and we are very proud that we can support current users and those to come. It's because of you that we are able to give this support - all those goody bags you make, the raffle tickets you buy, the events you attend, have made it possible! However, as a result, FHDJS funds will be severely depleted - making all future fundraising events even more important if we want to be able to continue supporting the school by funding the Science Dome, Art Week, library books etc, which we do every year. In addition we support individual requests from your children's classes and groups.

We need you!

"Can you help?" & "We need some volunteers" is the cry you'll hear often throughout the school year. We value highly the current band of helpers that sort tombola, serve on the bar, make up hampers, pour squash at discos, wrap lucky dip, sell cakes etc. in between their parenting and work commitments. They and we would be very appreciative of more help, the events cannot happen without volunteers.

Please get in touch, however small your contribution - it will be gratefully received!

Contact:- Friendshdjs@gmail.com

FHDJS

Our Nature Area-Have you seen? Can you help?

We hope that you are continuing to enjoy the nature area now that it is open.

Eco-club has been busy clearing the nature area after the winter and preparing it for spring. We have also planted some more butterfly, bee and insect friendly plants in a bid to encourage them to flourish since we are very aware that they are in decline.

Kevin has also been really busy creating our recycled shed which will enable us to store equipment close-by to the garden.

Thank you so much for the thoughtful donations which we receive. The bird-feeders which were kindly brought in are now tempting the birds into our special natural area.

There are some bigger projects which we'd like to achieve in the nature area this year. In order to achieve this goal, we'd really appreciate some adult help. Therefore, we'd like to invite willing helpers to join us on

Sunday 17th March between 9:30 am and 12:30am. You may like to join us for all or part of that time. Children will also be welcome as long as they are accompanied and cared for by an adult-they had a great time last year. Projects for this morning include pond clearing, clearing some patches of land for planting, constructing a recently purchased greenhouse, planting, completing the shed and building a bird hide-there are plenty of jobs and many hands make light work. If you are able to help and support us please email me nicola.fackrell@highdownschools.org. If you have a particular skill set for any of these jobs, please also let me know.

We would also appreciate any further donations which you may have e.g. seeds, plants, small pots, tree stumps (for our outdoor classroom to be able to function) and other items which you feel would help us to enhance this shared facility for us all to enjoy.

Thank you
Mrs Fackrell

Recycling at High Down!



A message from Elizabeth in Year 4:

"The children at High Down started collecting crisp packets on Monday when I put a box in the dinner hall. I told everyone about this in an assembly with Mr Hopkins and was amazed at how many packets went in the box. In a week I have collected a whole black bag and stopped these going into landfill. My sister, Alice, is doing the same in the infants and nursery. These packets can be made into benches, play equipment, ruck sacks and shoes by Terracycle. If you could save up your crisp packets at home and drop these at Waitrose, Parish Wharf or Moose Hall I would be very grateful. Thank you for helping our awesome planet. Best wishes, Elizabeth

PS. If you are struggling to figure out what to do for lent, you don't have to give up anything. You can pick up instead. If we all picked up one piece of litter a day, the junior school children would pick up 16,800 items. Thank you so much for doing this."

Young Carers

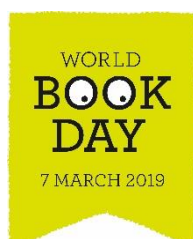
Yesterday, Sophie West from Young Carers Service, delivered a really informative assembly to our Junior School children about being a young carer.

Young Carers are young people aged 5 to 18 who help to look after someone with illness, disability, poor mental health or addiction issues.

There are more than 2000 Young Carers in North Somerset. Nearly all young carers are emotionally impacted by their caring role and peer support from other young carers is one of the top things shown to make a difference.

Sophie delivered this assembly to raise awareness of this service and who may be entitled to access it. Referrals can be made via Mrs Battlebury and Tracey Parkinson who are our School Learning Mentors.

World Book Day 7th March 2019



We had a superb World Book Day where children and staff dressed up as a range of
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wonderful book characters. It was great to see so many children inspired by a love of reading and we really hope the children enjoy spending their £1 book token! Happy reading!



Reception World Book Day

WOW! What a brilliant turn out of costumes for World Book Day. The children looked amazing and loved sharing their favourite stories with the class. We spoke about the different characters and why they wanted to dress like them. We also encouraged the children to explain the plot to the class to develop their oracy skills further. Each class had a bedtime story event with twinkly lights and comfy blankets.



TIMES TABLES ROCKSTARS

Weekly class winners

Friday 1st March 4D

Friday 8th March 4M

Junior Golden Book Assembly:

Friday 8th March

Infant Celebration Service:

Friday 8th March

Key Diary Dates

Term 4

Week commencing Monday 11th March Junior Family Learning Conferences

Tuesday 12th March Y1 Trip to St Fagan's Museum

Friday 15th March Comic Relief Non-uniform day

Wednesday 20th March Y3 Dancefest

Friday 22nd March Y1 Igloo Challenge

Week commencing Monday 25th March Junior Science Week

Tuesday 26th March MAWS performance at The Winter Gardens

Wednesday 27th March Y6 Lifeskills Trip

Thursday 28th March Y4 Caerleon Trip

Wednesday 3rd April Junior Discos

Friday 5th April Last day of term

Term 5

Tuesday 23rd April Term 5 begins

Week commencing Monday 13th May KS2 2019 Assessments for Year 6

Thursday 23rd May NSPCC non-uniform fundraising day (£1 donation)

Last day of term for children

Friday 24th May INSET Day