



**Friday 25th
May 2018**

High Down Schools

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NEWSLETTER 14

Dear Parents,



May Fair tonight from 6:30pm

The junior children had a wonderful time yesterday showing their perseverance and determination as they make their way up to the top of the Climbing Tower on the playground. This was part of the fundraising by our fabulous Friends for today's annual May Fair.

Our Y6 children have been busy preparing stalls as part of their Dragon's Den project this week and have really appreciated the advice from local business man Greg Poulter. They have put a great deal of work into their stalls – please support them this evening.

A very big thank you to all parents who have helped in any way organising these events. The school is so appreciative of every penny raised!

Junior School "rapid improvement" this year

On 2nd May, the junior school had a visit from colleagues representing the Regional Schools Commission, the Department for Education and Lighthouse Schools Partnership. We were delighted to receive the Lighthouse Trust report following the visit which highlighted the success of our action plan to further raise standards this year:

- "Improvements have been secured in curriculum development, learning environments, high quality planning and consistency of practice across all year groups.
- Rapid improvement has been secured. Internal data indicates good progress is being made in each year group against the NC Key Performance Indicators.
- There was significant evidence of clear differentiation, and consistency of expectation and strategies with mathematics. Practice was very strong. Pupils were clear about their learning journey, the small steps they were taking and where they would go next. Pupils were engaged and enthused and clearly excited by their progress.
- Writing 'rubrics' focussed on sequenced sessions where the learning outcomes were clear. In addition, success criteria and what success looks like were evident and understood by pupils. Feedback has focused on agreed success criteria and next steps. Again, the focus, clarity and consistency across the school was evident.
- Middle leaders have really seen their improvement strategies having an impact as they coach and mentor colleagues and driving standards in their subjects and year groups. Morale in staff and middle leadership seemed strong and very positive. "

Second Severn Crossing

Alfie – a bridge enthusiast - and Charlotte, Roberto and Carl invited my husband, Mr Parker, to visit school and talk to them about the Second Severn Crossing. Mr Parker, a civil engineer, had led the project for the Welsh Office and was delighted to be invited! He answered their many questions and had many stories to tell about the construction of the bridge.



Wishing Miss Lane a speedy recovery

As many of you may have heard, last Friday Year 3 teacher, Miss Emma Lane, was knocked off her bike as she cycled to school. Her helmet saved her – an important reminder to us all how important it is to ALWAYS wear a helmet when riding a bike. She has stitches, nasty scrapes and many bruises but is making a good recovery. We send her our love and best wishes.

WISHING YOU A HAPPY (and hopefully sunny!) WHITSUN BANK HOLIDAY WEEKEND AND A LOVELY WEEK AHEAD WITH THE FAMILY

Many thanks for your support this term.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Sue Parker
Associate Headteacher

Junior School Golden Book Children

21st May 2018

Years 3 and 4 – Zoe & Finley 3W, Harvey & Megan 3R, Archie & Caitlin 3L, Harrison & Lia 4S, Eden & Erin 4D and Rhys & Jessica 4F.

Years 5 and 6 – Hattie & Ty 5C, Mohammed & Rose 5S, Shannon & Eva 5B, Abi & Blythe 5W and Sam & Alfie 6HB.

Infant School Celebration Service

22nd May 2018

CJ & Olivia (Pelicans), Arthur & Henry (Swans), William & Teddie (Kingfishers), Anais & Layla (Puffins), Caleb & Skyla (Finches).

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Year 2 Sculptures

Year 2 have been thinking about sculpture following their highly enjoyable visit to the Marina and Sculpture trail in Portishead. Last week the whole of Year 2 enjoyed a very 'hands on' sculpture day during which each child was able to design and make their very own abstract sculpture. This week in Art sessions the children have also been making paper sculptures and were very proud of their creations.

Y6 End of SAT Celebration Afternoon!



Y6 enjoyed a fun Friday afternoon after the hard work of SATS week: a mixture of 'Go Noodle' dancing, quizzes and the Inter-house Sport-a-thon 2018, where each house earned over 200 house-points towards their year end house total. The proud winners were Balmoral with 236 house-points! There was tremendous effort and teamwork throughout.

Year 1 Walk to Weston Big Wood



The Year 1 classes were nature detectives when they walked to Weston Big Wood.