



**Friday 3rd
May 2019**

High Down Schools

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NEWSLETTER 15

Dear Parents,

This relatively short but extremely busy term is certainly well under way. The children have started the term in a positive way and have been incredibly focussed in their learning. We look forward to the weeks ahead and the many activities the children will be completing across both schools. We hope you enjoy the extended weekend. I personally plan to have a quieter weekend than the last after completing the London Marathon last Sunday. Thank you for the support.



Term 5 Value: Trust and Honesty

This term's school value is Trust and Honesty. There is so much to explore in this value and you may wish to talk about their importance at home. Friendship and love are based on trust and honesty. TRUST: It is important that our children know who they can trust and how to be someone others can trust. For their safety, they also need to be aware that if someone tells you to keep a secret which worries you or makes you feel unsafe, ALWAYS tell a trusted adult.

HONESTY: The famous story of "The boy who cried Wolf" is a useful example. When we tell lies too much, people don't trust us anymore. It is always better to tell the truth even when a lie seems the easy way out of trouble.



Yours sincerely,

Mr Rhodri Hopkins
Executive Deputy Headteacher
High Down Schools

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No dogs on the school site

Please remember that the school policy is not to allow dogs on site unless they are assistance dogs. Not all disabilities will be obvious to other people, so any one needing to bring a dog on to site needs to discuss this in advance with a member of the Executive team and/ or class teacher. There are procedures and risk assessments in place for 'one-off' occasions where a dog has been brought on to school premises e.g. to support a topic on pets. Thank you for your understanding and co-operation.

Reception Trip to Court Farm

We all had a great day out at Court Farm. We saw calves, lambs, chicks, horses and goats. We dodged the showers as Farmer Ed and his helpers showed us round. The children were beautifully behaved the whole day.



Environment Club

Have you noticed?

On Sunday April 28th, a group of very generous children and adults worked tirelessly in the nature area only stopping briefly for a drink and an energy boost. An amazing amount was achieved by the team. Please take time to enjoy the product of our efforts looking out for the cleared pond into which many frogs were excitedly delivered; the 'green' roof and new shelf in the recycled shed; the planted tyres and raised beds; the cleared woodland and new woven fencing, plus the cleared fruit and pumpkin gardens (pumpkins are yet to be planted!). A huge thank you to everyone who generously gave their time and energy. Please do look at the website link for more details.

More photos on the website <http://highdownschools.co.uk/parent-info/school-environment-page/>



Plastic Free Day - Wednesday 8th May

In celebration of Sir David Attenborough's 93rd birthday, High Down Schools will be taking part in plastic free day. It would be great if your child could try to avoid single use plastic in their lunch box that day and think about how they might replace single use plastics with other reusable items at school and at home. Plastic free ideas include:

- Swapping to a reusable water bottle
- Use brown paper bags or storage containers instead of plastic bags

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- Wrap food with foil or beeswax wraps instead of cling film
- Swapping to reusable / bamboo or metals straws
- Using bags for life or cardboard boxes for shopping
- Use a thermal mug for hot drinks
- Swap to a milk man
- Shop at a local green grocer and butcher

Crisp Packet Crusade and other environmental news

Thank you to everyone who collected crisp packets during the Easter holidays. We hope you saw the articles in the Times newspaper and the local Resident magazine about the crisp packet crusade that started at High Down Schools.

We've been busy making more collection boxes for St Josephs, Portishead Primary and Trinity and Elizabeth in Year 4 has sent letters to their head teachers inviting their pupils to do the same as the children of High Down Schools. We are delighted to inform you that they've all agreed and St Peters has also set up its own collection point, which means all of the local primary schools are now part of the crusade. We will need some parents / children to help with emptying boxes and taking the crisp packets to our collection point in Portishead. If you know anyone who might be able to help, please contact Roberta George (robertaigeorge@aol.com).

Finally, look out for the new arrival in the back playground of the infant school. Kevin has made a milk-carton-collecting-cow, as this is the next thing we are hoping the children can start to recycle. Don't forget, if you or your children have any ideas about recycling or being greener, please drop a note in the eco-bots or email the school.



Year 4 Fencing/Laser Tag Competition



On Wednesday, 12 awesome athletes from year 4 travelled to Gordano School to participate in a fencing and laser tag competition. The 12 children were all absolutely amazing showing all of High Downs core values and beliefs. Before the competition began the children were all given an introduction to both sports, where they taught the basic techniques and tactics of fencing and laser tag.

The children picked up the skills required for both sports very quickly which meant they were all very successful in the main competition. In the fencing Ava won gold and Dan won silver. The boys team came runners up in the laser tag event.

A massive well done to all the children who took part in the event, you were awesome!

Message from the FHDJS

The 2nd High Down Fest is on the horizon or rather Friday 14th June(!) 6:30-8pm. The most important date in your summer diary! #FUNdraising

We are looking for volunteers for Friday 7th June during the morning to help sort donations and then volunteers for Friday 14 June to do the same plus any of you that can help set up, volunteer on a stall or clear up on the evening.

Please let us know via our Facebook page or email FriendsHDJS@gmail.com Thank you!

Further information about the junior fair will be reaching you via your children - please keep a look out!

Next FHDJS Meeting:- Wednesday 8 May, The Ship at 7:30pm. All very welcome.



Class Winners

Friday 26th April 3T

Friday 3rd May 5W

Junior Golden Book Assembly:

Friday 26th April

Years 3 and 4 – Ceia & Nathaniel 3T, Annable & Callum 3AB, Poppy & Lily 3W, Leo & Poppy 3L, Archie & Jo 4M, Holly & Frank 4D and Bethany & Holly 4F.

Years 5 and 6 – Jessica & Harrison 5C, Alfie & Dylan 5W, Ella & James 5S, Angelica & Callum 6B, Jaydn & Gemma 6D, Tom & Kady 6G and Alec & Blythe 6HW.

Friday 3rd May

Years 3 and 4 – Jacob & Eva 3T, Isla & Harry 3W, Simeon & Alejandro 3AB, Beau & James 3L, Olivia & George 4D, Heidi & Miles 4M, Emily & Laura 4F

Years 5 and 6 – Alfie & Maddison 5C, Rosa & Alannah 5W, Alexander & Erin 5S, Kezia & Flo 6HW, Amelia & Daniel 6G, Harry & Olivia 6D, Anela and Tom 6B,

Infant Celebration Service:

Friday 26th April

Elsie & Cali (Parrots), All of Robins Class, Orla & Jacob (Swans) and Aiden & Isabel (Pelicans).

Friday 3rd May

Noah and Olivia (Puffins), Corbin and Phoebe (Ducks), Mylah and Chloe (Penguins), Aaron and Alice (Falcons)

Key Diary Dates

Term 5

Monday 6th May Bank Holiday

Tuesday 7th May – KS1 Assessments for Year 2 start

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

Monday 13th/Tuesday 14th May Y1 walk to Weston Big Wood

Friday 17th May – Y2 Visit Marina and Lake Grounds

Tuesday 21st May – Y1 'Grins and Growls' workshop

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

Last day of term for children

Friday 24th May INSET Day