



High Down Schools

Believing | Achieving | Learning for life

**Friday 21st
September
2018**

NEWSLETTER 2

Dear Parents,

It is hard to believe that we are nearly at the mid-way point of Term 1. The children have continued to make an excellent start to the school year and we have seen so many examples of care and kindness being shown. This week has been full of exciting learning opportunities for your children so please ask them what they have been learning this week. Topics are in full swing and the children have been so engaged in their work which has been great to see.



School Values

Our School Value this term is **Care and Kindness** one of the school's five Core Values. We want the children to be happy and successful at school and have set high expectations for how we treat each other around the school and in class - being and trying our best!

Junior House/Vice-Captains 2018-2019

On Monday, I was privileged to have heard a number of our Year 6 children taking part in the House Captain Elections. They spoke so well and it was great to see so many put themselves forward to become a house captain this year- congratulations to all of the children who took part. The results are as follows:

Matthew

House Captains: Morgan H and Phoebe S

Vice-Captains: Joshua H and Ella D

Waverley

House Captains: Thomas D and Erin

Vice-Captains: Tom B and Jessica R

SS Great Britain

House Captains: Christopher C and Saskia P

Vice-Captains: Alfie G and Isla P

Balmoral

House Captains: Ben T and Flo J

Vice-Captains: Alfie L and Immy G

We are sure that the children will do a grand job leading their houses this year!

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Parent Curriculum Meetings

Thank you to those families who attended the recent curriculum meetings. I am sure you found them incredibly useful in preparation for the year ahead. If you need any of the information shared, they can be found on our school website in the respective year group section.

Election of Parent Governor

Thank you to everyone who voted in the recent parent governor ballot. As a result, Hannah Jones has been elected as a parent governor. The Governing Body is grateful to all three candidates for their willingness to support its work, and contribute to the ongoing success of our schools, and looks forward to welcoming Hannah at its meeting next week.



Year 6 Girls' Football Club

The year 6 girls' football club has got off to a flying start this year. We are a friendly and enthusiastic club and welcome new people. You do not have to have played football before as we are developing our skills through fun games and matches.

If you would like to join in, collect a form from me in 6D

Mrs Davies

High Down Friends Need You!



The first Friends AGM will be held in the Junior School hall on Wednesday 26th September at 7.30pm. They are looking for a new Secretary and Vice Chair for anyone who would like to join.

Environment Club

Environment Club would like to encourage you to help us to recycle and reuse please.

We'd like to make some creations for the developing nature area using recycled resources. Therefore, we would really like you to collect bottle caps- metal or plastic, corks and plastic bottles. If we could just ask that you rinse them clean and place them in separate containers for us please and we'll put labelled boxes at the office entrance for you to place them in. Hopefully, you've had a chance to look at the developing nature area. We hope to organise another weekend morning to take it on the next step of its journey in soon, so please watch for dates. In the meantime please peer in and enjoy.

Thank you
Mrs Fackrell

Walk the World

Unfortunately, we have had to postpone Walk the World due to the poor weather. The rearranged date will be **Friday 28th September**. 5S, who will be at Earthkeepers next Friday, will take part separately at a later date so they do not miss out.

Bristol Half Marathon- Sunday 23rd September



We would like to wish all the best to all of our families who are taking part in the Bristol Half Marathon this Sunday. I will also be running this, so feel free to cheer along if you are on the course supporting or taking part.

Infant School Christmas Performances

We have been back at school for three busy weeks and are already starting to think about Christmas! It means so much to the children to see their mums and dads in the audience – please put your date(s) in the diary without delay!

Infant School Christmas Performance dates 2018 (all 2pm)

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Friday 7 th December | Robins/ Swans |
| Tuesday 11 th December | Puffins/ Ducks |
| Wednesday 12 th December | Parrots/ Penguins |
| Thursday 13 th December | Owls |
| Friday 14 th December | Falcons |
| Tuesday 18 th December | Pelicans |



Infant School P.E

All the KS1 children will have already started P.E lessons. Please remember that children need to always have a P. E kit in school and long hair must be tied up for P. E days. We will also have different sports coaches working with the children throughout the academic year.

Year 2

Falcons – Tuesday (Indoor) Friday (Outdoor)
Owls – Tuesday (Indoor) Thursday (Outdoor)
Pelicans – Tuesday (Outdoor) Thursday (Indoor)

Year 1

Ducks – Wednesday (Outdoor) Friday (Indoor)
Penguins – Monday (Indoor) Wednesday (Outdoor)
Swans – Monday (Indoor) Thursday (Outdoor)

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Thank you for all the parents / carers who have already brought in P.E kits. We do not have a specific P.E kit but please ensure that you have the following items in a small bag.

P.E kit Checklist (ALL NAMED)

Shorts / Leggings

T-Shirt

Velcro Trainers –NO SHOE LACES or BLACK DAPS

Warm Jumper / Fleece

Joggers

Spare socks

Lateness

Most of our children arrive at school on time and ready to learn. This makes so much difference to their day, so we would like to say a huge 'thank you' to the many, many parents who support us effectively in this way. Children who arrive late miss the introduction to lessons so often struggle to understand what they need to do. They miss the chance to catch up with friends before lessons start, which can have knock-on effects on friendships. They may feel flustered and confused before the day has even got started. **School starts for the Juniors at 8.40am and Infants at 8.50 a.m.** If there are specific reasons for recurring lateness, please speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance.

We look forward to your continuing support in maintaining high rates of attendance and low levels of lateness.

Key Diary Dates- Term 1

Monday 1st October Infant Photos

Week beginning 8th October Junior Parents Evenings

Friday 12th October Harvest Festivals

Week Beginning 22nd October Infant Parents Evenings (Monday and Wednesday)

Tuesday 23rd October Junior Photos

Friday 26th October INSET Day

Infant School Celebration Service

Friday 14th September 2018

Samuel, Emilia (Ducks), Edith, Charlie (Swans), Alicia, Thomas (Penguins), Jack W, Chloe (Owls), William, Mia (Falcons) and Aurora, Florence (Pelicans)

Friday 21st September 2018

Albert and Isla (Owls), Amelia and Jack (Falcons), Brendon and Benjamin (Pelicans), Ava and Rhian (Ducks), Ivy and Layla (Swans), Jacquelyn and George (Penguins)

Junior Golden Book Service:

Friday 21st September 2018

3AB CJ and Evie 3W Harry and Paige 3L Lewis and Jordan 3T Daria and Nathaniel

4D Ellie and Ruby 4F Layla and Zoe 4M Freddie and Stanley

5W Vinnie and Alannah 5C Chloe and Jacob

6B Meadow and Jessica 6D Ella and George 6HW Jess and Alec 6G Rosie and Charlie

Have a lovely weekend

Yours sincerely,

Mr Rhodri Hopkins

Executive Deputy Headteacher

