



**Friday 19<sup>th</sup>  
January 2018**

## **High Down Schools**

Believing | Achieving | Learning for life

### **NEWSLETTER 8**

Dear Parents,

Firstly, may I wish you all a 'Happy New Year' and wish you all the best for 2018! I hope you had a lovely Christmas break and family time together. We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for your kind wishes, cards and gifts, the staff were overwhelmed with your thoughtfulness and generosity.

Since returning to school, special activities have included a theatre group visit to the infants and Bollywood dancing, the film Apollo 13 launched the Y5 space project and Year 4 held a Roman Day last week. More details and photos later in this newsletter and on the school website. The children have made an excellent start back at school and we all have much to look forward to here at High Down in the term ahead.

We were so proud to hear that three of our past pupils have won the poetry competition prizes at Gordano School. Katie Tripp for Key stage 2, Madeleine Browne for Key Stage 4 and Rhiannon Woodland for Key Stage 5 (sixth form). Well done to all! Our own annual poetry competition as part of the High Down Eisteddfod is coming up soon – look out for full details in the next weeks!

### **School value term 3: Optimism and Hopefulness**

Our School Values this term are Optimism and Hopefulness. This will be a focus both in assemblies and in class. We will describe to the children that our values Optimism and Hopefulness are important because they are all about believing that we can make things better in our own lives and for others. Believing that we can make ourselves, our relationships, our learning, and in the wider sense, our world, a better place through our personal efforts and commitment.

As we all know, we can achieve our best by working hard, putting in lots of effort and believing in ourselves. These are really important messages for our children. The Optimism and Hopefulness Value corresponds to our P-BEST learning superpowers: Perseverance and Believing in myself: and our Learnersaurus Tryatops and Icanasaur.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Sue Parker,  
Associate Headteacher,  
High Down Schools

Believing | Achieving | Learning for life

## Junior School Golden Book Children

12<sup>th</sup> January 2018

**Years 3 and 4** – Thaliya & Stan 3L, Bethany & Olivia 3R, Laura & Lucas 3W, Niamh & Oscar 4D, Kasie & Marley 4S and Harvey & Maddison 4F.

**Years 5 and 6** – Jayden & Phoebe 5B, Harry & Chris 5W, Jasmine & Leon 5C, Millie & James 5S, Mikey & Dan 6HB, George & Sam 6G and Finlay & Susie 6HD.

5th January 2018

**Years 3 and 4** – Louis & William 3L, Olivia & Ben 3W, Matthew & Ellie 3R, Violet & Marie 4D, Sammy & Luke 4F and Sofia & Alfie 4S.

**Years 5 and 6** – Eva & Sammy 5C, Gemma & Aaron 5S, Ellie & Charlie 5B, Euan & Ceri 5W, Ollie & Ella 6HB, Callie & James 6G and Jake & Katie 6HD

## Infant School Celebration Service

This takes place weekly, usually on a Tuesday, and is attended by half the classes in rotation. Two children from each class attending receive a 'Star of the Week' certificate. This is an opportunity to celebrate special work and/ or children who have displayed the school values, followed the golden rules particularly well or applied their 'Learnasaur' learning powers.



The 'stars of the week' on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January were:

**Ludo, Evie** (Pelicans); **Joel, Eliza** (Swans); **Oscar, Gus** (Kingfishers); **Chloe, Logan** (Puffins); **Brooke, Oscar** (Finches).

The 'stars of the week' on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January were: **Anya, Nathaniel** (Owls); **Alice, Samuel** (Falcons); **Freya, Aurora** (Ducks); **Thorley, Jack** (Penguins); **Myles, Mylah** (Robins).

## Paint Pals at Norewood Lodge

Paint Pals were privileged to be filmed as part of the Good Morning Britain campaign last month for their work with Norewood Lodge. Paint Pals are a group of junior children who love spending time with the elderly residents of Norewood Lodge. Please follow the link below to view. Thank you to our Learning Mentor, Mrs Caroline Battlebury, who leads this wonderful school link with the community.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2z5IOUNVsII>.

## Year 4 Roman Wow Day – Friday 12th January

Last Friday, Year 4 children enjoyed an exciting day of Roman learning activities. Each adult member of the Year 4 team dressed up as a Roman and helped the children learn about different aspects of Roman life including expanding their Empire, Roman school, Clothes and Latin.



## Year 1 Houses and Homes walk

To kick off our Houses and Homes Learning expedition, Year One have been on a walk around our local area. We were 'House Detectives,' trying to find as many different types of houses as possible. We also posted letters which we had addressed ourselves, asking our adults to help us with our home learning around this topic. We are looking forward to some great learning and having lots of fun in the process!



## Hobgoblin Theatre – 'Goldilocks' – Reception and Year One

The Reception and Year One children thoroughly enjoyed this engaging performance and drama workshop. The children were all completely enthralled by the show and participated enthusiastically in the workshop, bringing trees, flowers, bushes and even a venus fly-trap to life as part of a spooky forest! Not only was the show fun, but it will also support learning in the classroom around story telling and writing. A huge 'thank you' to the PSA for funding this exciting event.

