



**Friday 9th
March 2018**

High Down Schools

Believing | Achieving | Learning for life

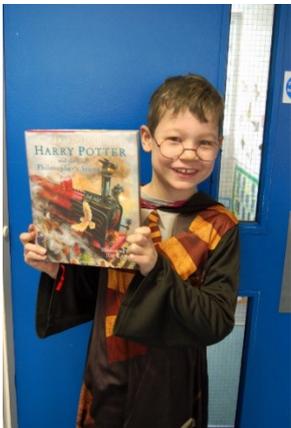
NEWSLETTER 9

Dear Parents,



Snow!

The 'Beast from the East' certainly made its presence known last week and made our roads treacherous and I'm sure brought many challenges to you in your homes and workplaces. Thank you for your support on Thursday and Friday. Deciding whether or not to close is not easy, however, the safety of both pupils and staff is always the most important thing. I apologise for any inconvenience our decision may have caused to you and your family and hope you were able to spend some time together enjoying the magic of snow-time with your children!



World Book Day

Despite the heavy snow forecast, our children came to school on Thursday dressed as characters from their favourite books as part of our World Book Day celebrations.

Sadly we had to postpone the infant Bedtime Story event but have rescheduled this to Wednesday 21st March.



Junior School Eisteddfod

The closure of school last week, meant that we have had to rearrange plans for our Eisteddfod. The winning singers, instrumentalists, poetry recitalists and dancers will now be performing in the afternoon of **Friday 16th March** when we will be announcing the winning class.

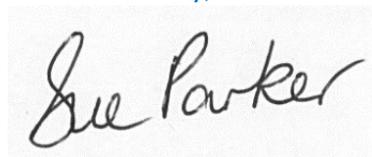
We have been so impressed by the standard of entries for all the competitions! Art entries - Dragon drawings, paintings and models - are on display in the main reception entrance. Winners as follows: Y3 Heidi Duncan, Y4 Jessica Brown, Y5 Noah Adams and Y6 Oscar Smith. Well done to all who have taken part in the competitions!



Believing | Achieving | Learning for life

Happy Mother's Day!

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Sue Parker,
Associate Headteacher,
High Down Schools



Junior School Golden Book Children

23rd February 2018

Years 3 and 4 – Alfie & Oscar 3L, Jacob & Corey 3W, Charlie & Amelia 3R, Aiden & Maya 4S, Jasper 4D and Lily & Harrison 4F.

Years 5 and 6 – Jacob & Jessica 5C, Ruby & Noah 5B, Albie & Louisa 5W, Sophie & Liam 5S, Charlotte & Frankie 6HB, Susie & Hamish 6HD and Billie 6G.

9th February 2018

Years 3 and 4 – Charlie & Luke 3L, Ben & Roxy 3W, Archie & Harry 3R, Ricco & Ryan 4D, Ashton & Josh 4F and Alfie & Lucy 4S.

Years 5 and 6 – Olivia & Aaron 5S, Harry & Jamie 5W, Kady & Lottie 5B, Eva & Will 5C, Jay & Scarlett 6HB, Max & George 6G and Seb & Katie 6HD.

26th January 2018

Years 3 and 4 – Alex & Isaac 3R, Fred & Chase 3L, Louis & Finley 3W, Harry & Ben 4D, Gabe & Erin 4S and Robert & Sarah 4F

Years 5 and 6 – Ed & Harvey 5W, Eva & Isaac 5B, Pablo & Megan 5C, Olivia & Jayden 5S, Amy & Luke 6HB, Jocelyn & Kavell 6G and Lily & Hamish 6HD.

19th January 2018

Years 3 and 4 – Emily & Jo 3L, Finley & Daniel 3W, Joe & Rhys 3R, Lia & Liam 4S, James & Ella 4D and Caroleen & Rhys 4F.

Years 5 and 6 – Scarlet & Evan 5W, Tia & Jaydn 5S, Charlotte & Josh 5C, Daniel & Alfie 5B, Caden & Ted 6HB, Daniel & Daisy 6G and Lily & Seb 6HD.

Infant School Celebration Service

30th January 2018 Louis, Connor (Owls), Sienna, Maggie (Falcons), Jamie, Finn (Ducks), Jonah, Octavia (Penguins), Tristan, Nadia (Robins).

23rd January 2018 Lexi, Kye (Swans); Meghan, Joseph (Pelicans); Hollie, Jack W (Kingfishers); Archer, Mollie (Finches); Daniel, Alfie (Puffins).

Reception Classes' Bikes... We would like to remind families that under no circumstance should children be playing on the Reception class bikes/ travelling equipment after or before school. Thank you for your understanding that this is a health and safety concern.

Believing | Achieving | Learning for life

Reception 'Big Book Share'

On Wednesday 28th February the children in Reception were thrilled to invite male role models into their classrooms to share a story. This was a hugely successful event with many Dad's, Grandad's, Uncle's and friends attending. Thank you for your support and cooperation for making this a huge hit this year!



Year 1 Houses and Homes Learning Expedition

For the next phase of our learning expedition the Year One children have been designing and making their own model houses and learning about the work of real architects and builders. We also enjoyed a fabulous day out at the Welsh National Museum (St. Fagan's) learning all about homes in the past. This has sparked some wonderful writing on exciting subjects such as toilets in the past and how different things were without electricity and central heating! In the next phase of the learning expedition we are moving on to learn about homes in different parts of the world and are looking forward to our igloo challenge with parents and carers next Friday 16th March.



Y3/4 Gymnastic Success

High Down's Y3/4 Gymnastics teams competed at Gemini gym club on Wednesday 28th Feb. Our Level 2 team achieved a team Gold medal along with an individual Gold and Bronze. We look forward to competing in Bath in July.



Level 1

Violet Phoebe Layla Roxanne Caroleen Jess

Level 2 - Team Gold

Elsie - Bronze

Ruby W

Niamh Holly

Ruby R - Gold

Y4 WARRIOR QUEEN COMES TO TOWN

Reported by Masters Jacob Marjoram and Charlie Cocks

Twitter: Hello Warrior Queen, Portishead

Year 4 are putting on a Warrior Queen play for their mums and dads. It's all about the Warrior Queen and how she destroyed three Roman cities in Britain, but then faced Suetonius. Her army was plundered so she poisoned herself. Each class, in a slightly different way, are performing the play on 14th March 2018 in High Down Junior School's hall. Here are some thoughts of the class. "We are doing this powerful play for our knowledge" said one boy.

Jacob, who is Mulch, said, "I like my part because I like narrating." Charlie in this play is a Roman soldier. "I like my part because I don't die!"

In the play, Prasutagus dies. Then, a few scenes later, there is a battle between the Celts and Romans. The Romans win the battle, but they feel a touch of guilt while they march off cheering at the end of the play. They also sing a song called, "A Time of Peace" at the end which shows that there will be no more battles in England. From then on England was peaceful.

Space Detective Visits Year 5

Year 5 were extremely fortunate to receive a visit from Space Detectives' Jo Richardson, who was instrumental in our school receiving the Space Education Quality Mark for its work on the Tim Peake Primary Project last year. This time, Jo extended the children's knowledge of stage rockets beyond the Saturn V to the Soyuz craft and the recent success of the Falcon Heavy rocket launch in Florida. Best of all, the children were also able to explore the surface of the Moon via Jo's virtual reality headsets, where they drove the lunar buggy on the Apollo 15 mission! We look forward to working with Jo again in the near future. Mr Culverhouse

Junior School Environment Club

Environment Club continue to meet regularly and are very excited to have come up with ideas to develop the nature area-see hall display.

We are still awaiting confirmation as to whether an application for a financial grant from Caterlink has been successful. The Friends have confirmed that funding is available from the Friends and a plan has been proposed. We are also applying to be a token destination in our local Waitrose to help us further. If anyone else is aware of possible funding or sponsorship please could you get in touch with either myself Liz or Amanda from the Friends. Further more, If you are able to help in anyway, or have links to someone who or something that may help us please could you speak to one of us or fill in one of the slips in the office area and pop it in our ideas box. Thank you so much to Dan Poole and Kev who have already volunteered time, resources and energy. We'd be grateful for people volunteering their time, expertise, resources or any other means which could help us realise this beneficial project-eg wood, logs, carpentry skills, old car or tractor tyres, soil, seeds/plants and tools. Kev is also keen to know if anyone has, or knows of anybody who has an 8ft trampoline frame which they no longer require and are keen to see go to a good home please?

Please complete a slip and put it in the Environment club box at reception, or just leave a message at reception or email the school office for the attention of Mrs Fackrell.

Mrs Fackrell environment Club and the Friends.

Message from the FHDJS

Snow good to see you all back after half term! The Book Drop is being extremely successful and we're all looking forward to the Quiz 'n' Chips night on **16 March**.

There are a couple of tables still available - staff and parents all welcome at this great fundraising evening. Forms at the office.

The Friends are pleased to be able to support the Eisteddfod again and it's down to you all coming along to the fundraising events that means we can provide funds for fun!

Please also look out for a special treat from the Friends this Friday to celebrate all the mum hero's at our school.

FHDJS

Next Meeting :- 12 April, The Ship, 7:30pm - all welcome!