



High Down Schools

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**Friday 12th
February
2021**

NEWSLETTER 9

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we get ready to break up for half term, I would like to reflect on the past few weeks since our return from the Christmas break. The late decision on moving the majority of children to online learning caused some difficulties but I am sure you will agree that our wonderful staff went above and beyond to ensure that the move to Teams went as smoothly as possible. The Executive team have felt very privileged to watch recordings of sessions as well as joining live lessons and we can clearly see the effort the staff are making to engage the children. We are also really proud of the children and their engagement with their offsite learning – they are a credit to you all. We are also really proud of the children onsite who have settled really well despite often being with different teachers, in new classrooms and with children they are less familiar with.

I can only imagine the stresses you are all under and how you are juggling homelife and worklife whilst supporting your children with their online learning is truly amazing. I am aware that some parents are concerned about the time they can provide to support their children. Please remember that everyone's circumstances are different but we know your children are loved and cared for and every little thing you do is hugely appreciated. I also know many parents are struggling emotionally as we continue on the 'Covid Roller Coaster' but please remember that we are here if you need us -give us a call and we will try to help.

We look forward to the next term and, like all of you at home, we wait for hopeful news at the end of half term.

I hope you can all have a relaxing break over the half term. I know the staff, the children and all of our parents/carers deserve a rest and time to recuperate. Try to encourage the children to have a screen free week and hopefully the weather will be kind and the children can get outside into their gardens or for a walk in the local area. Perhaps try one of the [National Trust's '50 things to do before you're 11 and three quarters'](#) some of which are definitely wintry activities or could be adapted for the colder weather.

Take care,

Mrs Andreyia Cowan
Executive Headteacher

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Portishead Window Wanderland

The following message is from the Portishead Window Wanderland committee:-

“Portishead Window Wanderland will take part this year over the weekend of Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th March from 5.30-9.00pm. We are hoping to light up our streets over this weekend and give us all an opportunity to bring some joy to our neighbourhoods and give us something fun and safe to do. Please find attached a flyer with more details on how to find out more and to register your Windows. Please don't forget to follow the Government guidance if you are taking part in this. Thank you.”

INSET day 8th March

LSP have asked all schools to remind parents of the following date.

Please note the **8 March** is a planned closure day for primary schools in the Lighthouse Schools Partnership.

The speaker for the Trust Curriculum Conference on 8 March has been booked for many months and did not have any availability to lead training in term three or early in term four, therefore the **8th March will be a school closure day for all pupils. The 8th March will be an extended weekend for all children and no child will be expected to complete 'home learning' tasks on 8 March.**

Further detail about schools reopening (expected on 22 February to allow two weeks for planning) will be shared as soon as it is known.

Celebrations

Following feedback to class teachers we have realised that our celebrations (Golden Book/Star of the week) are not as well known by the Infant parents. During the year we usually have weekly services where two (or more) children are chosen to have a certificate. During the service we also acknowledge the hard work of the rest of the class as it is important that the whole class (or bubble) is aware that we value all of their efforts. The children chosen are acknowledged for the extra effort they have shown with their work or for demonstrating our school values or our learning powers including perseverance and belief in themselves. These services took place for the KS1 and KS2 children with Mrs Cowan from September to Christmas. (We complete the services weekly but the names are noted in the fortnightly newsletter.) We did not continue the weekly celebrations during January as we felt that we needed to settle the children into their new routines. From last week we started this again (within their on and offsite bubbles) and will continue with the services when the children return to school. The reception children always start later in the year and will join the services when we return to school.

As before, we have attached a certificate for **everyone** to receive for their tremendous efforts this term.



Congratulations

Well done to Maia in 6H for taking part in the Rotary Club competition where her entry came second. As you can see below, the detail and creativity Maia has shown is superb!



Infant Celebration:

Week beginning 1st February

Y1 Tilly H (Ducks), (Mrs Francis)

Y1 Matilda T and Hollie G (Blackbirds), (Mrs Betts)

Y2 Arthur and Orla (Pelicans), (Ms Blackford)

Y2 Lily and Louie (Owls), (Mrs Dane)

Y1 Mali, Echo, Elliott (Swans) and Imogen (Ducks), (Mrs Peprell and Mrs Ward)

Y1 Kian, Elena, Neave and Philip (Penguins), (Mrs Keys and Mrs Arnall)

Y2 Dexter and Amelia (Falcons) and Amy (Pelicans), (Mrs Bates and Mrs Godden)

Y2 Joshua T and Nelly (Pelicans) and Aebbe (Owls), (Miss Skinner and Mrs Meacock)

Week beginning 8th February

Y1 Fern (Ducks), (Mrs Francis)

Y1 Josh J and Hazel W (Blackbirds), (Mrs Betts)

Y2 Martha M and Martha K (Pelicans), (Ms Blackford)

Y2 Bella (Owls), Arlo (Falcons), (Mrs Dane)

Y1 Bella, Rose, Vinnie (Swans) and Luca (Ducks), (Mrs Peprell and Mrs Ward)

Y1 Lizzie, Rhys, Harry and Alice (Penguins), (Mrs Keys and Mrs Arnall)

Y2 Rosie and George L (Falcons) and Mabel (Pelicans), (Mrs Bates and Mrs Godden)

Y2 Elsie, Elijah (Owls) and Sophie (Pelicans), (Miss Skinner and Mrs Meacock)

Junior Celebration:

Week beginning 1st February

Y6 Harvey (6H), Emily (6B) (Mrs Gore, Miss Edwards and Mrs Bruntlett)

Y5 Eva and Poppy (5W) (Mrs Coates/Mrs Gear)

Y5 Cecily and Delilah (5CH) (Mrs Davies)

Y5 Max (5CH), Lottie (5S) (Mr Geary)

Y4 Finlay (4W) Adam (4W) (Miss Wilson)

Y4 Lucy and Noah (4F) (Mrs Harrison)

Y3 Pippa and Florrie (3W) (Mrs Davies)

Y3 Sam (3AB) and Aiden (3T) (Mrs Taylor)

Y6 Matthew and Dexter (6H) (Mrs Hankey/Mr Hopkins)

Y6 Emily and Ben (6G) (Mrs Gooch)

Y6 Willow and Charlotte (6B) (Miss Bennett)
Y5 Sean and Sophie (5S) (Mrs Sage)
Y5 James and Poppy (5CH) (Mr Culverhouse/Mrs Hill)
Y5 William and Clio (5W) (Mrs Wallace)
Y4 Gracie and Izzy (4D) (Mr Fullan)
Y4 Olivia (4W) and Idris (4F) (Mrs Fackrell)
Y3 Ivy and Isla (3W) (Mrs Wright)
Y3 Sam and Rhian (3AB) (Mrs Bjergfelt)

Week beginning 8th February

Y6 Caity (6B), Leon (6G) (Mrs Gore, Miss Edwards and Mrs Bruntlett)
Y5 Josh and Leia (5W) (Mrs Coates/Mrs Gear)
Y5 Simeon and Will C (5D) (Mrs Davies)
Y5 Alex and Sophie (5CH) (Mr Geary)
Y4 Reuben and Callista (4W) (Miss Wilson)
Y4 Jude(4W), Jack (4F) (Mrs Harrison)
Y3 Oliver (3AB) and Mollie (3W) (Mrs Davies)
Y3 Lexie (3AB) and Lottie (3T) (Mrs Taylor)

Y6 Elsie and Ellie (6H) (Mrs Hankey/Mr Hopkins)
Y6 Jacob, Ethan and Oliver (6G) (Mrs Gooch)
Y6 Heidi and Sophie (6B) (Miss Bennett)
Y5 Samuel and Florence (5S) (Mrs Sage)
Y5 Thomas and Annabel (5CH) (Mr Culverhouse/Mrs Hill)
Y5 Sam and Nevaeh (5W) (Mrs Wallace)
Y4 Oliver and Izzy G (4D) (Mr Fullan)
Y4 Bella and Will (4F) (Mrs Fackrell)
Y3 Charlie and Layla (3W) (Mrs Wright)
Y3 Sophie and Savannah (3AB) (Mrs Bjergfelt)

Key Diary Dates-

Infant school **Junior school** **Both schools** Updated events highlighted in red

Term 3

Friday 12th February Last day of Term 3

Term 4

Monday 22nd February Start of Term 4

Thursday 4th March World Book Day (details to follow shortly)

Monday 8th March INSET day

Thursday 1st April Last day of Term 4