



High Down Schools

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**Friday 17th
September
2021**

NEWSLETTER 1

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back!

It has been so lovely to see all the children back and settle so well after the summer break. I would like to say a warm welcome to our new families who have joined us throughout the school and our new Reception- welcome to High Down! For those new to the school, we send a fortnightly newsletter sharing some key learning that has taken place and celebrations/key events across both schools. Our weekly updates to parents and carers are usually sent weekly on a Thursday with more general information. If you require any further information about the school then please contact the school office or visit our school website. <https://highdownschools.co.uk/>

The children have responded well with the structures and routines we have in place and are enjoying the opportunities to mix more widely during the day. We have held a number of assemblies in our halls already and it has been so nice to have everyone back together again. We have been so impressed with the attitudes and efforts the children are showing already in their classrooms. Thank you to the parents/carers who have attended the recent year group/class sessions. If you require any further details on what was shared then please take a look on the school website.

Some of our usual clubs and activities are back up and running. Year 5 have started swimming again and our music lessons and some after school clubs have now resumed. Further clubs and activities will be available throughout the year so watch this space! We have even had baby chicks arrive in the Infant School (see below!).



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!

Next week, the Junior school children will be provided with activities they can complete to earn their badges so please look out for these in your email inbox!

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Chicks!

With the beginning of a new school year the Infant children have been fascinated and awestruck to see our Living Eggs hatch into fluffy yellow chicks. Next week, there will be opportunities for children to handle these wonderful creatures – care and kindness in action. Technology has played a part as well, and even when classes haven't been able to see the chicks directly we have a live stream into classrooms. The chicks even have their own Teams account! Special thanks to Mrs Betts for the practical animal care in school and to Mrs Woods-Jones who is looking after them over the weekend.

The chicks are in school until the end of next week, after that Living Eggs collect them and rehome them responsibly. However, if anyone in the school community would like to keep some (or all) of them, that can also be arranged. Please get in touch with the school office if you are interested in making this commitment.



Infant School Celebration Service:

10th September 2021

Year Two – Kaio & Meadow, Pelicans; Sidney & Elena, Falcons; Kian & Millie, Owls.
Year One – Leo & Bethany, Ducks; Lyra & Alison, Swans; Honey & Fraser, Penguins.

17th September 2021

Year Two- Xander & Emily, Pelicans; Thomas & Hannah, Falcons; Reuben & Hollie, Owls.
Year One- Daniel & Emily, Ducks; Arlo & Evie, Swans; Samuel & Matilda, Penguins.

Portishead in Bloom Painting Competition

Special mention for Elizabeth from Penguins, who won the first prize in the under 6 category of this competition. Well done, Elizabeth!

Junior Golden Book Service:

10th September 2021

Years 3 & 4 – Louisa and Josh 3AB, Louis and Mabel 3T, Teddie and Lilly 3W, Albie and Lucy 4F, Pippa and Layla 4D, Anais and Lexi 4W
Years 5 & 6 – Jacob and Isla 5CH, Lennon and Hannah 5W, Tyler and Maria 5S, Isla and Flo 6D, the whole of 6B, Sienna and Poppy 6H, Aiden and Clio 6G

17th September 2021

Years 3 & 4 – Jesse and Scarlett 3AB, Nelly and Rhys 3T, Arthur and Bella 3W, Henry and Harley 4F, Isla and

Isabel 4D, Bethany and Pearl 4W

Years 5 & 6 – Indie and Martim 5CH, Jamie and Aurora 5W, Billy and Alice 5S, Nathan and Cecily 6D, Callum and Sophie M 6B, Maggie and Florence 6H, Lucy and Leia 6G

Key Diary Dates-

Updated dates will be highlighted in red within each newsletter

Infant school Junior school Both schools

Term 1

Thursday 23rd September 7.30pm PSA AGM

28-30th Sept – 5W Earthkeepers

1st, 4th & 5th October – 5S Earthkeepers

6-8th Oct – 5CH Earthkeepers

Week commencing Monday 11th October Parent/Carers Evenings (days and times TBC)

Monday 4th October 3AB trip to Windmill Farm

Wednesday 6th October 3W trip to Windmill Farm

Thursday 7th October 3T trip to Windmill Farm

Friday 22nd October Last day of Term 1

Term 2

Monday 1st November INSET day

Tuesday 3rd November Children back in school to begin Term 2

Friday 17th December Last day of Term 2

Have a lovely weekend

Yours sincerely,

Mr Rhodri Hopkins

Executive Deputy Headteacher