



# Newsletter

## Highwood Primary School Issue no.49

December 2021

'Where Individuals Matter'

Dear Parents / Guardians,

Prior to writing this entry, I looked back at the newsletter from this time last year and it was filled with Covid-19 messages and protocols. Although Covid is still a mainstay in my daily workload, hopefully the measures being put in place will continue to allow schools to be open and make sure that we can deliver the amazing curriculum we have planned for your children.

To keep our community updated, there are a few staffing changes that I would like to make you aware of for the Spring Term.

### **Staff moving on:**

Mrs. Perrott and Mrs. Walker-Lancum leave us at the end of this term. I would like to thank them for their contribution to Highwood during the time they have been here. Both classes have already been informed.

Also leaving us are Mrs. Weir and Mrs. Fitzgerald. I would also like to thank them for their contribution to Highwood.

Mrs. Jackie Botting, our lunchtime supervisor retires after 21 years' service. Her contribution to hundreds, probably thousands of Highwood pupils will be sorely missed.

### **Staff Joining Highwood:**

In January, we welcome Mrs. Nichola Gill who will replace Mrs. Perrott and Ms. Nicki Bolger who will replace Mrs. Walker-Lancum.

We have also employed Mrs. Sammie Grainger on a two-term contract to provide us with some additional teaching capacity for the remainder of this academic year – she will be covering some of our PPA and leadership time, so children from all year groups will no doubt come across her at some point next year.

All three teachers are currently teaching in Wokingham schools and will bring a huge amount of experience to Highwood, as well as strengthening areas of the school prioritised in our School Development Plan.

We have also recruited additional adults to join our support staff. Miss Zoe Poulton who will join us in F2, Mrs. Rania Mohammed joins us in Year 4 and Mrs. Nagandanini Nandakumara joins us in Year 2. I am sure we will make them all feel welcomed.

If I don't get the chance to speak to you beforehand, have a great Christmas break and we look forward to seeing you in the new year.

Matt Hickey  
Head Teacher







## Governing Body News

Dear Parent and Carers,

I am sure that you all agree that the remarkable and awesome Highwood team have worked tremendously hard and the Governing body want to say **THANK YOU!**

We hope everyone enjoys the Christmas break and the Governors will update you in the new year with what we've been working on and the published results of the Ofsted report.

We've put together a few activities for the kids to enjoy over the Christmas break.

Stay safe & Seasons Greetings!

Highwood Governors





# Governing Body News

## The Twelve Days of Christmas



PARTRIDGE  
DOVES  
HENS

BIRDS  
RINGS  
GEESE

SWANS  
MAIDS  
LADIES

LORDS  
PIPERS  
DRUMMERS

### Christmas Cheer ☐

1. Why does Rudolph have a red nose?  
*Because he sneezes a lot!*
2. How do you know when Santa's in the room?  
*You can sense his presents.*
3. What did the reindeer say when he saw an elf?  
*Nothing, reindeer can't talk.*
4. What do they sing under the ocean during the winter?  
*Christmas Corals!*
5. What kind of bug hates Christmas?  
*A humbug.*
6. What does Santa say in a race?  
*"Ready, set, HO!"*
7. What is invisible and smells like milk and cookies?  
*Santa's burps!*
8. Why did the elf push his bed into the fireplace?  
*Because he wanted to sleep like a log!*
9. What do call Santa when he stops moving?  
*Santa Pause!*
10. Which elf was the best singer?  
*ELFis Presley*



# Foundation 1 News

## Miss Nunn

Mrs Vanka, Miss Finch, Mrs Bailey, Miss Mubashar, Miss Ryan and Miss Teader

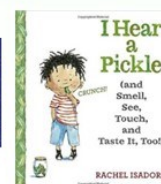
Welcome to our Foundation 1 News. We have had a very busy second half of the Autumn Term in F1. We have been continuing to explore our termly topic '**what makes us special?**' which has allowed us all to explore ourselves as individuals.

After beginning to explore our senses in the first half of this term, we have continued to learn about the other senses which we use every day - touch, sight, taste and hearing. We learnt all about firework night and the different sounds we might hear and used the torches in the dark to explore light and sight. The children have also been focusing on listening and hearing in phonics where they are learning to distinguish between different sounds they hear with their ears. To explore touch and feel we have been exploring lots of different texture messy plays and sensory trays.



We learnt all about the festival of Diwali where children and adults got to share their experiences of the festival. The children dressed up, explored a Diwali sensory tray, painted Mendi patterns, made lanterns and learnt what Diwali is all about.

During this half of term we have really been focusing on developing the children's attention skills at carpet time. We have been doing this through different carpet time activities. The children have particularly been enjoying story time where they are able to choose stories for us to share as a group.



As part of learning how everyone is different and celebrating diversity, we have really focused on being kind and being a good friend this half of term. This tied in nicely with anti-bullying week where we learnt all about the different ways that we can show kindness to others. We have done lots of circle times focused on the children's Personal, Social and Emotional development and helping them to learn how to deal with different situations.

As we are coming towards the end of the term, we are doing all things Christmas! The children have been busy rehearsing for their play- 'A Little Bird Told Me' which we are very excited to share with parents and also engaging in lots of Christmas/winter themed activities. The children also enjoyed their Christmas party and Christmas lunch and decorating the classroom to make it very festive.



We would like to say a huge thank you to all parents that donated toys and resources towards our new supermarket role play area. The children have had such a wonderful learning experience playing in there, pretending to be the shop keepers and the shoppers!

Thank you to all the parents that have supported us during this half of term and we look forward to welcoming the children back after the Christmas break!

Don't forget to follow us on Twitter to see what we are up to each week! @HighwoodPrimFS1





## Foundation 2 News

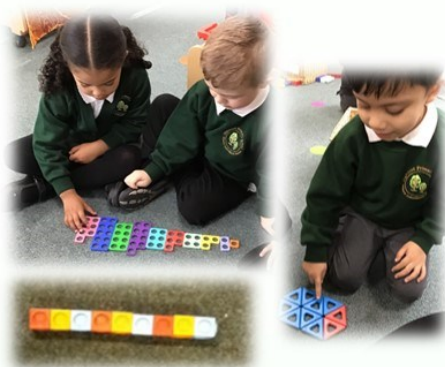
**Mrs Parker, Miss Hargreaves**  
**Mrs Newham, Mrs Alleyne, Miss Mair, Mrs Poulton,**

Welcome to the Foundation Stage Newsletter! It has been such a busy and exciting half term, continuing with our topic question 'Could dinosaurs live in Woodley?', and with all of our other learning—take a look!



We started the term looking at the different ways that dinosaurs move, and we compared animals that we see today who resembled dinosaurs. Our WOW event, a dinosaur day, was very exciting. We baked dinosaur biscuits, and even had a visit from a modern-day dinosaur - a bearded dragon!

In maths the F2 children have been learning about sequencing. They have been using unifix cubes to make a 2 colour repeated pattern and a 3 colour repeating pattern! We introduced numicon and worked together to order them in different ways. We have also been exploring 2D shapes - going on a shape hunt and exploring how we can manipulate shapes to create effects.



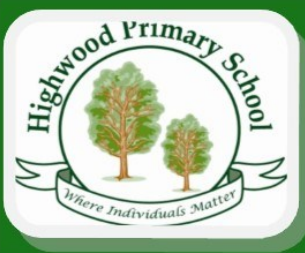
The children had the opportunity to show off their singing, acting and dancing during our nativity 'A Little Bird Told Me'. They all looked lovely in their outfits, and were amazing in the hall in front of KS1! The performance will be available for you to access soon!

We have sadly said goodbye to Mrs Fitzgerald, who is leaving after 6 years at Highwood. We all wish her well for her future, and we know she will shine bright at whatever she chooses to do! We welcome Mrs Poulton to F2H, who will now be supporting the Rabbits.



Thank you to all the parents that have supported us this half term and **we wish you a very Merry Christmas and look forward to seeing you all in the New Year!**

Twitter: @HighwoodPrimF2H @HighwoodPrimF2P



# Year 1 News - Autumn 1

Miss Hughes, Mrs Perrott and Mrs Garner

Mrs Kearney, Mrs Butler, Mrs Turnbull, Mrs Rudroju

Year 1 have had a fantastic Autumn term. We have seen the children put so much effort into all of their work over the past few weeks and they have shown our Learning Behaviours really well.

## Where In The World Am I?

### Trip to the Woods

Our trip for this term focused on using our senses as we explored the local area and the Highwood Woods. Our curiosity overcame the weather as we observed the changes that had occurred as the season changed, whilst keeping a keen eye out to see what animals were around.



### History and DT

As part of our Key Question, we have been looking at the history of the school and of Woodley and the surrounding area. We can explain some of the key ways the school and Woodley has changed and even how we think they will change in the future! We did lots of activities to explore how Highwood has changed, including making timelines! We have also completed our first DT project, making Christmas biscuits.

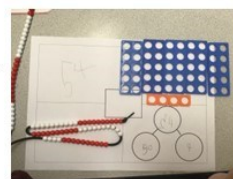


We started by researching different types of biscuits to decide what we liked and what we wanted our biscuits to be like. We then made different designs of Christmas inspired biscuits and evaluated which was our favourite. We have just made our biscuits and cannot wait to eat them at our Christmas party!



### Maths

Over the last few weeks we have been focusing on partitioning and finding how many tens and ones are in a number. We have worked hard on representing numbers in different ways as well as strategies for how to tell which number is greater e.g. look at the tens first. We are continuing to persevere with explaining our thinking and are having a go at doing this independently.



### English

This term we have been looking at traditional tales, focusing on 'The Three Little Pigs.' We loved reading the story and identifying all of the key phrases we would need to use. We have practised retelling the story a lot, both orally and through some drama! The children have written their own versions of The Three Little Pigs, choosing their own animals and the type of material to build the houses from. We were very impressed by their creativity and the way they challenged themselves with their word choice to think of the most interesting adjectives possible. We also discovered some amazing acting skills with the children thinking hard about their expression and actions to tell the story.



Check out our new Twitter feed:

@HighwoodPrim1H (Miss Hughes)

@HighwoodPrim1PG (Mrs Perrott/Garner)





## Year 2 News - Autumn 2



Miss Amor, Mrs Walker-Lancum,

Mrs Long, Mrs Tiwari, Mrs Jedrzejczyk, Mrs Platt, Mrs Nandakumara

It's hard to believe that another 7 weeks have whizzed by. All the Year 2 children have continued to display an excellent work ethic and have showcased their learning brilliantly using their amazing oracy skills. Our Topic Books look fantastic - we cannot wait to show you!

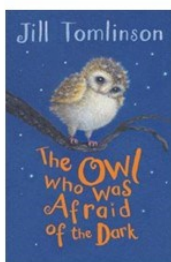
### Was The Great Fire of London a total disaster?

#### English

This half term has seen us turn our hand to non-fiction writing. We began by honing our historical knowledge to write a recount of the fire using accurate chronological order. Then we travelled back in time to pretend we were Samuel Pepys watching the fire.



#### Whole Class Reading



We were really excited to read our first chapter book during whole class reading (WCR). We have enjoyed exploring new vocabulary and ways in which to effectively answer comprehension questions.

#### History

Our amazing teamwork skills helped us to create some wonderfully detailed timelines of The Great Fire of London which we then used to help us write our recount in English.



Follow us on Twitter;

@HighwoodPrim2A

@HighwoodPrim2W

#### Maths

We continued to smash addition and subtraction by solving one-step and two-step worded problems. Then we moved onto investigating shape where we learnt about symmetry, regular/irregular shapes and quadrilaterals.



#### Science/DT

Tudor weaving went down like a storm in Year 2, with the children persevering brilliantly to perfect the over-under-over technique.

We are very much looking forward to applying all of our scientific knowledge of materials to build a stiff, strong and stable Tudor house!







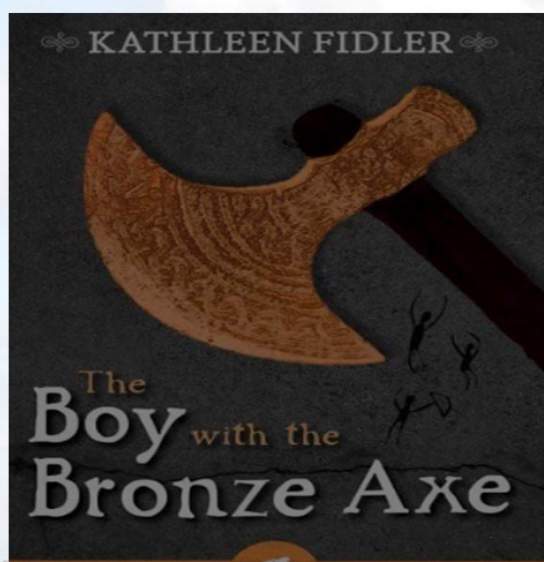
## Year 3 News

Dr Read, Miss Bicheno & Mrs Hartgrove  
Mrs Dharmaraj, Mrs Fouz & Mrs Lawrance

### What did pre-historic people yabba dabba do?

#### Reading and Writing

We have had a lot to write about recently! Not only have we discovered a lot about pre-historic times to write about in non-chronological reports, we then had an amazing day in the Stone Age! We enjoyed the day so much that we are writing recounts of it to share our experience with others. We also finished reading 'The Boy with the Bronze Axe', and gave it some very good reviews!

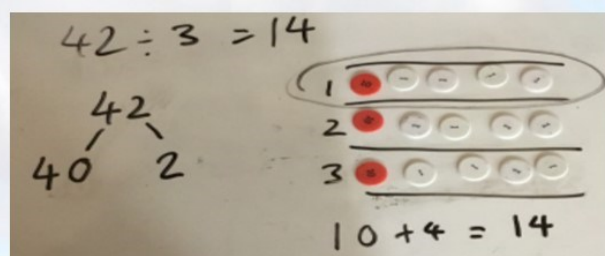


#### Topic

What did prehistoric people yabba dabba do? We found out during Stone Age Day! We loved flint knapping, and even learnt how to light a fire! Most recently, we have thought about the materials that were available to Stone Age people and wondered what invention we might have made as a stone age person. Et la francais? C'est super! We have even been learning about Ancient Britain in French!

#### Maths

We have been trying so hard with our maths multiplication and division. We have used arrays to help us visualise, as well as the grid method and chunking method. We have been concentrating on explaining our thinking too.



#### Science

We have been learning all about bodies in science, focusing on skeletons. We discovered the different type of skeleton names, and that some animals even have skeletons on the outside of their bodies! We have also been thinking about why animals need food.

Je suis un homme  
de l'âge de la pierre. 🔊

J'ai un silex. 🔊

J'habite dans  
une grotte. 🔊



Follow us on Twitter;

@HighwoodPrim3B

@HighwoodPrim3RH





# Year 4 News

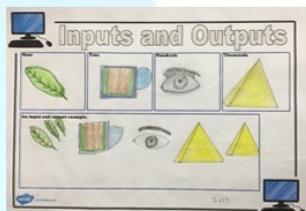
**Mr Allaway, Miss Barrett, Miss Rajput, Miss Hulme, Mrs Mohammed and Mrs Tindall**

**Welcome to the second edition of the Year 4 news! All the Year 4 children have continued to take pride in their learning and have produced some amazing work. Please read on to find out about the incredible learning the children have been doing!**

## What is More Precious - water or gold?

Year 4 continued our investigation into the Ancient Egyptians and how their wealth and the river Nile were important to their rise to power success as a civilisation.

We learned all about why the River Nile was so important to the Egyptians, explored an Egyptian textile Khayamiya and have created their own hieroglyphic counting system.



## Maths

In maths this term the children explored and concreted their understanding of mental methods of multiplication and learnt how to multiply 1 digit numbers by 3 digit numbers using the grid and formal methods. The children have explored addition and subtraction of 4 digit numbers and have been challenged to multiple exchanges within one calculation. We continued our work on addition and subtraction to find answers to multistep problems. The children have also revisited rounding from Autumn Term 1 to help us estimate answers.

We have been consolidating our times table knowledge and this has been improving each week, but any extra practise that could be squeezed in on the school run or at home would be beneficial!

## English

In our writing, we have created excellent setting descriptions, full of adjectives, powerful verbs, descriptive senses and an assortment of fronted adverbial phrases. In the last week of term we are going to pull all of this together and write a whole narrative all about a child becoming brave and adventuring into a task they are scared to do! We are so excited to read the outcome!

Year 4 have continued reading 'Secrets of a Sun King' and the class have loved the excitement and adventure within the story. We have been improving our APE (answer it, prove it, explain it) answers when exploring new vocabulary to find out what the unfamiliar words mean.

## Science

As scientists we have been looking at the digestive system. The children became the food and acted out how the food travels through our body and performed the function of each organ. We also looked at what different teeth we have and the function of each one. The children then became dentists and designed the 'perfect' set of teeth out of home made play-doh!



## Art



As artists we have looked at the Egyptian textile Khayamiya. The elaborate pattern was originally used to decorate inside tents but over the years have changed their function towards cushions covers

and fashion. The children created their own unique designs based on this influence!

## Mummification!

We have learned all about how Pharaohs were mummified in Ancient Egypt. The children were disgusted and fascinated to learn that the Pharaoh's brain would be taken out by a hook through the nose! We then became embalmers and mummified our own tomato Pharaohs. We scooped out the organs then filled them with salt leaving them to dry out.



*Have a lovely Christmas break and we look forward to continuing our learning in the New Year!*

*The year 4 team*







## Year 5 News

**Team: Miss Majer, Mr Robinson, Mrs Nice and Mrs Nielsen**

### **Has our Earth finished evolving?**

Welcome to the second edition of the Year 5 news! I am pleased to say that we've had a fantastic start to the school year, with lots of exciting opportunities and lots of new learning going on. Please read on to find out more!

#### **English**

During the second part of the Autumn Term, we focused on writing newspapers, linked to the moon landing. We looked at all the features first, introducing a new idea of relative clauses, before doing lots of research and interviewing key players in the landing. Finally, we published our newspaper articles like real journalists.



#### **Science and Key Question Lessons**

Continuing on with our Key Question of 'Has Our Earth Finished Evolving?' we moved on to look at space. We spent a long time learning all about the planets, as well as how we get night and day and the Lunar Cycle. Throughout our learning, we used practical resources to show our understanding and using what we learnt practically to write our explanations on how things worked, using scientific explanations.

#### **Art**

We have finished the term with a very exciting art day where we started to look at the work of three different artists: Jackson Pollock, Michael Carroll and Peter Thorpe. Learning new techniques, we then created a piece of art work based on space.



#### **Maths**

We've been looking at the four operations this side of half term, including looking at 'special numbers', such as prime numbers and factors. We have focused on multiplying and dividing, learning new formal methods that can help us calculate answers. The children have worked incredibly hard to learn these new skills and should be proud of their efforts.

***It has been a super start to the year. We look forward to continuing this hard work after Christmas!***

***Follow us on Twitter @HighwoodPrim5M and @HighwoodPrim5R***





# Year 6 News

**Teachers: Mrs Raines, Miss Bocutt, Mrs Chaudhary and Mrs Anil**

Looking back over this Autumn Term, we can't believe how much we have learnt and done. We have continued to address our question '**Does Change Always Lead to Progress?**' through English, History, Science and the Arts. Year 6 would like to wish a Happy Christmas to all our families and friends.

## English

We are thoroughly enjoying our whole class reading book 'Cogheart' by Peter Bunzl. It is an exciting adventure story that includes themes such as: what it means to be human; trust and betrayal; friendship and kindness.



In writing, we have used our knowledge of the Industrial Revolution to write biographies about influential men and women of the time, how their lives contributed to their successes, and how we benefit from their legacies today.

After half-term we immersed ourselves in poetry. We read and performed a variety of poems, and collected our favourite ones in our own anthology. We then wrote our own poems inspired by Robert MacFarland's Red Fox.

## Maths

We have continued to hone our arithmetic skills and use them to solve mathematical problems. We loved learning about the order of operations, and were able to use BODMAS to solve number problems. In the second half of this term, we have investigated shape. We learnt the properties of 2D shapes and used this knowledge to find missing angles; we have explored 3D shapes and their nets.

## Science

In Science, we started off finding out about Darwin and how he developed his theory of evolution. We investigated how the different beaks of finches had adapted over many generations so that they were better able to survive on the food that grew on different islands of the Galapagos. We also studied the peppered moth, and how it adapted to the environmental changes of the industrial revolution.

Recently, we have begun to build on our knowledge and

understanding of electricity. We have learned the scientific symbols for electrical components, and how these can be combined to make a circuit.



## Art

As artists we have completed 2 very different projects: peppered moths and an embroidered name label. We applied the skills of sketching and our knowledge of creating tone and texture to create our own peppered moths.

We put all our moths together to produce a combined display that shows the variation in the patterns of the moth and how it has evolved. For the name label, we studied the work of William Morris before designing and embroidering our own name labels.



## History

As historians, we studied the impact that railways had on the people of Britain. And asked, whether they were a change for good or bad? We then looked at the development of the Great Western Railway and how Reading Station had changed over time.

## PE

In PE with Mr Edwards, we have been learning about fitness and how important it is to exercise as well as learning how to coach others in ball skills. In gymnastics, we used teamwork to create a synchronised sequence using balances, jumps and travelling.

*Follow us on Twitter*

**@HighwoodPrim6R & @HighwoodPrim6B**



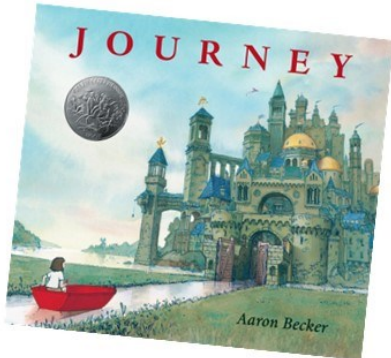




## The Orchard Speech and Language Resource News

Mrs Godfrey, Mrs Payne, Mrs Khan, Mrs Pithiya, Mrs La Porte

### Literacy: Where Will Your Journey Take You?



'Journey' is a wordless picture book by Aaron Becker about a magical adventure. The children started by going on their own 'red door tour' of Highwood to find clues from the story. They have learned about using the past tense, using apostrophes, conjunctions and word banks to write their own imaginative stories to make their readers feel excited and interested!

### Maths: Generalising Arithmetic and Reasoning with Measures



The children have made great progress this term on their individual maths targets - putting their knowledge of addition and subtraction into practice and investigating coin values and amounts (KS1) and area and perimeter (KS2). We are looking forward to our learning on shape and fractions in the Spring term!





# SENCo & Parent Support Adviser

Hello Everyone,

My name is Mrs Padbury. I am the new Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCo) at Highwood. You may have spotted me in the morning in the playground.

I joined the school in September and I have enjoyed starting to work with Highwood families, supporting their children's needs.

This term has been very busy : I have been supporting pupils in school, chairing EHCP review meetings, co-hosting a successful SEN coffee morning with Mrs Sayer (our Parent Support Adviser) and we have been visited by OFSTED!

Mrs Sayer and I are going to run more coffee mornings and arrange SEN workshops, when the covid rates are lower in 2022. We are keen to support the needs of our school community, so please let us know if there is an area of SEN you would like more information on.

Although I am keen to meet as many of you as possible, much of my time is spent supporting pupils around school. If you do have any SEN concerns, please speak to your class teacher in the first instance. Many thanks for your understanding.

I hope you all have an enjoyable Christmas and I look forward to seeing everyone back in 2022.

L Padbury

Some of the local support for Highwood Families:

Information about: schools and education, special educational needs, and support groups.

[www.wokingham.gov.uk/local-offer-for-0-25-year-olds-with-additional-needs/](http://www.wokingham.gov.uk/local-offer-for-0-25-year-olds-with-additional-needs/)

Providing free, confidential, impartial advice, guidance and support including advice about EHCPs, helping to understand reports and paperwork and helping you express your views. [www.sendiasswokingham.org.uk](http://www.sendiasswokingham.org.uk)

Provide specialist support for Berkshire Families who have Children and Young People with Special Needs. [parentingspecialchildren.co.uk](http://parentingspecialchildren.co.uk)



Dear All,

The Christmas holidays are finally here! However you celebrate this time of year, I hope that the next few weeks are a time to rest and recuperate. Please stay safe and well.

Just a gentle reminder for when we return in January that the gates at school close at 8.55am. However, the school day begins before this, and the expectation is the children are in class and settled **BEFORE** 8.55am. We do understand that there will be occasional times when families are running late, but want to encourage all our children to be in class and ready to learn on time every day. Thank you for your support.

In line with staying safe and well, Christmas can be a hard time for families. Please find attached links for support;

[Cranstoun, Wokingham Domestic Abuse Support website](#) - call: [0118 402 1921](tel:01184021921)

[Kaleidoscopic website](#) – support for adults and children

[SupportU website](#) – specialist support for LGBT+ domestic abuse - call: [0118 321 9111](tel:01183219111)

[Relate website](#) - provides relationship support

[Wokingham Housing Support](#) - help for people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless

I look forward to seeing you all in 2022!

Lucy/ Mrs. Sayer – Parent Support



# PE/Sports News

## Mr Edwards & Miss Coleman

**Welcome** to the final half term "PE & Sports News Page" of 2021. I will endeavour to continue to keep the children and parents informed about our recent achievements in sports tournaments, what we have been learning in PE, **PE Kit required**, after school clubs and of course the future sports dates.

### PE Lessons:

This half term the children have been learning about the games of Hockey and Netball so a huge focus on Hand-Eye Co-ordination, pass & receive, teamwork, target and agility.

Over the last 7 weeks we have been developing our skills in these games in preparation for the tournaments which historically run in Spring Term. The development that has occurred this term in all lessons has been fantastic.



Year 2W have also had an extra session taking part in Dance lessons with Miss Coleman. This is still proving to be a fantastic hit with the children of all ages, boys and girls plus they have been learning a new Christmas themed dance.

What has also been a highlight has been the effort and enthusiasm from many of the children.

Unfortunately due to restrictions and increased Covid cases, we are still yet to resume the swimming lessons. However, we are confident that these will start again in the spring term so please look out for your child's information form to complete.

### After School Clubs:

This Half term we have been able to "dip our toe" into the after school clubs again. However, due to restrictions and logistics, we have only run a few clubs. We are hoping to run more in the spring term :-

**Tuesdays:** KS2 Tag Rugby with Mr Robinson and KS1 Multisports.

**Thursdays:** KS2 boys and girls football & Yr 5/6 Netball with Miss Hulme.

As ever, these clubs attract large numbers and long waiting lists, remember, if children sign up for a club they **must persist for the whole term**.

### Final Autumn Half Term Matches & Tournaments:

#### Wokingham Primary School Football Association.

This half term we have all of our boys and girls league matches cancelled by our opponents due to rising cases across schools. Therefore, WPSFA have decided to extend the Autumn league until February half term to give schools the opportunity to re-schedule those games. We are really hoping we can play them soon.

One event that did take place was our 5/6 "Football Development Festival" which we hosted and invited 3 other schools to attend. The children who attend our after school football club but don't make our "A Team" were given the opportunity to represent the school. Although the results didn't go our way, the boys had a great time and enjoyed the experience (many of them for the first time) playing in a competitive match. Well done to all that played and a huge thank you to The Coombes & Westende Primary for attending.





# PE/Sports News

## Sports coach: Mr Edwards

### Next Half Term

**PE Lessons:** - Circuits and Basketball.

### Next Term Competitions:

**Six Nations Rugby league**

**WPSFA 5/6 Football League**

**Spring Term School Games**

**Hockey, Netball, Football etc friendly matches.**

### Outside School Achievements

Stanley in year 1 has been enjoying his rugby with



a local club. So much so that he has made huge progress and in doing so, was awarded a medal for "Good Hands" this is especially pleasing as this is one of the main focus areas in PE this term so well done Stanley taking his known knowledge out to the greater world. Congratulations Stanley, we look forward to seeing you in the "6 Nations Championship" when you are older!

### Mr Edwards Message For The Term.

This half term has been no different from any other in the fact that I have seen some amazing performances and achievements. This has been largely due to the children's enthusiasm and working to task. Thank you to the staff that helped out offering extra curricular clubs to our pupils. We continue to provide the children with many opportunities within the PE/ Sports curricular and extra curricular activities, it makes me very proud that we are able to do this. We are hoping that our friends at OFSTED also recognised this as it was one of the main focus areas of the inspection. The children make me proud everyday.

I will also be returning to teach year 5 & year 3 after Christmas as Miss Coleman moves onto another challenge in another school. However, she will still continue dance lessons on a Friday with KS1.

### PE Kit.

**PE Kit required:** -Shorts, Highwood PE T-Shirt, Black Plain Tracksuit, trainers.

**No Earrings! Please remember 1st week in summer holidays only for new piercings just in case it's on your list you have sent to Santa!**

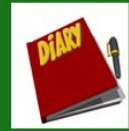
Please ensure your child has a plain black tracksuit consisting of both long trousers and a long sleeved top as it is too cold for them this time of year to be dressed in shorts and a t-shirt!

It just remains for me to wish you all a very happy and safe Christmas break. Mr Edwards.

Twitter: @HighwoodPrimPE



# Diary Dates



Date and Time	Activity
Fri 17th December 2021 1.30pm	Last Day of Term - school closes at <b>1.30pm</b>
20th December 2021 - 3rd January 2022 inclusive	Christmas holiday
Tuesday 4th January 2022	Inset Day - School closed for staff training
Wednesday 5th January 2022	Start of Spring Term
Thursday 13th January 2022	F2 writing workshop - 4pm via Teams
Tuesday 18th January 2022	Year 4 parents' meeting for Swanage 2022 - 4pm via Teams
Friday 18th February 2022	Inset Day
Monday 21st - Friday 25th February 2022	Half term
Thursday 3rd March 2022	World Book Day - 25th anniversary
Friday 11th March 2022	Reports out to parents
Friday 8th April 2022	Last day of spring term
Monday 11th April to Friday 22nd April 2022	Easter holidays
Monday 25th April 2022	Inset day
Tuesday 26th April 2022	First day of summer term

**Please note that some dates are subject to change based upon current guidance.**



## ABSENCE

Please contact the school office by 9.30am if your child is absent stating the reason for the absence. This can be done via ParentMail or by phone on 0118 9265493.

If your child is going to be late and requires a hot dinner this must be booked by 9.30am.

All requests for leave of absence must be made on the absence form available from the school office. Routine appointments should be made outside of school time.

Please see the latest Attendance Policy on the school website regarding Penalty Notices.