



HIGHGATE
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Headteacher's Newsletter November 2017

Dear parents,

It's that time of year again and we're starting to turn our attention to Christmas. Preparations for our production of 'Scrooge' and the Christmas Fair are well and truly under way – there's a lot to look forward to over the next few weeks. Thank you for your help and support at this busy time of year.

Year 2 Bakers



As part of their topic, 'The Great Fire of London', children in Year 2 experienced the life of Thomas Farrinor, the King's baker, in whose bakery the fire began. Fortunately there were no fires this year as our children baked their bread beautifully, enjoying the first of their two rolls at school before sharing the other at home.

Year 4 Explorers



After a visit to explore Queens Wood, our Year 4 adventurers visited the Golden Hinde; a full-sized reconstruction of Sir Francis Drake's flagship, used to circumnavigate the globe

between 1577 and 1580. This was a perfect way to experience the golden age of exploration.

Our Island History



To celebrate the topic 'Our Island History', Year 6 visited Highgate Woods where they built their own Anglo-Saxon settlements. Using runes, they wrote messages to say where treasure was hidden - before transforming into Vikings, raiding their rivals' settlements and deciphering the rune codes to plunder their treasure. On returning to school, full of exuberance, the children re-enacted the dramatic story of Beowulf.

Black History Month



A special thank you to the PSA who funded a visit from the wonderful poet, Kenny Baraka, as part of our Black History Month celebrations. Kenny performed at a school assembly and then led poetry writing workshops for Years 3 and 4.

Sport



Last week, Highgate Primary entered both a girls' and a boys' team into the Haringey Schools Table Tennis Tournament. After training hard at lunch times, the boys qualified for the semi-finals, finishing an impressive 3rd place in the borough. The girls too played to an extremely high standard, matching the boys by finishing in 3rd place.



Our Year 5 and 6 rugby team performed with great credit at the recent Haringey Schools' Tag Rugby Tournament finishing 8th place out of 20 schools.

Run a Mile continues to be a runaway success with children, parents and staff - and we now have well over 30 runners who have completed half a marathon. Don't forget, if you want to win the Christmas Run A Mile treat, then you need to ensure your class or group is at the top of the Run A Mile leaderboard by Friday 15th December. The current top four are 6RB, 6EH, 3OP - and the parents.

Green Council



The Green Council continues to make the school a greener place, most recently by planting up cuttings from house plants for their classrooms. If anyone has any indoor plant pots or saucers (not plastic) you could donate, we would be really grateful. As well as keeping busy planting herbs for the kitchen, we are all looking forward to the Green Council's Plant Sale next term. If any other parents would like to join the Green Council, please contact highgategreencouncil@gmail.com.

Christmas Show - Scrooge

Although all children will be involved in both performances, classes performing a leading role on stage are as follows:

Wed 13 th December 2.00 pm	ILP, 2LG, 3MK, 4DN, 5EJ, 6RB
Thurs 14 th December 2.00 pm	ICW, 2BJD, 3OP, 4JS, 5NL, 6EH

A Woodland Christmas Craft Fair

The PSA is now collecting donations for the tombola, 'Secret Santa' and homemade crafts stalls, as well as food and drink for the raffle hampers. Collection boxes are at the office and in the classrooms. We're looking forward to a fun afternoon on Saturday 2nd December. Tickets (£2 for adults, children are free) and tokens can be bought in advance on Scopay. Thank you for your support of this popular festive event.

Christmas Card Fundraising Project



Brilliant artwork was produced for the PSA's Christmas Card Fundraising Project, which is now at the printers with proofs expected soon. Here's the timeline of what happens next
27th November - artworks returned to parents (with an order form and unique code for your child's cards).
29th November - deadline for parents to order online.
10th December - orders distributed at the school.

Family Centre

Thank you to everyone who supported our recent cake sale, which raised £127.40 for the Family Centre.

Our next Paediatric Baby and Child First Aid Course is on Tuesday 5th December between 1pm to 3pm. The cost is £30 and includes a certificate. For more information or to book a place please call the Family Centre on 020 3213 0004.

Our Christmas Stay & Play this year will take place on Wednesday 13th December from 9am to 11.30am. Do come along for what promises to be a fun-filled morning full of festive activities - Christmas hats encouraged.

Last Day of Term

Please remember that collection on the last day of term will be at 1.30pm on Wednesday 20th December 2017.

Important Dates for the Diary

Christmas Craft Fair	Saturday 2 nd December 12.30 – 4.00 pm
Scrooge Christmas Show	Wednesday 13 th December 2.00 pm
Scrooge Christmas Show	Thursday 14 th December 2.00 pm
Nursery & Reception Nativity Play	Friday 15 th December 9.30 am
Last Day of Term	Wednesday 20 th December Collect at 1.30pm
First Day of Spring Term	Wednesday 3 rd January

With best wishes

William

William Dean
Headteacher

