



HIGHGATE
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Headteacher's Newsletter January 2018

Dear parents,

The Spring Term is now well underway, although it doesn't feel particularly Spring like quite yet. Have a read about what's happened so far - and start to prepare for everything that's coming up this term.

A Flying Start for Year 4



On their first morning back and to kick start their new topic - 'Flight' - the Year 4 classrooms were converted into aeroplanes. The children enjoyed a long haul flight with an in-flight safety demonstration, full entertainment systems and hospitality from attentive air stewards. The children have written to commercial airlines and are hoping to receive some interesting letters back - we will keep you posted.

Run a Mile



The morning Run a Mile is going from strength to strength, with over 200 people having taken part to date. The winners of the cups, awarded to the classes that have completed the most miles in the Autumn Term, were 2BJD in Key Stage 1 and 6RB in Key Stage 2 - huge congratulations to both classes. Coincidentally, as a school community, we ran 2018 miles in 2017. We'll naturally aim to go one better this year. Thank you to everyone who supported our Festive Run a Mile with such

good humour and generosity; we raised £160 for Noah's Ark Children's Hospice.

Girls in Sport



In recent years we have significantly increased both the participation and standard of girl's sport. We are hugely proud of how many of our girls now actively enjoy taking part in Run a Mile, athletics, football, table tennis and rugby. Our free, before-school Netball Club for girls in Years 5 & 6 started this week on Thursday - please do encourage your girls to give this great sport a go. If you have any other suggestions for girl's sport at Highgate Primary, do have a chat with John or Rob. For more inspiration about girls in sport, see this wonderful campaign <http://www.thisgirlcan.co.uk>

Green Screen



Congratulations to the Green Council for all their hard work and determination in planning, constructing and planting the new green screen at the front of our school. On Saturday morning, local builders' merchants, 'Buildbase', delivered the generously donated materials for the planters. After a week of hard work from our team of Green Council volunteers, the planters were built, in place and full of soil, ready for the planting of 100 saplings, donated to the school by Octopus Energy. The planting event, supported by both Catherine West MP and ex Blue Peter Gardener, Chris Collins, was hugely successful. We are all excited to see our trees mature over the years to come.

Parent School Tour

Please see our website for dates for the Parent School Tours this term; a great chance to see how the school runs on a typical Friday and to spot your child mid learning. To avoid disappointment, please call the office to reserve your place. <http://www.highgateprimaryschool.co.uk/parents/parent-tours>

The Green Walkway Grant Success

We are so pleased to have been awarded a £9,000 grant from the Lord Mayor of London's Greener City Fund to help transform our top playground into a greener space. The Green Walkway, designed by our parent and landscape architect, Lucy Jenkins, will sit in front of the Dining Centre and will introduce a beautiful, biodiverse corner to fight the tarmac. With extra financial help from the PSA, we are hoping to be able to start this phase of the Top Playground project in April.

Funds from Mamma Mia!



Last term we were given an incredibly kind donation by Tupperware Italy of 110 tickets for a performance of 'Mamma Mia!' The tickets were offered to the school community on a first come, first served basis and due to the high demand, were sold out within 10 minutes. We are delighted to let you know that those who attended donated a total of £750 to the school Arts Education Fund. I would also like to extend a special thank you to Vanessa Lewisohn, a former parent, for creating this wonderful opportunity.

Family Centre



Winter Birds and Animals was the theme at the Family Centre this week. The children played in hand-made dens, and were particularly proud of their rustic bird feeders.

The Family Centre has a First Aid Paediatric Course coming up on Tuesday 30th January from 1pm to 3pm, which costs £30 and includes a certificate. Please call the Family Centre on 0203 213

0004 to book a place. Our timetable, with a full list of activities for families with young children, can be found on the school website in the Family Centre section.

Headteacher's Quiz

The Headteacher's Quiz is all set to take place on Friday 2nd February at 7.30pm. Please sign up to your class team (sign-up sheets will be in the dining centre from next Monday). Tickets are available now for just £3, payable in advance through Scopay, or available for £4 on the door. Please organise a babysitter and come along to this fun evening. There will be a bar, but please do bring along your favourite snacks to share with your team.

Our New Piano



Thank you to everyone who contributed to the collection for our stunning new Yamaha piano after the Christmas shows; you donated an astonishing £1500 in total. To finish the fundraising for the piano, and to pay for its future maintenance, the PSA will soon be launching a campaign, 'You are the key'. Keep an eye out for more details in the next few days.

Nursery Admissions September 2018

If you would like your child to attend Highgate Primary School Nursery in September and your child turns four between 1st September 2018 and 31st August 2019, please submit the Nursery Application Form to the office. Speak to Elena in the office or visit <http://www.highgateprimaryschool.co.uk/school-office/admissions/nursery-admissions> for more information.

Important dates for the diary

Friday 2nd February 7.30pm	Headteacher's Quiz
Friday 9th February	Rainbow Day
w/c Monday 12th February	Half Term Week
Friday 16th March	One World Evening
Thursday 29th March	Last day of Spring Term

I look forward to seeing many of you on the Parent School Tours, as well as at the fantastic PSA events coming up.

With best wishes

William

William Dean
Headteacher

