

Newsletter

20th December 2019

Happy holidays

We have reached the end of Term 2 and so much has been enjoyed and achieved by individuals and groups of children. We wish you all a safe and enjoyable holiday.

In this newsletter, we will share news and examples of the education we strive to achieve:

"A limitless education that gives choice through enriching, meaningful and active opportunities that develops lovely people"

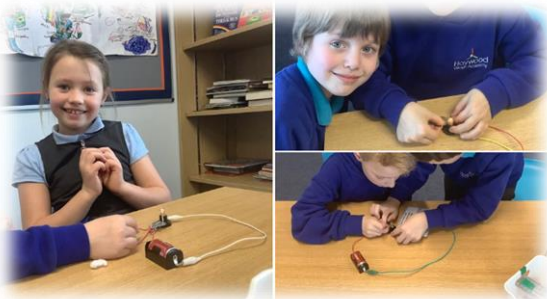
An enriching curriculum

There have been school trips to museums caves and zoos; visits from animal experts, actors and even a chef; parents have supported us as guest readers, bringing in their animals and attending stay and play sessions in Pre-school and Reception.



Meaningful learning

We provide children with opportunities to learn in various states of being: as artists, mathematicians, musicians, geographers, historians, readers, writers and sportspersons. These pictures show children learning about conductors and insulators and learning about what plants need to survive as they learn about being scientists.



Dates:

January

Monday 6th: INSET day

Tuesday 7th: First day back at school.

Monday 20th & Thursday 23rd 3:30pm – 7pm: Parents Evenings – Booking forms available on the 8th January.

February

Wednesday 5th: 9am – 11am Inclusion Coffee morning

Friday 14th: Last day of term

Monday 24th: First day back after school half term.

Trips and visitors will be announced in the new term.

Active opportunities

Being active is clearly about being physically active and our school's involvement in the recently launched 'Walk to School Challenge' has helped children to be more conscious of ways to be healthy.

The word 'active' also has a couple of meanings in our school: active in the lessons and playing an active role in their community. Yesterday we took a few children to donate, on behalf of the school, an enormous foodbank delivery, which you all helped to support. Thank you so much for your support with our reverse advent calendar.



Lovely people

Assemblies always focus on our values: kindness, responsibility, honesty, respect, trust and empathy. Various teachers have led assemblies and these have included: the role of charities, internet safety and road safety in winter, as well as values featured in traditional fables, folk tales from other cultures or stories from various religions.

There are many examples in school on a daily basis that show that teaching behaviour has a positive impact.

This image (right) was captured from an impromptu filming of the start of Team Talk assembly, which happens most Fridays at 10:20am. It is great to see the intrinsic care and kindness shown by children guiding and supporting others.



Attendance & the start of term

At the start of every term, the Class Teachers plan specific opportunities to ensure that returning back to school is exciting and interesting, especially as they will have enjoyed their holiday so much. So we urge you not to let your child miss any of the first week back after Christmas! Will there be special guests? Mysteries to solve? New resources to explore?



PTA fund raising



The Christmas Extravaganza was well supported and was even more successful than last year. It raised over £2000. All money raised goes to the rising total that will fund new large-scale playground equipment for the children.

Our new PTA Chairperson is Lianne Williams. In the new year, Lianne and the team will be keen to share the new events upcoming for the remainder of the year and see how you might be able to get involved in helping the PTA.

New Premises Manager

Some of you may have noticed Mr Wilkinson managing the parking for blue badge holders at the end of the school day. Mr Wilkinson is our new Premises Manager and will support all staff and children in ensuring ongoing maintenance and site management of services is kept up to date.

Exploring learning together

Your children have really enjoyed you coming into school this term. Every time you visit the children in school, we see the positive impact this has in the days and weeks afterwards on how your child values school and learning because you take an interest. This includes looking at books during the term, watching the recent Christmas performance, joining stay and play sessions, volunteering to read in school or joining us on school trips.



The book fayre in school

The book fayre this term seemed popular and raised £600 for our school. We will use this money to support much needed funds to replenish books in classroom book corners.

School clubs

In addition to the after school clubs we offer, next term we are continuing the success of the lunch time clubs we offered this term. This means we will be running: Chess, Reading, Choir and Athletics.

Baby news...

We are delighted to share the news that Mrs Brice will be expecting a baby in May 2020. We are equally pleased that Miss Russell will return to the school in April to take up the maternity cover for Year 2 Elder Class, alongside Miss Billitteri.

Admissions Policy notice

The academy is consulting over the new admissions arrangements for 2021-22. Please see the website policies section.

Christmas at HVA

It has been a fun few weeks as children have been absorbed in their own class' curriculum. We have also managed to get excited about Christmas...

We had a 5-day whole school residency of our 'It's Christmas' singing performance. There has also been Christmas shape poetry in Year 1 and Year 4, letter writing and parcel wrapping in Reception and Christmas end of day stories in all years.

The PTA Christmas Extravaganza...



The Christmas Dinner...



Merry Christmas!

Best wishes

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