

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### December

**Monday 16th** - Singing club performing Christmas songs outside Austins, Newton Abbot town centre at 2:15pm.

**Monday 16th** - Tiny Taws coffee & cake morning, parents are invited to join us at 9am in the EYFS building.

**Tuesday 17th** - KS1 Christmas Performance at 9am in the school hall. Parents are invited to join us for coffee and cake after the performance at 9am.

**Tuesday 17th** - KS1 Evening Christmas Performance at 5pm in the school hall. Pupils to be in school at 4:30pm.

**Wednesday 18th** - Christmas Dinner Day.

**Wednesday 18th** - Deadline for handing in Rudolph Run sponsorship money.

**Wednesday 18th** - Year 5 & 6 coffee & cake morning, parents are invited to join us at 9:30am in the main school hall.

**Thursday 19th** - Year 3/4 Jack & the Beanstalk Panto in Torquay.

**Friday 20th** - We have a special visitor coming into school.

**Friday 20th** - School closes for the Christmas break.



# NEWSLETTER

## Autumn Term 2024

### Friday 13th December

Dear parents/carers,

#### Goodbye and Welcome

Next week we say goodbye and good luck to Mrs Jodie Jenkins as she takes up a new position closer to home. We would like to thank her for her hard work and commitment to our youngest learners. Please see overleaf the message from Mrs Laura Roel, our new **full time EYFS lead**.

#### Lantern Parade

A big thank you to all those involved in making this event such a success. Great fun was had by all! We are excited to let you know that the jaguar has made its way back to Highweek!



01626 216300

[admin@highweekprimary.co.uk](mailto:admin@highweekprimary.co.uk)

[www.highweekprimary.co.uk](http://www.highweekprimary.co.uk)

[www.facebook.com/highweekprimaryschool](https://www.facebook.com/highweekprimaryschool)

[highweekprimary](https://www.instagram.com/highweekprimary)



## Christmas

Thank you to everyone who has supported our Christmas events so far. We look forward to seeing you at the Key Stage One Nativity and/or the year 5/6 Christmas coffee morning next week. Coffee and cakes will be available at £1 per item. All proceeds will go to the school. Thank you for your support with these events.

### **FURTHER REMINDER: Drinks, Snacks and rubbish!**

**DRINKS** We encourage children to keep hydrated during the school day, preferably with water. Please could you ensure that your child brings in their own water bottle every day. **In exceptional circumstances, we can agree to a child having squash, for example, if they need to be encouraged to drink for medical reasons.** We are very grateful for parents supporting this rule, as it can cause a lot of upset amongst children if some have squash and others don't.



**SNACKS** Children are able to bring a snack in to eat during the morning break. The following snacks are encouraged at Highweek:

Whole or sliced fruit

Vegetable sticks like celery, carrot and cucumber. Some vegetables are naturally baton-shaped which can save you time preparing, for example: sugar snap peas and baby corn

Bag of plain popcorn (over 5's only)

Breadsticks

Rice or corn cakes

A small sandwich or bagel with cheese, hummus or vegetable filling. **Please DO NOT send your child in with crisps or chocolate for break time.**

In addition, please be mindful of rubbish and help us cut down on single use plastic at school.

### **School development- maths**

Last we were visited by one of our school governors. She spent the day with our maths lead, Miss Emma Hopkins, looking at maths lessons and talking to the children about maths.

They were impressed with:

**Year 1 & 2** - the consistency in what was being taught with visuals and concrete resources across the classes, the use of key mathematical vocabulary with actions to support the understanding, the use of resources to expose the structure of what was being taught, and, in particular, how our student teachers were embracing the consistency of our teaching approach.

**Year 3 & 4** - the consistency across classes, the digging deeper with questioning, modelling in the I do and how marvellous mistakes were addressed, the exposing of mathematical structures through visuals, the use of key vocabulary and how multiplication and division were being taught alongside each other.

**Year 5 & 6** - the use of the Mastering Number programme, the incremental steps and how place value knowledge supports multiplication facts, the expectation of all pupils to contribute and engage, and how teachers were facilitating this.

## **HELP OVER CHRISTMAS**

Christmas can be a challenging time of year for many families. For help and support, please see the following links:

<https://www.livingoptions.org/support-over-the-festive-period/>

### **For support around domestic abuse –**

Victim Support – 08 08 16 89 111

### **To report a child at risk of harm –**

Devon MASH – 0345 155 1071

### **To report a crime –**

101 for non-emergency crimes

999 for emergency only

### **If you are worried about you or a family members health –**

111 for non-emergency advice

### **If you need someone to talk to –**

Samaritans – 116 123

## **IMPORTANT**

**At Highweek, we pride ourselves on effective communication and strive to keep you informed well in advance of important dates and events.**

**If you are not or you know someone who is not receiving newsletters, messages through SchoolComms, don't have ParentPay or updates via our school Facebook page, please visit the school office. Our staff will be happy to assist you in accessing all our communication channels.**

**We want to ensure that your child doesn't miss out on any opportunities and that you are always aware of what's happening.**

**Thank you for your cooperation and support.**

**The Highweek Office Team**

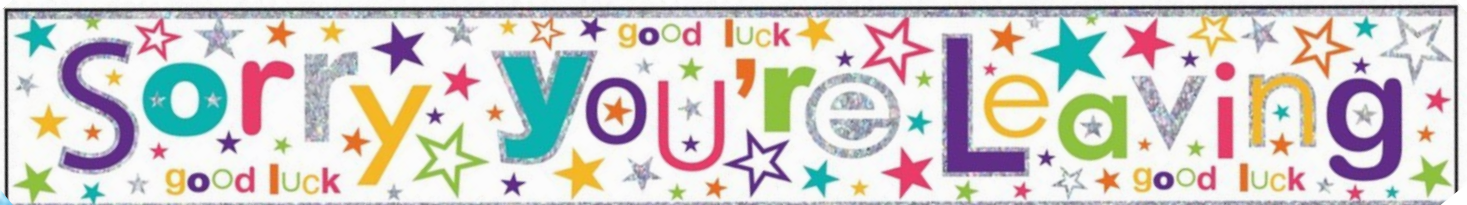
As always, if you have any concerns or you would like to come and talk to me about any school issues, please do not hesitate to see me on the gate in the mornings or arrange an appointment through the school office.

Ms Claire Redwood



We were thrilled to welcome **History Workshops Devon** to our school, where they worked with our Year 5 and 6 children to deepen their understanding of the Anglo-Saxon period.

The children had a fantastic time engaging with the Anglo-Saxon characters Edith and Edwin, who guided them through a range of exciting activities. They crafted beautiful brooches, played traditional Saxon games like tug of war and archery, explored ancient weapons, and tried their hand at the strategy game Hnefatafl. The children also made their own Saxon flags, bringing history to life in a fun and interactive way!



### **A Fond Farewell to Mrs. Jodie Jenkins**

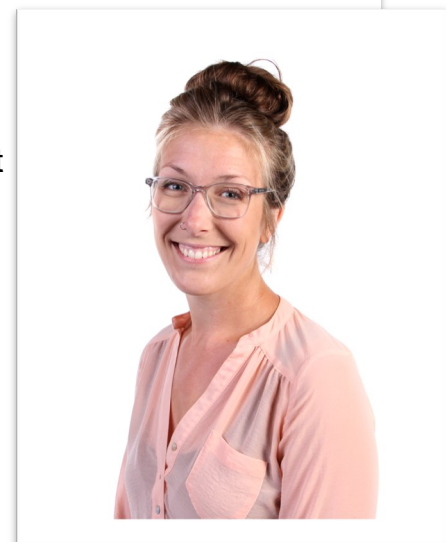
At the end of this term, we will be bidding a very sad farewell to Mrs. Jodie Jenkins.

As the EYFS Lead for many years, Jodie has made an incredible impact on both the children and staff, bringing warmth, dedication, and passion to everything she does. Her smile and positive energy will be greatly missed by all.

Thank you, Jodie, for your hard work, commitment, and the positive influence you've had on the school community.

While we are sad to see you go, we wish you all the very best for the future.

Good luck, and take care!



# WELCOME



## **Welcome Miss Sophie Stevens as our new Family Liaison Officer.**

You may have already seen Miss Stevens around school, and some of you might have even had the chance to meet her. We're excited to officially welcome Sophie to her new role.

Starting after the Christmas break, Sophie will be hosting a few *Coffee & Chat* mornings. These will be a great opportunity to catch up, share ideas, and connect in a relaxed setting.

Please see the details overleaf for more information.

We hope to see you there!

## **We will also be welcoming Miss Laura Roel after the Christmas break as a Full Time EYFS Lead.**

With 28 years of experience in Early Years education, I have had the privilege of working in a variety of roles, including Nursery Nurse, Nursery Manager, and currently Assistant Headteacher. My career has been driven by a passion for creating nurturing environments where children can thrive, fostering curiosity, encouraging play, and inspiring a lifelong love for learning.

As I prepare to relocate from Essex to the South West, I am delighted to bring my knowledge, skills, and enthusiasm to Highweek Primary School. Building strong relationships with children, families and colleagues is central to my approach, I am committed to working collaboratively to create the very best opportunities for every child.

I am excited to contribute to Highweek's nurturing ethos, helping to inspire confident and curious learners who feel supported and valued. This new chapter represents an opportunity to share my experience while continuing to grow and learn as part of the Highweek community.

I look forward to meeting you all and working together to support the children's growth and development every step of the way.



# Join Miss Stevens for a COFFEE & CHAT MORNING each month at 9am.

This informal coffee morning will give you an opportunity to meet and have a chat with Miss Stevens and ask any questions you may have.

If you would like to attend please email:  
[admin@highweekprimary.co.uk](mailto:admin@highweekprimary.co.uk)

## The dates are:

Wednesday 15th January 2025  
Wednesday 12th February 2025  
Wednesday 12th March 2025  
Wednesday 7th May 2025



Please ensure that we receive your sponsorship forms and money in the school office by Wednesday 18th Dec.

# RUDOLPH RUN

# CLUBS

After school clubs have now finished for this term including Home learning club on a Tuesday. The only club running after school next week is Playzone with Mrs Carole Rogers.

Last week, Year Four pupils attended a Badminton Festival at Newton Abbot College, where they had the exciting opportunity to learn all about the sport in a fun and engaging environment. The event was designed to introduce students to the fundamentals of badminton while encouraging teamwork, coordination, and a love of physical activity.

Throughout the afternoon, the children participated in a range of enjoyable activities and games that focused on developing their badminton skills. The festival was led by sports leaders who guided the pupils through various exercises, starting with basic skills such as serving, footwork, and racket control and helping them to improve their understanding of the sport in a hands-on way.

Year Four had an incredible afternoon gaining new skills and having lots of fun. We look forward to more opportunities like this to inspire our children to stay active and enjoy learning through sport. A big thank you to Newton Abbot College and Kelsey Brown for arranging this event.





## Well done to our Accelerated Readers

100,000 words

250,000 words

750,000 words

1 Million words

Arina Kot, Alex Avery, Ahmad Sultani, Talia Rhodes, James Fagan, Kane Walker & Riley Daniels.

Felicity Godfrey.

Sam Palmer.

Kai Smith.

## Cooking Club Wrap-Up

Well, that's a wrap! Cooking Club ended this week on a sweet note with Chocolate Tiffin and Candy Cane Snacks. Mrs. Lowe has been leading the club since September, guiding pupils from Years 3, 4, 5, and 6 through fun and tasty recipes. Now, she's hanging up her apron for a well-deserved break.



But don't worry — **Cooking Club will be back in the new year!** Miss Budd will be taking the reins, and this time it will be open to Years 1 and 2. We can't wait to see what delicious creations are in store!




## Join us

We will be holding a few Coffee & Cake mornings to help raise important funds for the school. It would be lovely to see as many of you as possible at these events. Cakes & Drinks are £1 per item. Donations of cakes would be very much appreciated.

Monday 16th December: Tiny Taws Coffee morning at 9am in the nursery.

Tuesday 17th December: Following the KS1 Christmas performance 9am in the main school hall.

Wednesday 18th December: Year 5 & 6 Coffee morning, parents are invited to join us at 9:30am in the main school hall.

As we move further into the festive season, we warmly invite families to join us at our upcoming coffee mornings. *Please see above*

It's a lovely opportunity to spread some holiday cheer and connect with our school community.

If anyone would like to donate a cake or baked goods for the coffee mornings, your generosity would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to seeing you there!





**Well done to our Friday Flyers.**  
**Our Friday Flyers promote our work around developing Growth Mindset and a can do attitude.**

Theme	Learning from feedback		Able to examine mistakes	
<b>Date</b>	Weekending Friday 6th December		Weekending Friday 13th December	
<b>Bovey</b>	Felix Jones	Serenity Perry-Feecham	Isabelle Lawson	Clay Ellsion
<b>Dart</b>	Sam Palmer	Alexia Rhodes	Rey Underwood	Felicity Godfrey
<b>Exe</b>	Freya Hubbard	Ophelia Parker	Frayah Jowitt	Holly Exon
<b>Mardle</b>	Ellis Frisby	Leo Steer	Riley Atkinson	Alyssia Broad
<b>Plym</b>	Rhys Smith	Mia Smith	Harper Stevenson	Eleanor Hardy
<b>Tamar</b>	Natalia Buchanan	Blake Coleman	Bella Davis	Shayla-Mai Daniels
<b>Tavy</b>	Frazer Simpson	Oscar Baker	Niamh Stancombe	Blue Carter
<b>Teign</b>	Reuben Brock	Millie Brown	Ethan Holdway	Lexi-Mai Hodgson-Baylis
<b>Torr ridge</b>	Eliza Curran	Islay MacTaggart	Harrison Catt	Freya Bird

**Bovey** class had **95.9%** attendance for the period of **25th - 29th November 2024**.

**Torr ridge** class had **95.5%** attendance for the period of **2nd - 6th December 2024**.

Remember our whole school attendance target for the year we are working towards is 96.2%.

It is essential for children to attend as much school as possible if they are to get the most from their education and achieve their full potential.

Class	W/C 25th November	W/C 2nd December
Taw	78.5%	75%
Mole	74%	82.7%
Mardle	95%	89.5%
Bovey	<b>95.9%</b>	85.9%
Tavy	95.2%	94.8%
Plym	92.4%	84%
Exe	91.4%	92.4%
Dart	95.8%	95%
Tamar	90.4%	89.6%
Torr ridge	92.4%	<b>95.5%</b>
Teign	94.3%	87.9%







# Ways to Wellbeing

w/c 9th Dec 2024



## Winter Wellbeing

As the nights get colder and we get closer to the holidays, we are going to think about some ways to look after your wellbeing this winter.

Have you heard of mindfulness? It means paying attention to the present moment - how your body is feeling, what you are thinking & what is going on in the outside world.

## Mindfulness

- Star breathing - Take some slow, deep breaths in the shape of a star. Just like this!
- Snowflakes - Pretend it is snowing and you can see all the tiny, pretty snowflakes. Will you catch them, jumping up & down? Or will you stand really still and watch them land on your hands & nose?
- Hot chocolate breathing - Pretend you have a big steamy mug of hot chocolate you need to cool down & do some big breaths out!



If you need support for your mental health, please speak to a trusted adult at school or at home.

Call 111 and select option 2 for mental health. In an emergency, call 999.