



Half Term holiday from 28 Oct – 3 Nov 2024 We hope you have a lovely half term holiday.

PE Days

Nursery SG – Wednesday
Reception GD– Wednesday
Year 1 TY- Tuesday and Thursday
Year 2 FN- Wednesday and Friday
Year 3 MLK– Monday and Thursday
Year 4 FWD– Tuesday and Wednesday
Year 5 BR- Monday (PE) and Tuesday (Swimming)
Year 6 MY– Tuesday and Friday

Poppy Appeal

Poppies and poppy merchandise are now available to buy from the office.



Head Lice

Please check your child's hair regularly for headlice and treat if necessary. Thanks

No class news for:

Nursery – SG – Saint George
Reception – GD – Grace Darling
Year 4 – FWD – Fredrick William Dobson

Dates for the Diary

Please take a look again as some dates have changed

Mon 4th November – First Day of Autumn 2
Thurs 7th November – Autumn Party (see details below)
Fri 15th November – Children in Need (Spotty or Pyjamas)
Thurs 21st November – Y4 Live Theatre Visit
Fri 29th November – Inset Day (No Children in school)
Fri 6th December – Non Uniform, bring a bottle day
Thurs 12th December – Y4 Live Theatre Visit
Fri 13th December – Christmas Jumper and Dinner Day
Monday 16th December – Christmas Fair from 2:00 – 4:00pm.
Mon 16th December – Dress Rehearsal
Tues 17th December – EY Party (AM)
Tues 17th December – KS1 Nativity and KS2 Songs (PM)
Wed 18th December - KS1 Nativity and KS2 Songs (AM)
Wed 18th December – KS2 Party (PM)
Thurs 19th December – KS1 Party (PM)
Fri 20th December – Christingle 10am – 11am
Fri 20th December – Head Teacher Award 1pm
Fri 20th December – Last day of Autumn 2.

Year 1 – TY – Thomas Young

It was lovely to meet you all this week during parents evening, thank you for all of your support, we are so proud of your children and how they have settled into Year 1 this term.

After the holidays please can all **reading folders** (clear folder containing reading books and yellow books) be brought into **school every day**. This will allow us to read with children throughout the week and leave a comment for you to read at home. Homework folders (blue) can be returned to school every Thursday. New homework and new reading books will be sent home each Friday.

Learning to read is one of the most important skills in your child's life. Reading books will be changed every week so that your child can re – read their books for that week. **Please read with your child at least 4 times per week and write a comment in their yellow books each time.** This means that your child will get better at reading and they will get quicker at recognising sounds and words and be able to read with more fluency. Next term your child will have two reading books, a phonics decodable reader and a book band book to enjoy at home and apply comprehension skills.

Please find more information about helping your children to read phonics decodable books. These skills can be used in the coloured book band books too, but comprehension questions will be used alongside these books. This link will show you lists of phonic sounds, how to pronounce phonic sounds and how to blend sounds to read words.

<https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading/reading-schemes-oxford-levels/essential-letters-and-sounds/>

Forest School

Year 1 Children will be attending Forest School on Friday 6th Dec and Friday 13th Dec 2024. We suggest warm and waterproof clothing and shoes and more information will be sent to you closer to the time about clothing etc.

Water bottles

Please fill your child's water bottle with water to keep them hydrated throughout the day.

Thank you for your support ☺

Year 2 - FN – Florence Nightingale

Homework – Please can all homework, reading folders and library books be returned to school by Friday 25th October. There will be NO homework for the half term holidays. After half term we will issue homework on Monday 4th November. We appreciate this is less time than normal so we will only give ONE reading book and the spelling words for the week as we will also be focusing on these in class. Thank you so much again for all of your support with homework! The progress children are making in reading, spelling and key maths skills is OUTSTANDING! Huge thank you for your support.

Forest school - On Friday 8th, 15th and 22nd November children will visit Chopwell woods for Forest school. This will be after lunch and we will return by home time. Please send your child into school in warm clothing with a waterproof coat and suitable footwear. If your child wishes to bring a small snack they are welcome to or they can have fruit from school.

PE – PE will be on Wednesday (PE kits) and Friday (Forest school)

Show and Tell – will be on Monday for the first three weeks due to Forest school being on a Friday. Thankyou for all the lovely photographs and items sent in for us to share.

Year 3 – MLK Martin Luther King

Pickle Palace

Year 3 are lucky to have Pickle Palace cooking sessions after half term. The first week back, Hannah will be doing a class session but the following two weeks you will be invited to one of those sessions to help your child to cook! Please take up the opportunity if you can as they are fab. Keep an eye out for a letter coming home with your child with your session highlighted on. Thank you and have a wonderful half term!

Year 5 – BR – Bobby Robson

Hi everyone 😊. On Friday 8th, 15th and 22nd November, it's our turn to visit Chopwell Woods for Forest School. We will be there in the mornings and will return to school for lunch as normal. Please send your child into school with warm clothing, a waterproof coat and suitable footwear ready for outdoor learning in the woods. Children are welcome to bring a small, healthy snack and a water bottle to take with them if they wish.

Finally, it was lovely seeing so many of you at the parent/carer meetings this week. Thank you for all of your support this half term!

Year 6 – MY – Malala Yousafzai

Robinwood 2024 – what an incredible time was had by all. It was an amazing residential which saw so many children take on challenges and conquer them – including sleeping away from home which is all part of the experience. We could not have been prouder! Souvenirs have all been handed out and children have claimed lost property which they believe is theirs. We still have a handful of socks and underwear if you feel you are missing any. Should these not be claimed by the end of the first week back then we will file them in the bin. We have certificates and photographs to share which we like to do in school. As soon as we have found time to do this, then they will be coming home to you.

Swimming – this week we are able to celebrate that all of our Y6s have completed their swimming lessons and passed the three National Curriculum standards:

- Be able to swim 25m
- Be able to use a variety of strokes
- Show an understanding of water safety

This is the first time this has happened that I can ever remember and certainly the first time so early on in Y6. Woo hoo! This means we will not need to go swimming after half-term. Any money already paid will be refunded.

Movie morning – For part of the morning of Monday 4th November, we will be having a movie morning. This is a class reward which has been earned with their incredible effort and hard work in Autumn 1. We will be supplying hot chocolate or juice but the children asked if they could bring a packet of sweets or some biscuits in – maybe they don't trust us to pick nice treats. We will have biscuits available for those who don't or who forget. Please can I ask that we limit this to a small amount so that they eat their lunch (eg: no large bags of Haribo or full tubes of Pringles please).

Website – Our new look website is now live, this will be updated regularly. Check it out at www.highspenprimary.org

If you would like a paper copy of this letter for your fridge please call to the office and collect one.