



Autumn Term Newsletter

November 2018

Dear Parents,

It is lovely to be back in school again and catch up with all the things that have been happening. I would like to thank the staff again for ensuring that the school continued to run smoothly in my absence. An additional thank you to the Senior Leadership Team who took the lead.

Reading

The last shared reading this term will be on Monday 26th November. Thank you for your support with this. Don't forget about our reading meetings for parents of Year 1 and 2 children on Tuesday 27th November, 6.15-7.00pm for Year 1 and 7.15-8.00pm for Year 2. Please let the office know if you want to attend, but haven't sent a reply in. The meetings will help you to support your child reading at home.

Christmas Events

Christmas preparations are underway, with The Friends of Highbury and Whitehill (PTA) working hard to organise our joint Christmas Fair at Highbury on Saturday 8th December 11.00am-2.00pm. Thank you for all the donations you sent in for non-uniform day. Help is still needed at the fair. If you haven't already volunteered, please consider helping. Follow the link

<https://doodle.com/poll/i8nafvys8wg7kxf9>

The money recently raised by the PTA has gone towards a set of classroom ipads and a docking unit. The ipads will be rotated round classes. This is a great gain for the school- thank you.

Every child in school has made an angel for Highbury's Christmas tree for the Holy Saviour Tree Festival. My thanks to Mrs Green who has made an angel with children in every class. The Holy Saviour Tree Festival is on 8th and 9th December from 12.00-6.00pm. Please go along and vote for our tree, number 45, called "I'm Loving Angels".

All children will be performing in our Christmas Play on **Tuesday 11th December** 9.30am (morning Nursery take part in this), **Wednesday 12th December** 2.00pm (afternoon Nursery take part in this), **Thursday 13th December** 2.00pm (afternoon Nursery take part in this) and **Friday 14th December** 9.30am (morning Nursery take part in this). Other children (including babies and toddlers) **will not** be admitted to watch the performances- please make alternative arrangements. The play should last about 30-40mins. The performances on Tuesday 11th and Wednesday 12th will be professionally recorded.

Orders are being taken now for the professionally recorded DVD which will have both the morning and afternoon performances on it. Other recording and photographs **will not** be permitted at the performances. Class teachers will take photographs of the children in their costumes to send home to you.

DVDs should be pre-ordered before Friday 7th. Order forms, along with cash or cheques (payable to Special Events Video) for £8 per DVD should be returned to the school office. Please enquire at the office if you have not got your form to hand. All orders will be returned before the end of term.

The number of seats available for the performances is **3 per family**. This year we are operating our online booking system for the performances. This replaces the paper programmes which we have previously issued. Instead, we will print off the bookings from the system and check people's names as you arrive for the performances.

Please follow the link <https://highbury.parentseveningsystem.co.uk>

If you have any difficulty booking on the system, the office will be happy to help you.

Closure Notification System

In the event of the school needing to be closed in an emergency (including severe weather), you are invited to sign up to receive messages by SMS and email.

To sign up, you need to go onto the following link;

member.everbridge.net/index/892807736725489

This link will direct you to the "Sign Up" page where you should click the "Sign Up" button located at the top right hand side of the page on the grey strip and follow the instructions from there. It should take no more than 5 minutes to register and you can edit your information at any time should you change your mobile number or email.

Each contact within the system can have 2 devices added for each communication type if they wish to, so in addition to adding your own mobile number and email address, you can include the mobile and email address of a partner or a grandparent. They would then receive messages in relation to the school's closure. Alternatively, they could register themselves.

If you have a child at more than one school, you can register for those schools too in a single registration process by selecting schools you have children at.

Once you have signed up, you will receive messages relating to the status of the schools you have indicated.

Clubs

Football (Monday after school) club will continue next term. You can book your child's place on this club for January 2019 on the website www.premier-education.com/sport Online bookings will receive electronic confirmation of your child's place.

Yoga will also continue next term on Tuesdays after school, French will continue on a Wednesday lunchtime and after school.

Multi-Sports will continue on a Thursday and information has already been sent out about this. This is for Year 1 and 2 children who have not taken part in the Autumn Term.

Some additional teacher-led clubs will run in the Spring Term for Years 1 and 2. Details will follow.

Admissions

You should now have received information from County about applying for a Reception or Junior school place for September 2019. Please note that if you put Whitehill as your first preference for a junior school place and apply on time, you will be guaranteed a place, as children who are currently at the link Infant school are given preference. We have 60 children in Year 2 and Whitehill have the same number of places available in Year 3.

If you haven't already done so, you need to apply for Reception and Junior places online at www.hertfordshire.gov.uk (school admissions page) by 15th January. It is essential that you do this on time. For information about Nursery admissions, please see the school website.

Twitter

If you would like to follow @HighburyInfants on Twitter and don't already do so, please complete the form at the end of the letter and return it to the school office.

Please send us a follower request on Twitter before handing this form into school and then we can accept your request as soon as we receive your completed form (both steps are necessary).

Family Centres

Children's Centres have now become Family Centres, extending the age range of children and families who will be supported (0-11). Barnardo's were awarded the contract for North Herts and Stevenage quadrant. There is one hub centre for the quadrant and the remaining centres, including the Bluebell Centre on Highbury's site, have become satellite centres with varied hours of opening.

Dates

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| Tuesday 27th November - KS1 Reading meeting for parents, 6.15-7.00pm for Year 1 and 7.15-8.00pm for Year 2 |
| Saturday 8th December - Joint Christmas Fair at Highbury 11.00am-2.00pm |
| Saturday 8th and Sunday 9th December - Christmas Tree Festival at Holy Saviour Church. Come and vote for Highbury's tree |
| Monday 10th December - Year 2 to Whitehill Christmas performance pm |
| Tuesday 11th December - 9.30am Christmas Play |
| Wednesday 12th December - 2.00pm Christmas Play |
| Thursday 13th December - 2.00pm Christmas Play |
| Friday 14th December - 9.30am Christmas Play |
| Wednesday 19th December - School Christmas lunch (children to bring Xmas hats in). Morning nursery in for party 9.00-11.15am (in party clothes). No Nursery lunch club. Afternoon nursery in for party 1.00-3.10pm (in party clothes). |
| Thursday 20th December - 9.45am Carol Service at St Mary's. All welcome. All nursery in 9.00-11.30am. No lunch club. |
| Friday 21st December - 9.30am Panto (The Snow Queen) Non-uniform. All N in am until 11.30am, no lunch club. Term ends 1.45pm. |

ACADEMIC YEAR 2018/2019

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| <p>December 2018 21st December, 1.45pm- Term finishes (All N in am, finishing at 11.30am) 24th December – 4th January (incl)- Christmas holiday</p> <p>January 2019 7th January- Term starts</p> <p>February 2019 18th- 22nd February (incl)- Half-term</p> <p>Easter 2019 5th April, 1.45pm- Term finishes 8th-22nd April (incl)- Easter holiday</p> | <p>April 2019 23rd April- Term starts</p> <p>May 2019 2nd May - INSET 6th May- Bank Holiday, school closed 24th May-INSET 27th- 31st May (incl) - Half-term</p> <p>July 2019 19th July, 1.45pm-Term finishes (All N in am, finishing at 11.30am) 22nd, 23rd July- INSET, followed by Summer Holiday</p> |
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Yours sincerely,

Mrs H Avey
Headteacher

I would like to follow @HighburyInfants on Twitter.

Name: _____

Twitter username: _____

Signed: _____

My child _____ **is in** _____ **class**