



Next week—W/C Monday 21st April 2025	
Monday:	Bank Holiday - No School
Tuesday:	Class Three Swimming Year Six SATs Club 3.30-4.30pm
Wednesday:	Class One Outdoor Learning (Please remember your wellies)
Thursday:	Class Two PE Lunchtime Lego Club
Friday:	Class Four PE 3.00 Celebration Collective Worship KS2 Sports Club

Dear Parents and Carers,

Here we are at the end of what is actually a relatively short term. Short it may have been, but crammed full it certainly has been. There have been residential for most children in KS2 and trips or visitors to support work in the curriculum for all children. Most classes have had the usual end of term tests and all children have engaged superbly with project work that has taken in everything from farms and farm animals in Class One; to Queen Victoria's bathing machine in Class Two; Vikings and Saxons in Class Three and the Black Death in Class Four. I really have nothing but admiration for all the children in the school who have worked so diligently and with such enthusiasm almost without fail for the three months since Christmas. Of course, not only have they worked incredibly hard, but they have been super-impressive in all other aspects of school life - the TEAM Prom being a particular highlight.

**Reading**

Another highlight of the term was World Book Day, where students and staff alike embraced the joy of reading and went above and beyond in their book-character costumes. Reading remains the pillar of all learning and carries great emphasis in our curriculum at HB. It is of course vitally important that parents are involved with early reading in Class One. This may take the form of sharing a book each bedtime; playing games to encourage reading and hearing your child read for at least the recommended three short sessions per week. We know that children who slip behind in reading, invariably slip behind in all other subjects too. In Classes 2-4, children are expected to read for the set time at least each day. This can be broken into blocks. Even in Y6, reading does not and should not be left to the child alone though. Please do listen to your child read or read with them. You could ask them questions about what they are reading or ask questions to check understanding of what has been read. Try to foster a love of reading too. Parent / carer involvement in supporting your child to read in a positive, encouraging way really does make a huge difference.

**Next Term**

Next term we will begin new projects and work in core subjects. For the first few weeks, Y6 will have a major focus on SATs preparation to give each of them the best possible chance to show just what they can do in these end of KS2 tests. Already, they have worked exceptionally hard in preparation for SATs, and should feel very proud of their efforts - staff certainly are. Keep reading as much as you can (and at least an hour every day of the holidays) and revising key maths facts. You're all so nearly there!

**Swimming**

Throughout the term, different classes will be swimming (as per the timetable that was sent with last week's letter). This means that Class Three will be swimming on the very first day of next term (Tuesday 22nd April). Children who's turn it is to swim each Tuesday will need to come to school in uniform as normal on that day, and bring with them (in a bag):

- Swimming trunks or swimming costume.
- A towel
- Healthy snack
- Their water bottle (this can be filled in school at the end of the morning)

For the first three Tuesdays of term, children in Class Three will swim. They will have lunch as normal before setting off for swimming in TEAM vehicles driven by Mrs Scowen and Miss Trofa.

### **Easter Service**

I was sorry to miss the Easter Service on Wednesday, but a spy in the camp tells me that, 'the Easter Service was good. The children were loud and clear and really well behaved.' I would have expected nothing less: what a fabulous bunch the children of High Bick are!

As we head into the Easter break, I hope the children and their families enjoy a well-deserved rest and some quality family time. My thanks go to all of you for your support this term. Thanks also to our incredibly dedicated, skilled and hard-working staff - both paid and voluntary. You have all done an incredible job this term. We look forward to welcoming everyone back for the Summer Term, refreshed and ready for new adventures in learning on Tuesday 22nd April.

Best wishes,

Rob Norton  
Head of School

### **Notices**

#### **Swimming**

The payment items for swimming are now available on Arbor. If your child is in Class Three, please remember to complete the permission before the end of the Easter holidays!

#### **Sunshine!**

The sun is shining more and more! With that in mind, can you please make sure that your child comes to school with a hat and has suncream applied. Both of our playgrounds can get very hot and there is little shade, so both hats and sunblock are essential. Eight-hour suncream is now available, so if this is applied to the children before they leave home in the morning, it should protect them all day. Although it is more expensive, this is balanced out by needing to use less of it. If suncream needs reapplying through the day, please ensure this is in a named bottle.

#### **Nursery unfunded/additional hours increase**

In line with Devon County Council funding, from 22nd April 2025 the cost for unfunded 2 year old hours will increase to £6.95 and hour, and 3 Year old unfunded hours will increase to £5.50.

From 1st Sept 2025 2 Year olds will further increase to £7.42, 3 Year olds will stay at £5.50.

#### **School Meals**

From 22nd April 2025 - KS2 meals will increase to £2.58, nursery meals will increase to £2.00. Children in YR, Y1 and Y2 will continue to receive free meals under the UIFSM scheme.

#### **School Uniform Discount Code**

If you are in need of new school jumpers, MyClothing is running a 10% discount until 31st May - the code needed is MYCSS10%

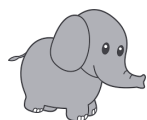
## What happened at school this week?

These questions are about what has been happening in each class this week and are designed as 'conversation starters' for you to use with your child. We hope that they will provide a useful prompt to encourage conversations about school - talking for just three minutes each day about school has been shown to have a great impact on children's learning!



### Learning Lions (Class One)

Why do we celebrate Easter?  
Why is it important to send a thank you card?  
How high can you count?



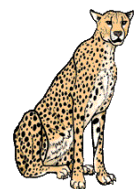
### Exploring elephants (Class Two)

Can you make your own melody?  
Can you write a story about your royal soft toy?  
Can you use natural materials to make an Easter garden?



### Inventive Impalas (Class Three)

In science what did you learn about staying safe in the sun?  
How do you work out the perimeter of a shape?  
What was your favourite part of our topic this term?



### Challenging Cheetahs (Class Four)

What can you recall about the Tudor times?  
Can you explain how to find the area of a rectangle, a triangle and a parallelogram?  
Can you recall the Easter Story?

## Home Activities and Homework Tasks

### **Class One:**

Please spend time reading with your child and practising their new phonic sounds, **recording this in your reading record.**

### **Class Two:**

Please aim to read with an adult for 15 minutes each day and **record in reading records.**

### **Class Three:**

Times tables Rockstars competition, reading log book.

### **Class Four:**

Year 6 - reading and completing your Reading Log.



## Next Week's Menu—W/C Monday 21st April

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Bank Holiday - No School	<b>Sweet &amp; Sour Chicken</b> V – Quorn Sweet & Sour Rice, Sweetcorn  Fruit Muffin	<b>Roast Pork</b> V – Vegetarian Roast Roast Potatoes and Seasonal Veg  Fruit Salad	<b>Macaroni Cheese</b> Peas and Sweetcorn  Sticky Chocolate Cake	<b>Salmon or Cod Fish Cakes</b> V - Vegetarian burger Golden Fries and Seasonal Vegetables  Homemade Cookie

## Class One

This week in Class One, we began by emphasising the importance and joy of saying “thank you”. Understanding the value of gratitude is a key part of building good character, and we explored this concept by writing heartfelt thank you letters to the wonderful staff at Woolley Animals Farm. In our letters, we thoughtfully reflected on what we enjoyed most during our trip last week - whether it was meeting the animals, exploring the farm or learning new things about farm life – and drew some lovely pictures. In connection with this activity, we spent time practising writing our names correctly, paying attention to the spelling and the formation of each letter. The more we practised, the better we got! In other learning, we explored the Easter Story, learning about the special meaning behind Easter, along with the different traditions that accompany this significant holiday. We took part in an Easter Egg hunt around the playground and set our own Easter Egg challenges for our friends inside, too. We also wrapped up our Lift the Flap book project this week, producing some lovely picture stories. In Maths, we practiced counting beyond 20, paying special attention to patterns. As we counted together, we noticed how numbers follow a specific order and rhythm, which is an important concept as we continue to develop our numeracy skills. To cap off the week, we had a blast learning and performing the catchy Little Red Hen rap as part of our Drawing Club sessions.

## Class Two

We have been busy in Class Two this week! In Music we have been developing our understanding of rhythms and melodies. We have discovered how melodies use notes which change the pitch from high to low. We looked at some simple notes and had a go at singing the different tunes which we could hear. Then using keyboards and violins, we used some of our simple notes to create melodies on the instruments. We shared our work with the class.



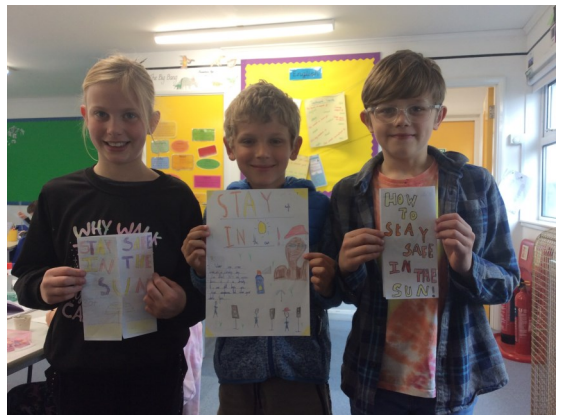
In Art we have really enjoyed designing royal outfits for our soft toys. We considered the patterns and colours used by royalty on their clothing. We used our drawing skills to create pattern designs and then used fabric pens and paint to decorate fabric. Our favourite part this week was spending time making our clothes for our toys - we thought they looked fabulous! We have been really enthusiastic with our learning about our Magnificent Monarchs topic this half term, we now know all about Queen Victoria, Queen Elizabeth I and Queen Elizabeth II. After Easter our topic will be called Bright Lights, Big City and we will focus on London. We will find out about the current royal family and explore many significant landmarks.





### Class Three

In Science this week, we became sun safety experts! We created our own leaflets and posters all about how to stay safe in the sun. We learnt what can happen to our skin and bodies if we get too much sun, like sunburn or heatstroke! Our colourful creations are now up on our science display to help keep everyone safe as the weather warms up. In History, we wrapped up our exciting topic on the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings. To finish, we looked at how these two groups were similar and different. Did you know? Both the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings came from northern Europe and sailed to Britain long ago. They were great farmers and storytellers! But while the Anglo-Saxons slowly settled in, the Vikings were known for their fast ships and fierce raids.



### Class Four - by Amaya

This spring term has been incredible, with our London residential and trips and many incredible lessons. We have had loads of maths lessons, covering fractions and area galore. We even had some sneaky songs to remember the calculation. English was great, we wrote our own narration scripts about wolves. In art we have sketched half an incredible masterpiece (by Hans Holbein) which turned out incredible. In Topic we have been studying 'Off with her Head' (Tudors) and life in Medieval England.

We have gone to a medieval castle in Chepstow. We saw all the fascinating rooms. Slowly, we walked around the castle with amazement before us. Year Five went on a fabulous residential to... LONDON! We saw Big Ben and went on the London Eye! We have also had an Easter Service full on songs and dun.

Unfortunately, our term took a turn... Our entire class had to do a test week. It was not the best week but that same week we had the proms concert! We got to perform a few times on stage alongside our fellow schools. It was incredible.

### Spring Term Dates

- **Monday 7th April to Monday 21st April inclusive - Easter Holiday.**
- Tuesday 8th April - PTA Easter Bingo 2.00pm, Church Hall

### Summer Term Dates

- Tuesday 22nd April - children return to school.
- **Monday 5 May - May Bank Holiday - no school.**
- Week beginning Monday 12th May – KS2 (Y6) SATs week.
- Sunday 18th May to Friday 23rd May – Y6 Residential at Bude.
- Wednesday 21st May - After School Church Club (Limited Spaces)

- **Week beginning Monday 26th May - Half term week.**
- **Monday 2nd June - Non Pupil Day.**
- Tuesday 3rd June to Friday 13th June – Y4 Multiplication check SAT.
- Monday 9th June to Friday 13th June - Y1 Phonics check SAT.
- Tuesday 10th June – Book and a biscuit 3:30-4:30pm
- Week beginning Monday 16th June - Y6 Bikeability training.
- Wednesday 18th June - After School Church Club (Limited Spaces)
- Wednesday 16th July - After School Church Club (Limited Spaces)
- Monday 21st July – Sports Day.
- Tuesday 22nd July – Leavers' Service 2:00pm. End of school year.



**The parents  
lottery**

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The Parents Lottery is a weekly lottery promoted by Parentkind Enterprises Ltd (PEL Company no :3884281), a wholly owned subsidiary of Parentkind. It is run under our remote operating licence (Licence no: 057904). The Parents Lottery is strictly 18+ only. Playing a lottery is a form of gambling. If you, or someone you know, needs information and/or help with a problem gambling, please call the National Gambling Helpline on 0808 8020 133.

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Parentkind

The parents  
lottery





High Bickington  
C of E Academy



# Kid's



# Easter *Bingo*

## Tuesday 8 April 2025

Doors Open 2 PM  
Eyes Down 2.30 PM

High Bickington  
Church Hall

*Children must be supervised by an adult*

*Supporting High Bickington School PTA*



### Stars of the Week!

Class One— Finn for incredible behaviour the last few weeks.

Class Two— Erika for always having a positive learning attitude and working to the best of her ability.

Class Three— William T for his amazing focus and resilience this week.

Class Four— J'Mariah for excellent engagement and willingness to contribute in lessons this half term.



### Reading Stars

Class One— Oscar for excellent reading both in school and at home.

Class Two— Torben for being a keen reader who has developed reading with expression and fluency.

Class Three— Aubrey for having the drive to want to improve his reading.

Class Four— Katie for making a big effort to read more tis half term.



High Bickington academy

Have you got the skills to lead a  
committee of active and  
dedicated volunteers?



We are reaching out to the  
community, to see if anyone  
would be interested in the  
above voluntary post

*Contact Nikki Pearce or Jemma Sanders  
for more information*

**DBS check required**

# TEAM Multi-Academy Trust Vacancies



Working in partnership with  
 SWIMBRIDGE LOCAL PRIMARY SCHOOLS



*Life, Love and Learning to the Full*

Part of **TEAM MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST**

APPLY NOW DIRECT WITH 

For more information and how to apply directly with My New Term please visit our website

<https://www.teamacademytrust.com/vacancies>

We currently have 2 vacancies available at Team Multi-Academy Trust:

Teaching Assistant at Pilton Bluecoat Church of England Academy.

Meal Time Assistant at Umberleigh Primary Academy.







**WE NEED YOU.**

We are looking for keen and enthusiastic volunteers to join our Local Governing Bodies (LGB) as a school Governor and/or a Trustee.

#### **Governor**

The role of a School Governor is key in ensuring the school offers high standards of education for all children.

Each school within TEAM Multi -Academy Trust has its own Local Governing Body. The LGB meet once or twice a term and are encouraged to join in with our school visits and learning walks throughout the school year. This is a voluntary position and training is available for this role.

#### **Trustee**

Our Trustees oversee the strategic direction of the Trust schools along with holding the senior school leadership to account and monitoring the trust's finances– amongst many other aspects of school performance.

They can draw on their own expertise from all aspects of business and industry and have specific interests as part of their role such as – Curriculum, Personnel, Admissions, Finance, Safeguarding, Premises or SEND. They meet approximately 6 times a year as a whole group and are active within a range of committees and individual portfolios.

VOLUNTEERING IN THIS WAY BRINGS MANY REWARDS. YOU WILL ENJOY WORKING ALONGSIDE LIKE-MINDED PEOPLE AND GET REAL SATISFACTION AT USING YOUR SKILLS TO CREATE A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT FOR OUR CHILDREN.

**If you are interested in volunteering or to find out more about being a local governor at your school or a TEAM trustee, then we would love to hear from you. Please email [vacancies@team-mat.org.uk](mailto:vacancies@team-mat.org.uk)**



For more information, please visit our Governance section on our website: [www.teamacademytrust.com](http://www.teamacademytrust.com)