

EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION AND OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL

Spring Term 2026 Friday 23rd January

UPCOMING

EVENTS

FEBRUARY

Monday 2nd	Year 5/6 Football match against Canada Hill (Away)
Friday 6th	NSPCC Number Day

The next Friends of Highweek (PTFA) meeting will be held on **Tuesday 24th February at 9am.**

We will also be holding the AGM on

Monday 23rd March at 9am.

Both meetings will be held in the main school.

Would you like to join our friendly PTFA (Friends of Highweek), or know someone who might be interested? We'd love to welcome you to our next meeting, where new faces are always warmly received.



Refreshments available

Friends of
W h
Highweek
Primary School

Dear Parents and Carers,

What has your child been learning?

Year 1 and 2

In KS1 we have started learning about the Arctic. We have found out where the Arctic Circle is in the world and which countries are part of it. We have also learnt about the climate and physical features of this Polar Region.

We have been enjoying acting out and learning our new text, *Lost and Found* by Oliver Jeffers.

In Design and Technology, we have been investigating levers and pivots to create a moving card.

Years 3 and 4

In science year 3 and 4 have been discovering sound; we used instruments to investigate pitch and how sound travels. We have just started and are very excited about our history topic of Ancient Greece. We are all working super hard in maths to improve our multiplication strategies, including multiplying 3 digit numbers!

Year 5 and 6

Year 5 & 6 have been engaged in our new history topic 'crime and punishment' - we have particularly enjoyed about the different punishments that were used in Anglo-Saxon Britain! In literacy, we have been exploring Ted Hughes' 'How the Whale Became' and other myths, and we are in the early planning stages for our own myths about an animal - we can't wait to share them!



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School Improvement and staff training

As you know, our school works in partnership with a number of local. Myself and the other headteachers meet regularly to look at best practice in our schools and share expertise. This week the headteachers met at Bradley Barton to look at supporting attendance and communication. A number of the schools do not send out a newsletter. We would really appreciate your thoughts on this and whether or not you find our newsletters informative.

Coats

The weather the last few week has been particularly awful. PLEASE DO ENSURE YOUR CHILD HAS A COAT IN SCHOOL EVERY DAY so that they can be outside as much as possible at lunch and break times.



School Values

We are all focussing on the value of RESPECT. We are holding doors, walking quietly, and saying please and thank you.

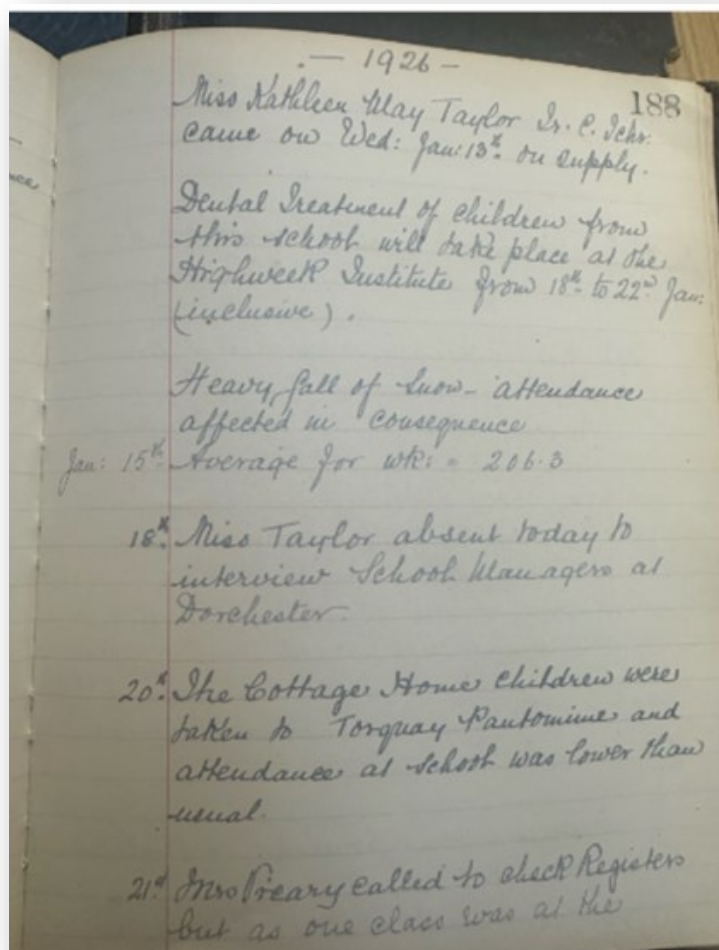
What was happening at Highweek 100 years ago?

In 1925, Highweek changed from being a girls school to a mixed primary school. Here are some entries from the Headteacher's log book from January 1926:

January 11th 1926 "Dental treatment of children from this school will take place at the Highweek Insitute."

January 15th 1926 "Heavy fall of snow- attendance affected in consequence. Average for week= 206.3"

January 20th 1926 "The Cottage Homes Children were taken to Torquay Pantomime and attendance at school was lower than usual."



Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Ms Claire Redwood



We currently have a large quantity of lost property located at the main entrance. If your child has misplaced any items, please take a moment to check, as it would be a shame for these belongings to remain unclaimed.

Another **fabulous** non-uniform day in aid of HITS Foodbank!

Thank you **so much** for your amazing generosity. Every donation makes a real difference.

This will mean **so much** to this much-needed local cause.





Accelerated Readers

100,000 words

Kayden Breslan, Lewis Seal, Eleanor Hardy, Tommy Walton, Chloe Duggan, Jaydyn Mbulayi, Millie Harrison, Ben Palmer, Peter Searle, Freddy Johnson, Isaac Allen & Noah Coleman-Desouza.

250,000 words

Chloe Duggan, Florence Smith, Ethan Evans, Felicity Godfrey, Ben Palmer & Arina Kot.

500,000 words

Alfie Mitchell

My name is Kate, and I am delighted to introduce myself as the new Assistant SENDCo at Highweek Primary School. I will be working closely with the school SENDCo Mrs Matthews, as well as the Safeguarding and Inclusion Team, and most importantly, the wonderful pupils at Highweek.



Over the past few weeks, I have had the pleasure of meeting many of the children and have already begun working with some of them. As part of my role, I am a member of the Lunch Club team, which has been a great opportunity to get to know the children. I will also be based in the Early Years building every Monday so that I can spend time getting to know our EYFS pupils and their parents.

I have joined Highweek Primary from a similar role in a local primary school and prior to that I have a working background in the NHS. I am passionate about SEND and inclusion and bring both professional and personal experience in this area. Please feel free to pop in and introduce yourself. I would love to meet you.

I am very much looking forward to working with you all.



Part of the
National Year of Reading 2026

**GO
ALL
IN.**

We are excited to share that 2026 is the National Year of Reading, and here at Highweek, we'll be celebrating our love of books and stories in lots of meaningful ways across the school. Throughout the year, we'll be marking this special focus and keeping you updated on how reading is being brought to life for our children. Some of the ways we're already getting started include:

- Daily stories, songs and rhyme time in every class.
- A new lunchtime Book Club for children to enjoy reading together.
- Over £1,000 invested in brand new library books, chosen in consultation with our children so the library reflects what they are excited to read.
- Weekly visits to Newton Abbot Library for our EYFS children.
- Exploring the relaunch of our popular Reading Cafés, with updated ideas to share stories together

If you'd like to find out more about the National Year of Reading and how families can get involved, you can visit:

<https://goallin.org.uk/>

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/about-us/national-year-of-reading-2026/>

We believe reading opens doors to imagination, language and lifelong learning, and we're proud to be putting it at the heart of school life. Watch this space for more updates as the year unfolds!



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

Theme	Persist in the face of setbacks		Effort as the path to mastery	
Date	Friday 16th January		Friday 23rd January	
Bovey	Alisa Filonenko	Jack Barr	Ben Palmer	Peter Searle
Dart	Zeba Nazari	Cassia Wilkes	Zeba Nazari	Piotr Ziubryniewicz
Exe	Harmony Hambley	Harry Tooley	Freya Hubbard	Joseph Vickery-Turner
Mardle	Margot Allen	Harper Trays	Ellie-Paige Harrison	Abel Bowden
Plym	James Fagan	Millie Harrison	Primrose Tremlett	Rhys Smith
Tamar	Laiyla Peart	Anna Abhilash	Lucas Swann	Kiya Bowden
Tavy	Olivia Williams	Theo Shaw	Alyssia Broad	Rory Evans
Teign	Jorgie-Mae Sharrock	Tommy Underwood	Nora Mounce-Jeffreys	George Tooley
Torridge	Rylee Jordan	Theo Wilkes	Henry Joint	Islay MacTaggart

Well done to **Dart** class who had **99.1%** attendance for the period of **6th - 9th January 2026**

Well done to **Plym** class who had **99.5%** attendance for the period of **12th - 16th January 2026**

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



Class	W/C 6th January 2026	W/C 12th January 2026
Taw	94.8%	97.8%
Mini Mole	92.4%	97.2%
Mole	84.3%	91.9%
Mardle	95.1%	98.3%
Bovey	92.6%	94.1%
Tavy	89.4%	94%
Dart	99.1%	94.1%
Plym	98.7%	99.5%
Exe	89.7%	97.6%
Torridge	96.4%	88.9%
Teign	91.5%	98.8%
Tamar	97.4%	94.2%

1. Build strong routines

- Set a regular bedtime and wake-up time — children thrive on consistency.
- Lay out uniform, packed lunch, and school bag the night before.

2. Make mornings calm, not rushed

- Wake up with enough time for breakfast and getting ready calmly.
- Avoid screen time before school — it slows things down!

3. Prepare for transport hiccups

- Have a plan B for getting to school — another parent, neighbour, taxi fund, or earlier bus if needed.



HIGHWEEK
Primary School

Wraparound Care at Highweek January 2026

Costs: 3:30pm - 4pm £4.50 3:30pm - 5pm £7.00 3:30pm - 6pm £8.50

Date	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
5th Jan		Pasta Movie Night	Bagels Games	Muffin Pizza Cooking	Cooking Free Play
12th Jan	Sausage Plait Free Play	Wraps with various fillings Crafts	Chilli and Rice Movie Night	Scrambled egg on Toast/ French Bread Games	Sausage Plait Free Play
19th Jan	Fruit Crumble Free Play	Wraps with various toppings Games	Fruit Salad Crafts	Crackers and dips Movie Night	Fruit Crumble Free Play
26th Jan	Pizza Pockets Free Play	Pasta Movie Night	Toasties Games	Muffins Crafts	Pizza Pockets Free Play
Outdoor Activity	Basketball 	Football 	Multisports, 	Tag rugby, 	Archery 

3:30pm - 3:45pm Registration

3:45pm - 4pm Snack

4pm - 5pm Outdoor activity

5pm - 5:45pm Indoor play

5:45pm - 6pm Tidy up

Please note:

A £10 fee applies to late collections.

All cancellations are non-refundable.

Contact: Mrs Carole Rogers

Number: 07968 891535

Email: carogers@highweekprimary.co.uk



MAGIC SHOW

MAGIC JAMES IS RETURNING TO HIGHWEEK PRIMARY WITH HIS NEW MAGIC SHOW.

The show is on **Thursday 12 February** from 6.15pm until 7.15pm.

Those who saw Magic James on his last visit a couple of years ago will be keen to find out what new tricks he has conjured up for us in this brand new show, and for those who haven't seen him yet, both children and parents are in for a magical treat.

Tickets will cost £5 per head and be available at the door on the night.





Ways to Wellbeing

Spring 2026 Issue #2



Remember: It is always best to spend time **AWAY** from the internet – but how can it be good for us too?

Safer internet, better wellbeing

'Safer Internet day' is coming soon on the 11th February – what do you know about staying safe on the internet?

It is always best to spend time **AWAY** from the internet – outside, in nature, playing!

But how can it be **GOOD** for us too? How can the internet sometimes help us to look after our mental health & wellbeing?

Communicating with friends & family – That might be through playing online games, or by video-calling an aunty or uncle who live far away. The internet can help us stay connected to people we love!

Learning about mental health or asking for help – There are lots of websites and apps that can support young people with mental health & wellbeing, e.g.

- Happy Maps: <https://www.happymaps.co.uk/self-help-for-under-12s/>,
- Chillpanda: <http://chillpanda.co.uk/>
- Childline: <https://www.childline.org.uk/toolbox/>



Remember: Using the internet & devices like phones or tablets should always be agreed with adults at home – they are trying to keep you safe!

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

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