

Holyhead Primary Academy

Autumn term's news and bulletin updates December 2022

Principal's Christmas comments

Dear Families,

It's beginning to feel a lot like Christmas in school. The children have been singing Christmas songs and staff have decorated the school, so it looks and feels special for the children. In-between making Christmas cards and practicing for their Christmas nativities, the children have been busy with assessment in math's, reading and grammar – the data from these assessments will help teachers plan the learning over the next term to be more targeted for the children's individual needs. Well done to all the children for working so incredibly hard and taking everything in their stride this term. They have all worked incredibly hard this term, and we are proud of what they have achieved both academically and personally.

CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES



Our EYFS and Key stage 1 Nativity and Key Stage 2 Carol concert are always a very special occasion for us all. The singing in school sounded incredible and we were all in for a real treat! Thank you for joining us in all our festive activities, your ongoing support and participation is very much appreciated!

THINGS TO CELEBRATE THIS TERM!

Nursery

Our youngest pupils have settled into Holyhead really well, making new friends and learning how to learn and play together. Speaking and listening skills have been developed through many engaging activities both indoors and outdoors, including looking after our school chickens, building cardboard castles, and making potions in our mud kitchen.

Reception

Early reading, writing and number skills have been a key focus in our Reception class this term. Every time I have visited them, they have been working hard with their teachers to master these early skills through exciting text such as Owl babies, Elmer and exploring the incredible changes Autumn brings. They engage amazingly well in the learning activities and have developed confidence during their Christmas performances.

Year 1

Starting each day, developing a secure phonic understanding has supported your year 1 children,



becoming more independent readers. I'm immensely proud of the progress they have made, and it is a joy to watch them read with their peers with more confidence. Year 1 have also gained a good knowledge of toys from the past and developed their musical skills during their current E3L topic. Going to watch Tales from Acorn Wood at the Theater this week was a lovely way to end this term of learning!

They all represented Holyhead extremely well and I hope they enjoyed it as much as our staff have.

The Day the Crayons Quit has been a stimulus of both our writing and reading in our year 2 class, and they have all produced some amazing pieces of writing! Developing fluency in their reading has been a key focus and the success of this can be seen across the whole curriculum. Thank you for the support in continuing this skill at home, during your home reading and phonics. They had learnt so much about patterns found in nature, covering lots of subjects including Art, Music, and Mathematics. The work completed in their exercise books really showcase all their knowledge, which Mrs Burnett looks forward to sharing with you during our next parents' evening

Year 3

Going back in time to the stone age has sparked the imagination of all our year 3 pupils. They have explored early ways of communication, through cave drawings and even made some of their own examples in their class cave. Stepping into the shoes of a stone age boy they have developed their writing skills by creating a diary entry.

They have also been developing their orienteering skills by navigating themselves around the school grounds. Their skills have not stopped there as they have all grown in confidence in drama

and performance during their weekly HEN session. Mrs Meadows is always boosting about their talents and impeccable behavior in the staffroom

Year 4

Discovering the different properties of solids, liquids and gases has been a key feature in our year 4 class with all our children successfully making their own candles. Our Merlin topic has stimulated so much learning this half term, including cooking an apple pie with our families during a medieval banquet and reading our focus text about historical legends has produced some amazing pieces of writing and medieval Castle designs fit for a king and queen.



Year 5

Fast cars with the ambition to set the land speed record have engaged the children in many science experiments and design sessions, with the children not only designing their own vehicles but racing them too. Mr Cattell was definitely as excited as the pupils during these activities!

This is not the only thing Mr Cattell, and I have been excited about this term, Year 5 have been working incredible hard this term to improve their handwriting, with many now being awarded a Pen license. These positive achievements have not only been seen in their presentation, but the quality of their written work overall. All of our Year 5 students have definitely done their families and us proud this term!



Year 6

Our oldest pupils have been working hard this term to master all the skills both academically and personally to prepare themselves for secondary education. Reading texts about explorers and the Titanic has produced pieces of work that all our children can be proud of, as I know Mr Farley is!

They have been applying their Numeracy skills to many different problems with success this term, something that we look forward to showing to you during next terms parents evening.

Gymnastics skills have been developing during our weekly sessions with our Olympic coach this term, which has also been something to celebrate.

Looking forward to next term.

As we look to the new year and the Spring term we have been working creatively to provide your children with new teaching and learning experiences. See below for some of our next learning text and topics.

On top of all this to look forward to, we have some exciting wider learning experiences including Forest school (EYFS), Kingswood Residential (Years 5 and 6), Swimming (Year 3 and 4) and many more to come!

From all our staff at Holyhead Primary Academy we wish you a Merry Christmas. We hope you all have a positive and enjoyable Winter holiday!



Well done to year 5

Nursey	90%
Reception	92%
Year 1	92%
Year 2	94%
Year 3	96%
Year 4	94%
Year 5	97%
Year 6	94%

Congratulations to our Autumn term Superstars!



Nursey – Anreet and Aadam
Reception – Divleen and Mason
Year 1 – Parleen and Mia
Year 2 – Reece and Hibah
Year 3 – Aaima and Kaeleigh
Year 4 – Tyler and Ava
Year 5 – Mason and Lilia
Year 6 – Armaan and Maddison

