



Downholland Haskayne CE Primary

Newsletter No: 14

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Wednesday Weekly

Well here we are. The last Wednesday Weekly of 2024 and the last one I will have the pleasure to write for you all. As we prepare for the end of the term and look forward to the holiday ahead, it is a good time to reflect on all that has been happening at Downholland Haskayne since we came back in September. For me, the time has flown by and it seems like only a week ago that I was writing the first edition of this newsletter.

A lot has happened this term and a lot has happened in the last week alone. You will now be aware that we are sadly saying goodbye to Miss Grant on Friday as she leaves us for pastures new. Miss Grant has helped lots of children and worked with lots of families to support them in her roles as SENDCo and class teacher over the years she has been here. Many of you have shared how much you value her support and guidance and I know there will be lots of you who are sad to see her go. We wish her all the best in her new role and I am sure that she will bring much added value to the team at Bank View School. She will be missed here at Downholland Haskayne.

Last week we had the Christmas Fair on Thursday after school. It was very well attended by children, families and the wider community. We raised around £200 for the Friends of Downholland Haskayne and they will put this to good use providing additional experiences and resources in the coming year. Thank you to everyone who helped to make the event a roaring success. From the Rotary Club and Santa with the gifts and the Ukeloonies with their musical accompaniment to the volunteers and people who kindly donated prizes – we are very grateful to you all: THANK YOU.

On Monday this week, we took a walk to the village hall and sang carols to local residents who gather weekly for a coffee morning and warm space. We were delighted to be invited and the children sang their hearts out to entertain those present.

Earlier today we welcomed Zanda Magic in to school to entertain the children with some close up tricks. He is a fantastic magician and we are still trying to work out how on earth he managed to perform some of his tricks. Thanks to Alex for coming in to school and offering to perform for free. If anyone would like to book a magician for their event (Weddings, Birthdays, Christenings etc.) you could do a lot worse than look up Zanda Magic. <https://www.zandamagic.com/>

And finally, it just leaves me to say, with a heavy heart, thank you all so much for welcoming me into your school and your community. It has been a wonderful experience for me and I have loved every minute of it. I have learned so much and I hope that I have done a good job of keeping the good ship Downholland Haskayne steady for the term. I will treasure my memories and look back on this experience with fondness. Good luck to Mr Swindells as he takes up post in the New Year. I am confident I leave the school in good hands.

Lots of Love,
Mr Chapman

Star of the week

Elijah

The following Children received Haskayne Values Awards in Assembly today
Everyone!

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- Friday 20th December – School Closes at 3:15pm
- No After School Club available on Thursday or Friday this week
- Tuesday 7th January – School reopens for the Spring Term

'LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE WITH JOY'

DfE changes to Penalty Notices

The Department for Education have recently announced national charges to penalty notices issues for unauthorised absences in term time, these came into effect on the 19th August 2024.

- Penalty notices issued for the offence after the 19th of August 2024 will be charged at the new rate of £160.00 however if paid in 21-days this reduces to £80.00.
- Any second penalty notice to the same parent for the same child in a rolling 3-year period will be issued at the rate of £160.00 to be paid within 28-days with no option for a discount.
- Penalty notice threshold is 10-sessions equivalent to 5-days of unauthorised absence in a rolling 10-school week period.
- Maximum of 2-penalty notices may be issued for the same child within a rolling 3-years period, so at the 3rd or subsequent offence another course of action will need to be considered such a prosecution or one of the other attendance legal interventions.

Easy Fundraising Link

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/odownhollandhaskayneschool/?searchSessionId=82da24c8-1c2b-4c47-8bac-263ffaa6110a>



Thank you to the following businesses who have donated to the Christmas Fair

- **Rotary Club** – Santa and his Sleigh
- **Ukeloonies** – performance during the fair
- **Icing Queen Cakes** – Donations of Brownies and other sweet treats

