



HLA News

Friday 20th December 2024



Dear Families,

Here we are on the final day before the Christmas holidays! The students have had a great half term and despite the changes to routines have all managed this well. They have worked so hard and very much deserve a holiday.



We don't have much more of an update on our 50 place extension plans. We are currently waiting for the final contracts to be signed which will hopefully be just after Christmas. We will then have another progress meeting where things will begin to move a bit more quickly.

Last week Key Stage 4 hosted the Christmas Fayre which was a great success. Thank you to all of the parents and carers who attended to support the school. We are pleased to share that the enterprise raised a grand total of £550 profit! Excellent work done by all. The profits will be put back into the school to fund some Key Stage 4 activities and benefit the school.

Thank you to all of the parents and carers who have attended our parent and carer open sessions this term. It has been lovely to see you all working alongside your children and sharing their learning in the school environment. We want to try to use this as an opportunity for mutual support at home and school so if there are any activities or topics we could do within these sessions that would help please do let us know.

Please can I request that all parents and carers clear any negative balances on their Arbor accounts? We want to ensure that we start the New Year accounts with a clean slate!

This week students in the S Classes visited St George's Church in Littleport. They all took part in a Christingle service and represented the school fantastically. I was particularly impressed with the students' knowledge of the meaning of the Christingle and they were able to explain all of the different parts and that they meant something special.

Last week the disco was a great success. Thank you to all of the staff who gave up their own time to support our students. It was great to see how well they engaged and enjoyed the evening. Thanks also goes to Lindsay who played some great tunes and to Julie & the school council for organising the event.

Take a look on your class pages for this year's Christmas Showcase video. Unfortunately due to some students not having permission to be shared on the school story for Class Dojo it needs to be shared on the classes' individual pages. It really is a treat and I am sure you will all enjoy it. Thanks goes to Claire for putting it all together for us.

We hope you all have a lovely Christmas and look forward to welcoming the students back to school on Tuesday 7th January 2025.

With all best wishes,

Yvonne Skillern

Headteacher



Important Information



- Please ensure all Arbor accounts are settled prior to starting the New Year.
- Please remember we are a **NUT FREE** school due to severe allergies. This includes sun creams and other products.
- All students return to school on **Tuesday 7th January 2025**.
- Don't forget to connect to your child's Evidence for Learning account. If you need a reminder of your username or to reset your password please do let us know. The domain you need to use when logging in is **highfieldlittle**

School Attendance

There was a slight decline in school attendance this week. We are pleased to report though that 24 students had 100% attendance this term. Look out for the postman delivering a little something related to this! Please remember any school term time holidays will not be authorised. **According to new direction from the trust families who take unauthorised holidays during term time will be face a penalty notice.**

Online Safety Tip of the Week:

Many of our learners may be having new tablets from Father Christmas. Below are some links to some helpful guides to set up parental controls to help your child stay safe when using their new devices.

Ipad - <https://support.apple.com/en-gb/guide/ipad/ipad02e876e6/ipados>

Google Play - <https://support.google.com/googleplay/answer/1075738?hl=en>

Kindle - <https://www.amazon.co.uk/b?node=12116595031>

Emotion of the Week



Emotions will be running high at this time of the year. There is a helpful guide from the Welsh NHS to support anxious children that I have posted on Class Dojo that may help parents and carers.

Mental Health Tip of the Week

Try these self-care tips for the Christmas holiday. Remember everything doesn't have to be perfect, learn to say no, stick to your child's routine if that helps things to remain calm.

Holiday Self-Care Tips

 Make space for messy feelings like grief.	 Learn to say no without feeling guilty.
 Create your own holiday traditions.	 Keep your stress levels in check. It's okay to step back or delegate.
 Set realistic expectations for yourself and the holiday.	 Make a plan and try to stick to it. Organization is key.
 Keep your self-care routine or begin a new one.	 Give yourself permission to let it be a normal day.