

HIGHFURLONG SCHOOL

Newsletter 16.12.11



CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

At the end of another busy and very successful year, I would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and I hope you enjoy the festivities with your families and friends. It has been great working with you all and many thanks for your support. The Highfurlong Nativity on Tuesday was the best ever and Monday's modern Christingle defined the spiritual context in terms of light and darkness.

2011 has been an exceptional year for Highfurlong School. It has been especially pleasing being invited to join a range of exciting national and local projects. You can see these on the blog www.highfurlong.org/wordpress.

I wish to thank the Highfurlong team for their endeavours and for making things happen for our young people here. Outstanding schools are not afraid to move forward and our staff here know and understand this. Starting from Tuesday, 3rd January, 2012, we are going to raise the stakes even higher, by working to further improve the quality of teaching and learning in the classroom. There will be new ways of working to ensure even higher standards in the quality of teaching, raising pupils' achievement, their care, behaviour and safety. We will clearly set out these new higher standards with individual members of staff, their teams and the school governors.

This is part of our change and school improvement agenda. It is being done within the context of today's economic climate and local government agenda. Highfurlong School is doing a lot more with significantly less funding, staffing and resources. This new future presents challenges that the school governors, parents and staff are ready to address.

I wish you all happiness, peace and prosperity.

Best wishes
Eddy Jackson



Nativity

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

We held a very successful Christingle Service on Monday. Thank you to everyone who helped 5L to raise over £25.00.

NATIVITY

Thank you to everyone who attended our nativity on Tuesday; we all hope you enjoyed it as much as we did. The children were fantastic, as always.

CHRISTMAS DINNER

Everyone had a fantastic dinner on Wednesday. Thanks, as ever, to Karen and Sam for a superb meal.

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WEEKLY ATTENDANCE TROPHY

Once again, the class with the highest attendance for the week 5.12.11 to 9.12.11 was 5G with 100%. Well done 5G!

SCHOOL RE-OPENING

Just to clarify, school re-opens on Tuesday, 3rd January 2012.

CHANELLE MCLLOUD TO VISIT MALI

Chanelle, who left Highfurlong in July 2011, has been invited on a three week overseas volunteering event, in Mali, West Africa, with three other local youngsters.

They will travel to Paris on 22nd January, 2012, and then onward to Mali.

They will stay, as a group, with local disabled youngsters, to learn about how people with additional needs live in a poor country, with few resources, and how that impacts upon them, compared with how we do things over here. Amongst other challenges to be faced will be communication; Mali is an entirely French speaking country.

The scheme is being run by The Children's Society and Chanelle will have to talk about her experiences at a presentation in Birmingham during the Spring term.



Christingle

She is being supported by Derwen College and will have project work to do whilst in Mali. Chanelle will resume College after February half term.

Chanelle is currently preparing for the trip, including all the overseas health requirements and inoculations. What a fantastic opportunity - we all look forward to hearing about Chanelle's trip on her return.

DIARY DATES

Tuesday, 3rd January - school re-opens 9am

Wednesday, 4th January - collaborative meetings.



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