

# Growing faith. Challenging minds. Discovering talents.

Proverbs 22:6 - Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it.



**HIGHAM ON THE HILL**  
**CofE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Rise

## Newsletter Edition 6 - 2025

*Friendship, Respect, Hope, Truthfulness, Wisdom, Forgiveness*

12<sup>th</sup> December 2025

### Autumn ends... Christmas begins... And the New Year is close

As we come towards the end of our Autumn Term, we look back with grateful hearts on all the wonderful memories we have made together since August: the opportunities that the children (and adults) have had; the connections that we have made with others outside our school (Year 1 with their pen pals in St Mary's Leicester, Class 2 with the employees at Mira, Class 3 with a set of swimming teachers at the Pingles to name but a few); church services including our first ever Christingle at the church; work shares and so much more.

This term has been filled with moments of joy, growth, friendship, and learning.

As we move further into the season of Advent, we are reminded of the hope that Jesus brings to the world — a light that shines in every circumstance. May that hope fill each of our families with peace and joy.

We look forward to the opportunities that the new year will bring: new challenges, new learning, and new ways for our children to shine.

Thank you for your continued support, enthusiasm, and partnership.

Wishing you all a restful holiday, a blessed Christmas, and a hopeful, joy-filled new year.

### Santa Fun Run!

Our children had a fantastic time taking part in this year's Santa Fun Run! Together, they completed an impressive **174 miles** — a brilliant achievement, well done!

A huge thank you to everyone who supported the event. Through your generosity, we raised **£117.65** in cash donations, and our online fundraisers have now reached over **£2,200** across all of our Rise schools!



### Welly Donations Needed!

Our reception children love exploring the outdoors, whatever the weather! We're currently looking for donations of children's wellies. If you have any spare pairs at home that your child has outgrown, we'd be delighted to give them a new life here at school.



### Pre-loved Uniform


Thank you for your kind donations of uniform to add to our pre-loved store.

And thank you for the donations that you have made through our Arbor shop.

We are in need of **hangers** if you have a few to spare that you can donate – especially smaller ones.



### Christmas dinner menu

 Our Christmas dinner will be on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December, please log onto Relish and order your child's Christmas dinner. If you have pre ordered your child's meal for Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December it will now be cancelled due to the Christmas Dinner menu.



### Safeguarding (y)our children

As a school, we put our children's interests first through an open and positive safeguarding culture. We know that **EVERYONE** has a duty to keep our children (and adults) safe and protected them from harm and maltreatment.

In our most recent parent survey, 72.5% agreed that your child felt safe at school, and a further 25% felt quite safe at school; there were **no** families who felt only slightly or not at all safe.

We continually assess, amend and review our safeguarding policies and how these positively impact our families.

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Within school, we regularly talk to the children about how to keep themselves safe, and - just as importantly - what to do when things have gone wrong. Our pupils are encouraged to talk about their worries and what makes them feel worried or insecure. Posters are displayed throughout our school to make sure that your children know who they can reach out to if they need to - like Childline for example. All of the staff are trained on how to spot and recognise indicators that children may need help or guidance, and we have 3 named DSLs: Miss Elspass, Mrs Evans and Mrs Harris. [This illustrated guide](#) is a toolkit and can explain to children, young people and families how individuals, organisations and agencies work together to help, support and protect them.

If you have any concerns, please get in touch. There is a designated safeguarding address that is manned throughout the holidays: [safeguarding@higham.risemat.co.uk](mailto:safeguarding@higham.risemat.co.uk).

**As always, if you suspect a child is immediate danger, always call 999 or report your concerns on their non-emergency number, 101; you can also call the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) helpline for support and advice if you have a concern for your own or another child's safety on 0808 800 5000.**

## Amazon Wishlist



We are always looking to increase and improve the offer of books that we have in our class reading areas and in our school library. We have an ongoing Amazon Wishlist should you wish to contribute. Thank you in advance.

Our School Council will be collecting the children's wishes after the Christmas break – so watch this space for true PUPIL VOICE!

## Attendance Matters

At our school, we know just how important good attendance is. Our curriculum is carefully planned so that each lesson builds on previous learning. When a child misses a session—especially more than one—it can be challenging for them to catch up and fill those gaps.

We love celebrating excellent attendance, and both pupils and staff take pride in striving for the best! As we move through this time of year, there are many factors that can affect our health and wellbeing. Eating a balanced diet, getting plenty of sleep, and staying active are all great ways to support the immune system and keep your family healthy.

If your child is feeling unwell, you may find the NHS guidance helpful. For ongoing health concerns, please let us know so we can put you in touch with our school nurse.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

## Class 2 visit to MIRA

Class 2 had an amazing trip to MIRA on Wednesday. We were collected by minibus where we were treated to some Christmas crackers. When we all arrived, we had lunch together in the canteen. Then, accompanied by Mrs Gibson on keyboards, we sang our hearts out to share some Christmas cheer. After a short break and a quick drink, we sang again. We were then treated to a look around some of the facilities at MIRA before being given a goodie bag and driven home.



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## Dates for your diary

**Dates in red are when parents/carers are invited to attend.**

### **This half term:**

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Nativity Story – 10am

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December – Last day of Term

### **Further ahead:**

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February – Parent Workshare - 2.30pm

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March – Parents Evening

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March – Parents Evening

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March – Parent Workshare - 2.30pm

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March – Easter Church Service – 10am

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May – Parent Workshare - 2.30pm

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June – Leavers Service – 10am

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July – Parent Workshare (Book Collection Only) - 2.45pm