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

Newsletter Autumn Edition 4 - 2026

Friendship, Respect, Hope, Truthfulness, Wisdom, Forgiveness

Friday 6th November 2026

World Diabetes Day – 12th November

This Thursday 12th November, we will be asking children to wear something blue alongside their school uniform to raise awareness for TYPE 1 DIABETES all over the world.

Hello! My name is Madison, and I have Type 1 diabetes.

Because of my Type 1 diabetes, my body functions differently as it can't naturally produce insulin; your body probably produces it naturally which will help make sure that your blood sugar doesn't get dangerously high – or low – when you eat something.

Many children who have been diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes, including me, sometimes have to sit out during fun activities or playing with friends so that nothing bad happens. Other times, however, we might have to go on a walk or do a physical activity to lower our blood sugar levels. Most nights, people with Type 1 Diabetes get woken up in the early hours to have something sweet or sugary to help raise our blood sugar levels so no one faints – or worse – goes into a coma.

Even though I have a pod that delivers my insulin, I often have to do finger pricks throughout the day to check that all the levels are reading correctly. And sometimes an alarm goes off to tell everyone about my levels.

So, that's why I am asking you to wear blue on Thursday.

Our staff here at Higham have been trained and work closely with Madison's family and the Diabetic Nursing Team to make sure that we can support Madison to have access to everything at school. As she has got older, we are delighted to have supported her become more independent at managing her diabetes. The children in our school have been brilliant at making sure that Madison is safe and doesn't miss out on anything. Wearing blue to raise awareness is just a small thing, but hopefully it will have a big impact and remind Madison – and all other people with Type 1 Diabetes – that we see them and that we want to help.

If you want to know more, please visit https://www.diabetes.co.uk/ .

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Children in Need – 13th November 💛🧁🐻

We are looking forward to supporting **Children in Need** on **Friday 13th November** with a fun-filled **non-uniform day** and our very own **Bake Off**!
Children are invited to come to school in their own clothes and, if they wish, make a donation to help raise money for this fantastic cause.
Our Bake Off is always a highlight, and we would love for children and families to get involved by baking at home and bringing in their creations for judging. Whether it's cupcakes, cookies or a show-stopping cake, we can't wait to see everyone's efforts.
There will also be a cake sale at breaktime, so please remember to send your child in with some spending money if they would like to buy a sweet treat. Any cakes remaining after school will be available to purchase.
Thank you for helping us make a difference. Together, we can raise money for Children in Need while enjoying a day of baking, fun and community spirit! 💛🧁🐻

Celebrating Christmas at Higham!

As December approaches, and we begin to celebrate Christmas, there are some activities to enjoy.

Adults welcome: **Monday 30th November: 1:15 – 3:00**: Parents are welcome to join us at school in the classroom to make a Christmas decorations before going to church together for a Christingle Service (led by Rev Read). **Book Via Arbor**
Children only: Friday 4th December: Santa Fun Run – see entry below
Children only: Thursday 10th December: Christmas Jumper Day
Adults only: **Tuesday 15th December:** PFA Book wrapping. Parents and carers needed to help wrap the children's books. Each year the PFA wrap a book up for every child to be given as a Christmas gift. The hall will be set up for any helpers that are avilable – and there may even be hot drinks and a cheeky mince pie! Even if you can just come and help for 15 minutes, many hands will make light work. This will also be an opportunity to meet some of the PFA team.
Adults welcome: **Wednesday 16th December:** Church Service will be led by our school children. We are especially looking forward to our Reception class who will be performing and creating the Nativity story.
Children only: Wednesday 16th December: Christmas Dinner at School: this must be booked through Relish.

Santa Fun Run

Our North Pole Challenge!
This year, around 4,000 pupils and hundreds of staff across Rise will be running, walking, skipping and wheeling their way towards one shared goal: travelling a combined 2,575 miles – the distance from Rainbows Children's Hospice in Loughborough all the way to Santa's Workshop at the North Pole!
Together, we're hoping to raise £5,000 to help Rainbows continue supporting children and families across the East Midlands.
Event Details:
Date: Friday 4 December 2026
Time: 11:00AM - 12:00PM
Location: Higham on the Hill CofE Primary School grounds
Children are encouraged to wear their favourite festive clothing, whether that's a Christmas jumper, Santa hat or reindeer antlers! Please ensure they have suitable trainers and a change

of shoes. For more information, please contact the school office.
How can you help?
Donate online: Visit our school's JustGiving fundraising page (https://www.justgiving.com/page/higham-on-the-hill-primary-school-rainbows-santa-funrun) or scan the QR code below.
Donate cash: Send a donation to the school office in a named envelope, along with a completed sponsor form.
Spread the word: Share our fundraising page with friends, family and colleagues to help us reach even more people!

Scan here to share or support our event:

Parent Survey: 100% of our parents would recommend our school

Thank you to those parents who completed the survey; it is always good to hear feedback.
Here is a brief summary of the "headlines":

Parents overwhelmingly describe a school where children are happy, safe and well cared for, supported by dedicated staff who build strong relationships with families.

Key strengths include:

- ☑ Children feel safe and happy in school
- ☑ Families feel welcomed and listened to
- ☑ Strong SEND support and inclusive practice
- ☑ A clear and meaningful Christian vision
- ☑ 100% of parents would recommend the school to others

Comments included:

"We feel welcomed as a family and that she is getting the best start to her school life."

"My child is happy and developing academically at a good pace."

"This school has helped my child in so many ways."

"A wonderful school with amazing staff."

"The teachers are so welcoming and feel like one big family."

"The care and attention that it gives to the children is top class."

Your feedback also provided some ideas for future improvement, particularly around specific communication, club and childcare provision, challenge for higher attaining pupils, and helping families better understand the benefits of Trust membership.

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Staffing Updates

We are welcoming Jordan Vaughan and Megan Temple to our support staff team: they will be working across the school.

We also wish Abbie Smith "good luck" as she moves to Barlestone in a full time role in the office there: she will be missed and we take this opportunity to say a very big "THANK YOU" for all her amazing work and to recognise the incredible positive impact that she has had at our school and on our children while being with us.

Attendance

Attendance is important because it helps children stay on track with their learning and maintain continuity throughout the year. We would like to share with you the class attendance for the year so far and for this term so far. Please see the information below, and we encourage you to share it with your children to emphasise the importance of good attendance.

Class	School Year
1	98.5%
2	94.7%
3	95.26%
4	97.15%

Attendance Matters
Every student. Every day.

Class	Autumn Term 2
1	95.24%
2	95.83%
3	93.75%
4	97.9%

Dates for your diary

Dates for your diary

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

This half term:

Thursday 12th November –World Diabetes Day– Wear something Blue (With Uniform)
Friday 13th November – Children in Need
Monday 30th November - Christmas Decoration Afternoon followed by our Christingle Service – BOOK ON ARBOR – 13:15 – 15:00
Friday 4th December – Santa Fun Run
Thursday 10th December – Christmas Jumper Day
Tuesday 15th December – Christmas Book Wrapping – 8:30am
Wednesday 16th December – Church Service – Christmas – 10am
Friday 18th December – Class 4 Swimming – Last Session
Friday 18th December – School closed for half term

Further ahead:

Monday 4th January – School is open
Friday 5th February – Collective Worship at Church – 2:45pm
Wednesday 17th March – Church Service – Easter– 10am
Monday 10th May to Thursday 13th May 2027 – Year 6 SATS Week
Friday 28th May – Collective Worship at Church – 2:45pm