**Our school vision:**
At Hightown we work together as a school community with pride, respect, rigour and fairness. We celebrate effort, respond enthusiastically to challenges and create positive opportunities that enable everyone to achieve in every way.

Educational visits provide uplifting experiences. These include whole-school visits to the Yorkshire coast. Opportunities for learning and special experiences such as paddling with their friends and having fish and chips by the seaside help pupils to develop into well-balanced young people. This contributes to their very positive spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Ofsted 2016

**This week and last at Hightown:**
Time is certainly flying by in school at the moment. Last week was another busy one for sure! The leadership team met with all the teachers to review pupil progress, something that we do each term. This helps to ensure that all children are kept on track throughout the year. We also had a number of governors visit school to see first hand what is happening in school.

Children in class five visited New Hall Farm near Barnsley on Wednesday as part of the science curriculum. They learnt lots about how a farm works and crops are grown. They will be using this visit as a stimulus for work in both science and topic for this half term.

It was great to see so many of you at the Whitcliffe Mount open evening on Wednesday. Miss Templar certainly gave a very impressive presentation at the start of the evening and I can’t pretend I wasn’t more than a little jealous of their amazing new building and facilities.

In our assembly last Monday morning we’d been thinking about ‘not giving up’, which is one of our key secrets for success here at Hightown. This was certainly in evidence at the Spen track on Thursday evening when a large number of our children competed in the cross country run. Congratulations to those children who have made it through to the finals in Huddersfield this week.

This week looks like being very busy again. We have the harvest festival to look forward to on Wednesday afternoon. Please note, due to the heavy rain forecast on Wednesday and the church not being available another time, harvest festival will be held in school. Unfortunately, there will not be room for parents/carers to attend on this occasion.

Children will be taking part in a number of sporting events and myself and the leadership team will be making visits to other schools including Heckmondwike and Gomersal Primary.

**Tesco Bags of Help:**
RESULT!! I am delighted to be able to officially announce that we won first place in the recent ‘Tesco bags of life’ campaign run in local stores in the summer term. This is a huge achievement and a big well done to Mrs Kuyateh for organising the application and promoting it. We are now looking forward to spending the £4,000 prize
money on developing our reception class outside area.

**Harvest time:**
Thank you for your support with the non school uniform day on Friday. We raised a total of £138.32. The school council will be deciding how they want that money to be spent and we are looking forward to hearing about their decision in the harvest festival on Wednesday.

As explained in last week’s newsletter, the Harvest Festival will be this Wednesday, 11\(^{th}\) October, however, as mentioned above, the event will take place in school and not in the church. Due to the lack of space in the hall parents/carers are not able to attend.

This week, recognising the need that exists in our own community we are asking for the usual donations of tinned and dried goods plus practical items such as washing powder, toilet rolls etc. We will then put together our own food boxes and are asking parents/carers to suggest families or individuals within our community who may benefit from one of our ‘Hightown Boxes of Hope’.

**Remembrance Day:**
Following the article in last week’s newsletter I have received a couple of emails about the names on the memorial plaque. Just to remind you, these are the names of the servicemen we are trying to trace:

- Frank W Barber
- Arthur Furness
- Leslie W Graham
- Leonard Haystead
- Robert W Hartley
- Harry Holroyd
- Raymond Marsden
- A James McC.Millichip

- Stanley Pollard

**Assembly rota, Autumn term 2017**
Doors open after pupil drop off with the assembly starting at 9am. As before parents and carers are warmly invited to stay after the assembly to spend time with their child/ren each Tuesday.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10(^{th}) October</td>
<td>class 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17(^{th}) October</td>
<td>class 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31(^{st}) October</td>
<td>class 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7(^{th}) November</td>
<td>class 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14(^{th}) November</td>
<td>class 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21(^{st}) November</td>
<td>reception class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28(^{th}) November</td>
<td>class 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5(^{th}) December</td>
<td>class 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12(^{th}) December</td>
<td>class 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19(^{th}) December</td>
<td>nursery</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Friends of Hightown.**
A reminder that Friends of Hightown are planning to hold a bingo/quiz night on Wednesday 18\(^{th}\) October. Tickets are on sale from the office - £1 for adults, 50 pence for children (the admission price includes nibbles and a warm drink). The event will start at 6.00 pm, finishing at 7.30 pm. Bingo tickets are on sale on the night along with raffle tickets. Remember, all the funds raised by the Friends of Hightown go back into school for the benefit of all the children.

**Halloween Disco:**
Tickets are now on sale for the Halloween Disco on **Tuesday 31\(^{st}\) October.** Because the disco is on the second day back after the half term break tickets must be purchased by Thursday 19\(^{th}\) October (last day of term). Tickets are £2.50 which includes a drink and a hotdog. Fancy
dress is optional and there will be a small prize for the best outfit.

**KS2 sleepover:**
For the past couple of years we have had a KS2 sleepover on the evening of the final day of the first half term in October. This year there is an INSET day on Friday 20th October and it is also the firework display at Whiteleys garden centre. We have decided to reschedule the sleepover to when we return after half term.

**Head Lice – Take a Peek!!**
Please, please make time to take a peek this week! Long gone are the days of the nit nurse coming into schools to check each child’s head. Treating any outbreak of head lice is a parental responsibility.

**Last week’s attendance:**
There is a real contrast at the moment between the highest and lowest attending classes. Last week saw one of our lowest figures in a long time with class one only having an attendance of 84.67% for the week. Needless to say the attendance team are robustly following up on any pupil absence at the moment and this will include home visits where appropriate. We’d really like to start seeing more of those 100% weeks.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Last week</th>
<th>Year to date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reception</td>
<td>96.67%</td>
<td>94.64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class one</td>
<td>84.67%</td>
<td>92.39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class two</td>
<td>98.93%</td>
<td>99.15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class three</td>
<td>99.03%</td>
<td>97.12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class four</td>
<td>98.62%</td>
<td>97.23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class five</td>
<td>94.48%</td>
<td>96.78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class six</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>95.80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whole school</td>
<td><strong>95.89%</strong></td>
<td><strong>96.12%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Learner of the week:**
Well done to this week’s Learner of the week award winners!

*Year 1* – Evie  
*Year 2* – Lola  
*Year 3* – Zoe  
*Year 4* – Stephanie  
*Year 5* – Hudson  
*Year 6* – Charlie

**Behaving the Hightown Way:**
Congratulations to this week’s BTHW award winners!

*Year 1* – Louie  
*Year 2* – Alex  
*Year 3* – O’Shan  
*Year 4* – Ewan  
*Year 5* – Oliver  
*Year 6* – Ryan

**Hot Choc Friday:**
Well done to Mollie Whittaker!

**Sporting Success:**
We are in the Cross Country Finals Tuesday 10th October when we have 10 children competing from Years 4 to 6.

**After school enrichment activities:**

*Monday – Art club & Netball*  
*Tuesday – KS1 football & School Choir*  
*Wednesday – Lower KS2 football*  
*Thursday – Upper KS2 football*  
*Friday – Film club & girls football*

Watch this space for dance club sign up!

**INSET days and term dates 2017/2018**
The remaining INSET days for next school year will be:
• Friday 20th October
• Monday 4th December
• Friday 16th March

Term dates for the school year 2017/18 can be found on the Kirklees website at
http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/schools/search-for-a-school/default.aspx?dfe=2102

PLEASE CHECK TERM DATES BEFORE BOOKING ANY HOLIDAYS

And finally:
As always any comments, questions or concerns can be emailed to:

head@hightown.kirklees.sch.uk