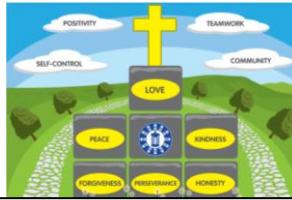


# Higham St John's C of E Primary School



Headteacher: Mrs H. Shaw FCCT NPQH

One school family rooted in God's Love  
One more step...  
'Let us keep in step with the Spirit.'  
*Galatians 5:25*

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Date: Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2025

## Re: Weekly Newsletter – Final Newsletter of 2025!

### Weekly Worship:

This week in worship we have been learning about...

- Our Christian Value for this half term is PEACE
- We have been preparing for our Christingle, Carol Service and Nativity

### Advent Angels

Are you tired of those naughty elves?! Meet our antidote - Advent Angels! They are here to spread kindness and goodness to every class and in our school community. Each class has a different named Advent

Angel. They are all named after Archangels.

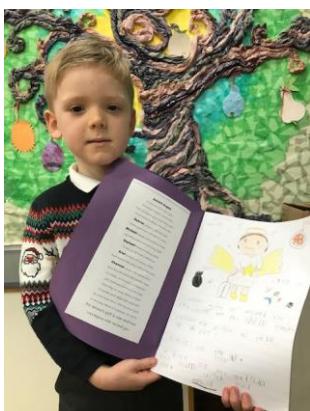
In the picture top right is the Elm Class Advent Angel, Gabriel (or Jibril in Arabic), the messenger angel. Gabriel has settled well into class and is helping the children make good choices - not wrong choices like those elves!!

In every angel's bag is a class 'Book of Goodness'. Each day, we would like a different child to take Gabriel home and record an act of kindness they do at home to help out at this busy time of the year. The children will then bring the book and bag

with the angel back to school and share news of their good deed.

The teachers are enjoying hearing every morning about the children's acts of kindness. Our Advent Angels will help our children to 'Keep in step with the Spirit' both in school and at home in their communities.

Help us to spread love, joy, kindness and happiness at this special time of the year! ☺



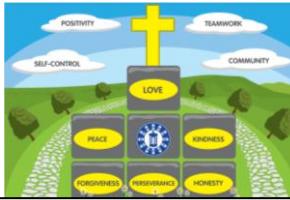
### YR, Y1 and Y2 Theatre Trip to the Lowry

We apologise for the last-minute postponement of the trip to the Lowry Theatre. We were contacted late on Tuesday afternoon and informed that due to technical issues, the first performance of The Enormous Crocodile on Thursday would have to be cancelled.

We are relieved to inform parents that we have secured the coach bookings and tickets for the alternative date of **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2025**. The timings are exactly the same so parents should drop their children at school at the normal time and they will return to school in time to eat their lunch at the slightly later time of 12:30-1pm.

Thank you for your understanding.

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## Final Guitar Lessons of 2025:

There will be no guitar lessons next week on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December.

### Fees payable for music lessons:

Parents and carers are reminded they are required to pay any outstanding fees for musical instrument lessons as soon as possible. Fees should be paid in advance ahead of each new term. Please speak to the school office staff if you require any further information.

### New Autumn / Winter Lunch Menu:

Our menu is available to view on the parents' section of the school website.

Our new menu has now begun and next week we will be on **Week 1**.

### Christmas Dinner – Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2025

We will be hosting our annual Christmas Dinner on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December. Parents should book and pay in advance for the dinner via the School Comms Gateway app.

Children are permitted to come to school wearing something festive or a Christmas jumper.

### YR, Y1 and Y2 Nativity Performances – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2025

We are looking forward to sharing our Nativity Performance with parents and carers next week. There will be two performances: one in the morning and one in the afternoon during the school day.

Tickets are limited to one per child per performance due to space in the school hall. These were issued to parents last week along with an accompanying letter.

We do not charge for parents to attend our performances and only want to share the joy of Christmas with you all! Our PTA will be there to accept any donations our school funds should you wish to make one.

### Timings for the Nativity Performances:

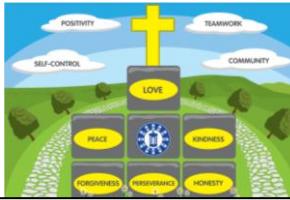
**Morning:** Arrive from 9am (refreshments, raffle and KS2 choir whilst the children get changed into their costumes) **performance will start at 9:30am**

**Afternoon:** Arrive at 2:10pm, **performance will start at 2:15pm**, (refreshments, raffle and KS2 choir after the performance whilst the children get changed out of their costumes)

### Reporting your child's absence:

If your child is going to be absent from school, please telephone the school office number and leave a voicemail message before the school day begins stating clearly your child's name, their class and the reason for their absence. Thank you for your co-operation.

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## Rise in cases of Influenza Nationally:

Parents are reminded of the following health advice regarding prevention of spread of infection.

(Ref: NHS Blog on reducing the spread of infection)

As the colder months approach, we can expect to see increases in common airborne viruses.

Illness is the biggest single reason for school absence; while some absences due to illness are unavoidable, many can be reduced through simple, proactive measures that minimise the spread of infections.

Scientific evidence demonstrates that vaccination, disinfection (cleaning), handwashing, and ventilation can significantly reduce the transmission of infectious diseases.

Here are some key tips for reducing the spread of infection:

1. Keep your child at home if they have a high temperature
2. Get vaccinated for protection
3. Remember to wash your hands regularly
4. 'Catch it, bin it, kill it' – use tissues and bin them after one use
5. Maintain good ventilation – open a window to let in the fresh air
6. Clean high-touch areas regularly

## Meningitis: Information for parents

Meningitis is an infection of the protective membranes that surround the brain and spinal cord (meninges).

It can affect anyone, but is most common in babies, young children, teenagers and young adults.

Meningitis can be very serious if not treated quickly.

It can cause life-threatening sepsis and result in permanent damage to the brain or nerves.

A number of vaccinations are available that offer some protection against meningitis.

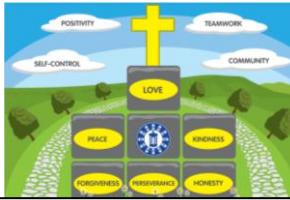
## Symptoms of meningitis develop suddenly and can include:

a high temperature (fever)  
being sick  
a headache  
a rash that does not fade when a glass is rolled over it (but a rash will not always develop)  
a stiff neck  
a dislike of bright lights  
drowsiness or unresponsiveness  
seizures (fits)

These symptoms can appear in any order. You do not always get all the symptoms.

For further information, follow this link: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/meningitis/>

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## Key Dates:

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December – Elm and Ash Class Nativity Performances (9:30am and 2:15pm)

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December – Key Stage 2 Christmas Party (pm)

**\*\* Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December – rescheduled date – YR, Y1 and Y2 trip to the Lowry Theatre\*\***

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December – 2pm Year 3 Christingle Service in Church

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December – 2pm KS2 Carol Service in Church

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Dinner Day

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December – Elm and Ash Class Christmas Party (pm)

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December – School closes at 1:30pm for the Christmas holidays**

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026 – INSET (staff only)

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2026 – School reopens for all children**

## School Instagram Account:

Please follow us on our new Instagram account, like and share!

We are: [highamstjohnsschool](https://www.instagram.com/highamstjohnsschool/)



## Website and School Jotter 3 App

To accompany our website, there is also a new app School Jotter 3 – which parents are strongly advised to download. Just search for 'Jotter 3' and look for the image opposite.

## Reporting a parking incident:

Parents are reminded of the importance of driving and parking safely and sensibly near school.

Please note: parents are not permitted to drive into, turn in or park in the school car park at any time – this includes for breakfast club, after school club, parents' evenings and performances.

**If you witness a parking problem at the school gates, please do not report it to us.**

We have no jurisdiction and no authority to enforce parking or highways rules. We therefore cannot take any action. Sadly, staff have on occasion received verbal abuse from drivers which is completely unacceptable. We therefore have been advised to tell parents to report the problems themselves directly to the council or Police.

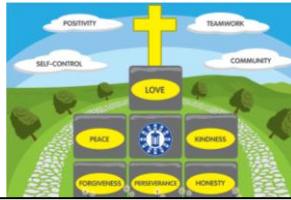
The link to the council eform to report a parking problem is below:

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/parking/report-a-parking-problem/>

To report a driving offence to the Police, follow this link:

<https://fallback.soh.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/rs/road-safety/driving-offences/>

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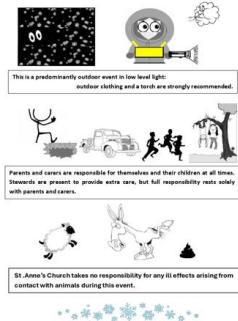
## St Anne's Roaming Nativity

Rev Lesley works across both St John's Church in Higham and St Anne's Church in Fence. This year, St Anne's will be hosting a Roaming Nativity. It is a series of tableaux, with real people. It will start at the Scout Hut on Wheatley Lane Road. It will then travel to the Fence Gate Lodge, then the Refectory, then to the St Anne's Church garden (stable with real donkey - which can be petted and sink washing available - and real baby), then to Church to meet the Wise Men. In the church there will be Carols and singing and refreshments.

Please details to the right.



**IMPORTANT!**  
The Roaming Nativity



**School will close at 1:30pm on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2025 for all pupils.**

**Please collect your child promptly as the building will be closing shortly after this time.**

**We reopen to all pupils on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January at 8:45am.**

**Have a wonderful Christmas and New Year, everyone! ☺**

## Attendance this week:

Elm Class	98.8%
Ash Class	96.3%
Birch Class	93.7%
Sycamore Class	96.7%
Oak Class	96.5%
Whole School	96.3%

Best wishes

Mrs H Shaw

Headteacher