



# HIGFORD NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN TERM 2- 2025

## Key Dates

- 5<sup>th</sup> Jan- return to school
- 6<sup>th</sup> Feb- Number day- please dress in something number themed e.g. a football shirt with number or as a colour like a number block.
- 6<sup>th</sup> Feb- Last day of half term.
- 27<sup>th</sup> Feb- 'animal encounters' visitors onsite.
- 5<sup>th</sup> March- World Book day- Dress as your favourite character or pyjamas.
- 21<sup>st</sup> March- Red nose day- wear red- donations encouraged.

Hi all,

Happy new year! I hope you all had a lovely Christmas break.

We have not had the start back we had expected due to the snow and also issues with the new heating system in the lower end of school but we look forward to having all of the students back onsite when safe to do so.

Before Christmas the students enjoyed engaging in lots of festive activities including watching a pantomime onsite. It was great to see so many of our parents/ carers at our Christmas performance which the students enjoyed taking part in.

This term our topic is 'Living things and their habitats' and we have lots of exciting opportunities and learning experiences planned including an animal encounters visitor onsite after half term.

We have some new teachers starting with us this half term who bring a wealth of experience within the SEN sector and look forward to integrating them into our teaching team. We have also successfully recruited some internal staff members into new tutor and instructor roles and I am excited to see the positive difference they make to the students' learning.

*Sam*



## Snow plan reminder

We aim to have staff onsite at 7am to assess the conditions onsite. This can take some time due to the size of site.

The decision to remain open/ close is made based on:

- conditions onsite
- conditions on the lane- this is not routinely gritted by the highways agency.
- the staffing levels. Many of our staff travel a long way to get onsite so can not always get to site safely.

We try to make this decision by 7.30 and communicate this with parents and transport departments by 7.45. We do this via text and email as soon as possible.

## Staff CPD

As part of our ongoing commitment to CPD we have been planning our staff training week for the end of this half term. This year's focus is continuing to develop our creative approaches in how we support our students and will include sessions based on learning theory, Intensive Interaction, utilising resources and immersive facilities onsite as well as continuing to enhance our communication and interaction support. Our statutory first aid and supporting behaviour training will also be completed. I look forward to the impact this then has for the students following the half term.



## Scarecrow Competition

Each class made their own scarecrow as part of a whole school competition. Each class made their own scarecrow and they were displayed in the horticulture garden as part of a harvest day.

