



# Hockley Heath Academy Newsletter

**Date: JULY 2017**

**Dear Parents,**

What an amazing year we have had! This has been a year in which your children have, yet again, been truly delightful. They have enjoyed so many exciting learning opportunities and we have watched them grow and develop in confidence. We have provided learning which has not only challenged the children, but has also allowed them to grow, both academically and socially. The children and staff are proud of our school and always promote it with passion and positivity. We all achieve together and I truly believe that I am extremely fortunate to work with such an inspiring team of staff and such fantastic children. Thank you for your support in helping us to provide for your children, the very best learning opportunities that we can. As the academic year nears its end, I would like to wish you all a happy and restful Summer holiday.

Best Wishes

**Mrs Gabriel**

## **EDUCATION AWARDS WINNERS – OUTSTANDING SCHOOL OF THE YEAR 2017**



The Education Awards is the first of its kind in the Midlands Region. It celebrates and rewards the most outstanding contributors to the Education Industry.

A total of 16 awards are contended for and each award category has an industry sponsor. Our sponsor is THE PETER JONES FOUNDATION – TYCOON IN SCHOOLS. The Federation will work with us on a chosen project which will be filmed over the coming year and showcased at the following year's Awards.

We are thrilled that we have been recognised for the outstanding provision, dedication and commitment we have to offer to our children and families at Hockley Heath Academy.

### **WORKSHOPS**

As well as our Maths and English workshops this year, we have also offered our families an online safety workshop, sleep clinic, SRE workshop and our new to FS1 and FS2 workshops. We are trying hard to involve our families in their children's school lives and hope these workshops provide supportive information in order to do this. We do however, need more parents committing to them in order for them to be sustainable. Please continue to support us when you can.

### **TERROR THREATS**

Following the very sad events that took place in Manchester and London over the past few weeks, we are all aware that the Government has raised the national security state to critical. At Hockley Heath Academy we will continue to do everything possible to ensure the continued safety and well being of your children. I want to reassure parents that we have a range of plans and contingency measures in place if needed.

## CAREERS DAY

On Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July, we organised a careers day for our year 5 and 6 children, where they had the opportunity to question and discuss careers and career paths with a diverse group of individuals. The aim of this was to show children



the importance of not needing to look, dress, be a certain way, to become successful in life or to follow a career path. I was also keen for our children to be able to see the various journeys different people take in order to achieve their aspirations. It was such an exciting morning and our children were a credit to us. A big thank you to all of the volunteers who supported us and took time out of their own lives to make this successful.

## STAFFING CHANGES

### Denise Downs – Retired

We would like to thank Mrs Downs for her dedication to our school and families, for over 20 years. She has many exciting things planned for her retirement and has promised to pop into school whenever she can. She will be missed by us all.

### Anna Holmes – New Reception Teacher

We successfully appointed Miss Holmes as our Reception teacher. She is an experienced early years Reception teacher and is really looking forward to starting in September. We welcome her to Hockley Heath Academy.

### Nursery Staffing

We would like to say goodbye to Miss Coward and Mrs. Pugh and thank them for their hard work and commitment to our Nursery over the past year and a half. Miss Coward will still be continuing with HH Club.

## TIME TO TALK

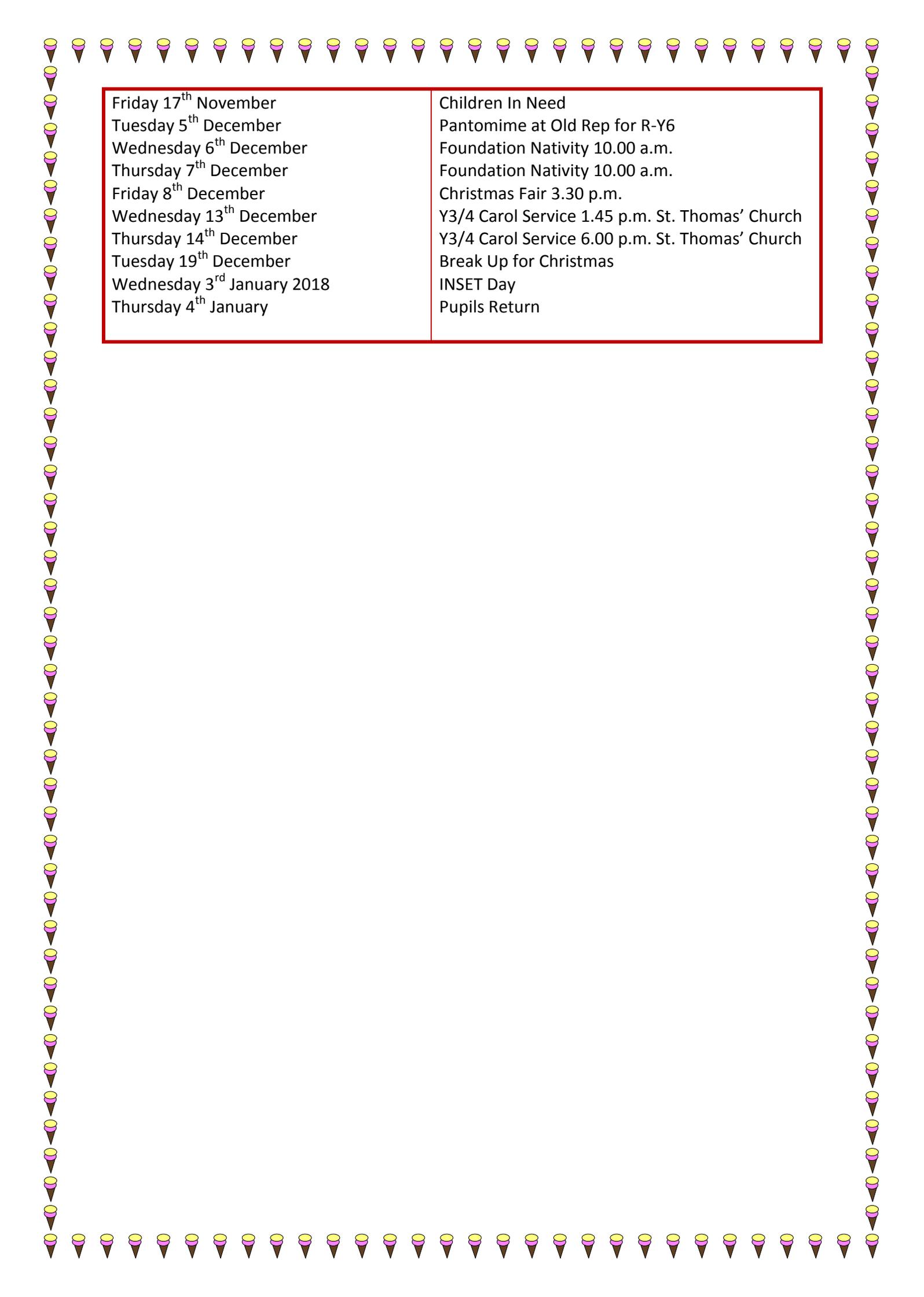
In May, the Mental Health Foundation hosted Mental Health Awareness Week to support people in thinking about how mindfulness, anxiety, lack of sleep and relationships can affect our mental health. This is relevant to children as well as adults as a child's mental health can affect their ability to concentrate on their learning and to have positive friendships with other the children.

With this in mind, I have sent Mrs Clark and Mrs Duckham on an intensive training course focussing on Children's Mental Health First Aid. This has provided them with knowledge and skills in supporting children who may be struggling with certain aspects of their lives. I have set up 'drop-in' sessions run by them, where children can go and talk about anything worrying them, or indeed seek advice. These will take place twice weekly during lunchtime and will allow the children access to support, or just have someone to talk to and listen to them.

## DATES FOR DIARIES

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2017  
Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September  
Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September  
Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> September  
Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September  
Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September  
Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September  
Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September  
Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October  
Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October  
Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October  
Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> October  
Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October

INSET Day  
Pupils Return  
Y5 Drayton Manor Trip  
Y6 Conover Hall Trip  
Y4 Starts Swimming  
Harvest Festival  
School Photographs  
School Open Afternoon  
Parents' Consultations 4.30 – 6.30 p.m.  
Parents' Consultations 3.45 – 5.45 p.m.  
INSET Day  
Half Term  
Pupils Return



Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> November	Children In Need
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	Pantomime at Old Rep for R-Y6
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Foundation Nativity 10.00 a.m.
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	Foundation Nativity 10.00 a.m.
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Fair 3.30 p.m.
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Y3/4 Carol Service 1.45 p.m. St. Thomas' Church
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	Y3/4 Carol Service 6.00 p.m. St. Thomas' Church
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Break Up for Christmas
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2018	INSET Day
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	Pupils Return