



# Highfields Academy

*Together we inspire, always aiming higher*

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Dear Parents and Carers,

We have made it to the end of another term, and another year at Highfields. I have just had a look at the letter that I sent to you all at this time last year where I talked about hopefully getting back to normal when we returned in January. Little did we know at the time that it would be announced the day before we were due to return that schools would be closed again.

It has been another challenging year for all of us but together we have faced all these challenges and I would like to sincerely thank you all for your ongoing support over the last 12 months.

This last half term has been a particularly difficult one as the number of positive cases that we have had in school has been higher than at any other time since the pandemic began, with several staff and pupils affected. However, over the last couple of weeks this has started to settle down and the number of cases has reduced. Hopefully this will continue and we can all enjoy the Christmas break.

As things stand at the moment we expect to be fully open when we return in January (children return on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup>). One thing that we have learnt over the past couple of years though is to be prepared for anything; if anything changes we will let you know so please check your emails before you come in on the 4<sup>th</sup>. We cross all of our fingers that nothing changes and we can look forward to a full and uninterrupted spring term.

### **The Queen's Platinum Jubilee**

You will be aware that in 2022 the nation celebrates the Queen's 70<sup>th</sup> jubilee and in recognition of this an extra bank holiday has been arranged. As the date of the bank holiday falls in the June half term break schools have been asked to allocate an alternative date. We have decided to put this additional day at the end of the school year with the intention that this is likely to cause least disruption to parents. Therefore school will now break up on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2022 rather than Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> as originally stated on our term dates.

I wish you all a lovely holiday, a very merry Christmas and all the very best for 2022, and once again, thank you!

Kind regards,  
Simon Dyson

