

# High Lane Primary School February Newsletter



## Dear Staff, Pupils, Parents and Friends

As we begin the second half of the Spring Half Term, we are excited to share some of the fantastic experiences and achievements that have taken place across the school. So far, the term has been filled with creativity, community spirit, and opportunities for our children to shine. From performance events to sporting prowess to activities to support our community, the children have enjoyed getting involved, learning a lot and having fun.

In this edition, you'll find updates on just a few of the highlights:

- Druhm – an exciting percussion music workshop that got everyone moving and making music!
- Year 3/4 Class Assemblies – a celebration of learning, confidence, and performance skills.
- High Lane Rocks – a wonderful initiative spreading kindness and joy in our community.
- Young Voices - Singing loud, proud and together at the Co-Op Arena
- Academisation Update - a brief update of our progress in the academisation journey.

As always, thank you to our fantastic staff team, governors, PTA and volunteers - your support, hard work and commitment are invaluable and very much appreciated.

*Best wishes*

*Mrs Alison Humphries*

Headteacher

27th February 2025

## Essential Dates for your Diary

Parent/Carers' Evenings

Wednesday 26th March  
and Tuesday 1st April

Class Assemblies

Year 2: 5th March  
Reception: 19th March  
Year 1: 3rd April

Year 5 Residential

Thursday 10th - Friday  
11th April

End of Spring Term

Friday 11th April

## A Visit from Druhm Academy



The whole school, including our staff, had an amazing day when **DRUHM** visited! The children were introduced to an exciting and creative way to get moving and make music, using drumsticks and exercise balls. The energy was infectious, the music was upbeat, and the smiles on the children's faces said it all. It was a fantastic way to come together, get active, and end the half term on a high note!

## Year 3/4 Shine in their Class Assembly



Year 3/4 kicked off our 2025 performances in style with their fantastic class assembly! The class embraced the opportunity to use a microphone for the first time, speaking clearly and confidently as they showcased their learning about the Romans. It was wonderful to see their teamwork, enthusiasm and hard work come to life. Well done everyone!

We look forward to Year 2, showing us what they can do in the next class assembly on Wednesday 5th March.

## High Lane Rocks

Children in Year 2, 3 and 4 are aiming to brighten the lives of our local community by painting positive 'feel-good' affirmations on rocks which they left around High Lane village. They hope that their random acts of kindness will help people who find them to feel uplifted.

Rock painting is a great way for our children and young people to take part in a mindful activity and express their feelings in a creative and positive way. Along with the artistic fun they have had, they were also able to celebrate and raise awareness of Children's Mental Health Week.

Look out for the rocks and enjoy the messages if you find one!



## Reading Buddies

Our buddy system is always a popular part of our learners' High Lane journey. In the last week of the half term, our Year 5 class did a great job of encouraging our Nursery children to learn to enjoy books and stories by joining them for a special Reading Buddies session. These are the times that bring out the very best in our older pupils and they are always wonderful to see. For our youngest learners, it is lovely to see their trust and confidence grow as they build relationships with the 'big children'. Keep up the good work everyone!

## Have You Lost a Sparkly Egg?

Staff and children in Year 1 were stunned to discover a huge, sparkling egg in their classroom earlier this term! Despite their best efforts—putting up detailed lost and found posters to describe the mysterious egg all around the school—its owner remains unknown. The excitement and curiosity continued to grow as the children eagerly investigated where it might have come from and what could be inside! The find inspired some wonderful writing and the class made a sculpture of a dragon and some fabulous castles as part of their Art unit 'Playful Making'.

Our Lower Juniors recently took part in the incredible Young Voices 2025 event at the Co-Op Arena, joining 7,500 children from schools across the North West and Wales. Performing in front of a packed audience of thousands, they sang their hearts out alongside talented musicians and even some special celebrity guests.

The atmosphere was electric, and the experience was truly unforgettable. From the excitement of rehearsals to the magic of the final performance, our pupils created memories that will last a lifetime. We are so proud of their enthusiasm, dedication, and the joy they brought to this phenomenal event!

## Young Voices



## Academisation Update

As a school, we have been enjoying the opportunity to strengthen our partnerships with the schools in the Four Rivers Trust, working together for the mutual benefit of all. Recently, Mrs. Humphries and Mrs. Morton, Chair of our Governing Board, attended an insightful strategy day with Trust Members, other governors, and school leaders. This event provided a great chance to begin building relationships ahead of our proposed conversion.

Following a recent monitoring visit, Mrs. Ames, the CEO of Four Rivers, provided a highly positive report. She specifically praised our children's engagement, attitudes, and behaviour, as well as the High Lane curriculum, the skills of the staff team and our inclusive approach. The report was shared with our Governors, who felt it truly reflected the culture and values of the school while highlighting areas of excellence.

Although we are not yet full members of the Trust, as a 'sister school,' we continue to benefit from shared initiatives and training with the other schools in Four Rivers. The legal and due diligence process is ongoing, supported by our project facilitators at EPM, the Trust, the Local Authority, and the DfE, with the goal of converting to an academy and joining Four Rivers later in the year.