



Newsletter

Head Teacher's Message



Welcome to our December newsletter! With Christmas fast approaching, the children have been extremely busy with their learning, Christmas rehearsals and performances. The school has been filled with beautiful singing and smiling faces - what a fantastic place to be!

As the nights draw in during the winter months, please help to remind your child about road safety awareness – it really is important that pupils are extra vigilant of motorists and cyclists during the twi-light evenings. Reflective clothing, cycle lights and helmets are essential for all pupils' safety.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Mr Middleton

Dates for your Diary



EYFS Nativity
9:30am start



KS2 Carol Concert
2:15pm start



Christmas Holidays begin
(3pm)



School opens for the Spring Term
(8:40am)

For more information and dates, visit our website.

Mission To Make Every Child A Reader

As a school we are never complacent and always keen to improve. So, despite beating the national and local percentage for getting children to the expected standard yet again this year, we are keen to challenge ourselves to see what can be done to make our provision even better to support the development of reading.

We are trying to find ways to excite and raise the profile of reading and are currently in the process of reviewing all of the books available in school with money being allocated to refresh this resource.

We will give you some more information shortly about how parents/ carers can support our commitment to making every child an avid reader.

Pantomime - Sleeping Beauty

What a wonderful opportunity our Year 5 and 6 children had at the Nottingham Playhouse in early December. They all thoroughly enjoyed themselves and we all started to feel a bit Christmassy. A big thank you to parents/carers for waiting patiently whilst we ensured that we handed your children over to you safely. In the new year, Years 2, 3 and 4 will also get the opportunity to attend a pantomime.



Goodbye to Ms Rowson

At the end of the autumn term, we will be very sad to say goodbye to **Ms Rowson**, one of our teaching assistants in Year 1. She has made such a positive impact on our school in so many ways over so many years. I am sure that you will join both the staff and children in wishing her the best of luck in her new job. We are hoping that she will stay in touch!

Christmas Events

During the autumn term, staff at Huntingdon Academy have once again demonstrated their commitment to providing the pupils with many memorable experiences. This is highlighted in the build up to Christmas when the whole team contributes to a very busy and successful period in school. Many parents have made extremely positive comments about Christmas Crafts, Christmas lunches, the KS1 Nativity and pantomime / cinema trips. We still have Christmas Parties, EYFS Nativity, KS2 Carol Concert and Staff Pantomime to look forward to! A special thank you to our catering, mid-day and office team who all work extremely hard behind the scenes so that the children have lots of special memories of the festive period at Huntingdon Academy.



Attendance

It is very important for your child's successful education and life chances that they attend school regularly.

To help your child achieve good attendance we would like you to:-

- * Make sure your child arrives at school on time. The doors will open at 8.40am. Make sure your child is in the line ready to learn.
- * Phone school on the day your child is absent before 9.30am.
- * Discuss with school at the earliest opportunity, any problems/worries that are affecting your child's attendance.
- * Arrange medical/dental appointments outside school hours.
- * **DO NOT** take holidays in term time as they cannot be authorised.

To help you do this we will:

- * Have a weekly competition to see which class has the best attendance.
- * Give medals out every term for children who have attended every day and have had **no** lateness.
- * Make lessons interesting and engaging.

How does your child's attendance measure up?

Above 97%	Less than 6 days absence a year: Excellent attendance! Pupils with this attendance should receive the best grades they can, leading to the best possible start in their secondary education.
95%	Less than 10 days absence in a year: Pupils with this attendance are likely to achieve their target grades and will be well prepared for starting secondary education.
90%	19 days absence over the year: Pupils with this attendance are missing a month of school per year and may fall behind in maths and literacy; it will be difficult for them to achieve their best.
85%	29 days absence in a year: These pupils are missing 6 weeks of school a year, it will be very difficult for them to keep up and achieve their best.
80%	Pupils with this attendance are missing a day for every week of school. It will be almost impossible to keep up with the work. Parents of pupils with this level of attendance could be issued with a penalty notice



We value **your voice** and would like you to join us on our journey of improvement.



Huntingdon Academy
A L.E.A.D. Academy