



Highfield Primary School Newsletter

7 October 2014

www.highfieldprimary.co.uk

Congratulations and celebrations! **Welcome back to all our wonderful children and their families.**

We are all ready to start the year with our positive attitude to learning and to continually encourage all children to believe in their dreams and aspire to achieve them.

A very special welcome back to Mrs Kiazim and good luck to Mrs Calder who has left to have her baby – we all await the news and wish her well.

Our New Early Years and Key Stage 1 Building is finally completed and is full of happy, excited children keen to learn and staff that are enjoying their wonderful new classes and classrooms!

Our Nursery and Reception children have been visited at home by the staff, enjoyed “Taster Sessions” and will begin their full school day very soon. I would like to thank the parent/carers of all the children in Years 1 and 2 for their patience and wonderful co-operation at the start of the term when the entrance to the new building was not available for use. We worked in partnership to ensure the safety of the children.

RESULTS!

We are still awaiting the official “validated” final data for our Year 2 and Year 6 SATs from Summer 2014 and national figures have not been published yet for all subjects/all levels/Year 1 phonics. However, we would like to share our delight at what our children and staff achieved. The expectation at the end of Year 2 is L2b+ and at Year 6 L4c+.

L2b+	Reading	Writing	Maths	Science
KS1 – Year 2 2014 Results	75% (2014 National 78%)	63% (2014 National 69%)	76% (2014 National 78%)	93%
Level 3+	25%	18%	18%	12%

We are broadly in line with national figures for attainment (above) but children have made more than expected progress than their national peers and the results represent an increase from the 2013 data. In Year 1, 73% achieved the expected standard compared to National which was 69%.

L4+	Reading Test	Writing TA	Maths Test	GSP Test (Grammar, Punctuation, Spelling)	RWM combined	Science
KS2 – Year 6 2014 Results	93% (2014 National 89%)	80% (2014 Nat 85%)	83% (2014 Nat 86%)	80% (2014 Nat 76%)	75% (2014 Nat 79%)	88%
Level 5+	54%	41%	42%	60%	27%	49%

Again, our children have performed well when compared with their national peers, out-performing them in Reading and Grammar, punctuation and spelling. When measuring the progress of our children from Year 2 (Key Stage 1 results), Highfield children out-performed their national peers in all subjects with 100% making at least “expected” progress in Reading, 96% in Writing and 94% in Maths. Congratulations to the children, their parents/carers and to all our staff.

The values for this half-term are Respect, Co-operation and Kindness, these are our schools 3 core values.



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Attendance

Week beginning

7 th July	14th July	8th Sep
RF 100 %	5HW 98.9 %	1A 99.3%
3S 99.1 %	RJ 98.2 %	1E 99.3%
4M 98%	3S 97.6 %	3M 99.2%

Pupil Leaders

We value the leadership of children at Highfield, they have helped shape the schools success.

School Council

Our first week was very busy as we were electing and appointing Councillors. Congratulations to the following children:

3M Shania and Antoni, 3MB Fatima and Lewis, 3RM Anissa and Mark, 4S Islimada and Keiran, 4T Emily and Abir, 5D Khushi and Hossain, 5S Lina and Joseph, 6C Christina (Chair), Ferdows (Treasurer), Gzim (Vice Chair), 6K Daniella and George (Tuck Shop Managers), 6W Ahen (Secretary). At our first meeting we worked with our resident poet, Cheryl Moskowitz and imagined the School Council as a "beast" – what would it look like, what would it's personality be like.

See box below, hope you like it!

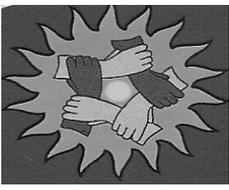
Highfield Primary School Council Poem (a cinquain)

*Respect
Big friendly face
Here to help our classmates
Making school magic possible
Believe*

Poet in Residence

In an exciting new venture Highfield Primary School have appointed a poet-in-residence for this academic year 2014-15. Cheryl Moskowitz (www.cherylmoskowitz.com) has won many awards for her poetry for children and adults and has a current children's poetry collection *Can It Be About Me?* published by Frances Lincoln Books. Every Highfield class has a copy of it. Parents/carers can follow us on Twitter, Poetry at Highfield (@poetryhighfield) for regular tweets from Cheryl as she documents her journey this year taking poetry into all corners of the school's life, and above all working with the children to encourage their poetry reading, writing and performing. Poetry Rules!

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Value of the Term

Our Values this term are focusing on the 3 core values of Respect, Kindness and Co-operation, special thanks to Year 3 children - Kieran, Fatima, Edward, Anastasia, Ascari and Mark who led on the whole school assembly to launch our values for the term – They did a fantastic job!!

Year 5 Swimming Lessons begin...

Year 5 have already started their swimming lessons

Harry says 'It is an exciting sport and really great exercise'

Emilio says 'It's really helpful to learn to swim for free, it helps as part of a healthy lifestyle'

SEN UPDATE

SEN Coffee Morning

On 11th September the school held a coffee morning to update parents on the new SEND Code of Practice July 2014. This will support pupils with SEN from 0 - 25 years and includes changes made to existing statements and changes the term School Action and School Action Plus to one category SEN support.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Thanks to Friends of Highfield who organized the coffee morning as part of a national charity fundraiser. Thanks also to all the parents/carers and staff who attended. It was a great success and much appreciated by the school. It was also a great opportunity for people to meet our resident Poet, Cheryl Moskowitz and hear her read a poem about cake.

Highfield vs Latymer All Saints

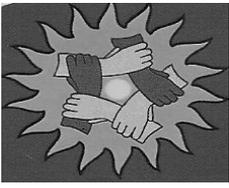
By Ollie and Ali

On Tuesday 22nd September, Highfield played a football league match against Latymer All Saints. At first Latymer attacked our goal and scored after the ball went in off of the post, however we never gave up and equalised soon after when Ollie crossed the ball to Tommy who took on three players and shot past the goalkeeper. Highfield continued to apply pressure and were rewarded with a goal just before half time thanks to a second excellent finish by Tommy.

Latymer played very well at the beginning of the 2nd half and scored to make the score 2-2. It was a hard fought game and Highfield had to defend very bravely with Luca and Jackson playing intelligently at the back. Ali, and captain, Kelechi covered a lot of ground in midfield and Tommy and Dimitru defended aggressively from the front.

Highfield thought they had scored midway through the second half but controversially the goal was disallowed as the opposition claimed the ball went wide of the post. Highfield could have lost heart but did not and were rewarded with a third goal, again by Tommy who completed his hat-trick. Latymer had a chance to equalise in the final minutes but were denied thanks to a fine save by Nino, Highfields goalkeeper.

Highfield won their first league game 3-2 and all the team played well. We would like to thank Mr. Blount and Mr. Charles for giving up their time and taking us to the event. We were happy we won our first game and we pleased with how well we played.



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School Office hours

Reminder that the new office times are as follows:

Open from **8.45 to 9.30am** and again at **3.00 to 3.45pm**.

Please do not come into the office at any other time as the staff will not be able to see you or deal with any concerns. You can leave messages on the school answer machine. It is very important that your children become responsible and remember everything they need for school, such as homework, book bags, lunch boxes, water bottles, PE kits etc. We cannot have parents/carers coming into the school all through the day dropping these items off for them. This is very time consuming for the office staff who have a very busy schedule of work that they need to be getting on with during the day. Trip money must be returned with the permission slip in an envelope with your child's name and class on; your child must give this envelope to their teacher or put it in the post box in the reception area. Due to health and safety requirements we cannot have buggies, prams, scooters etc inside the new school reception area. There are shelters outside where you can store them. Thank you for your co-operation.

Poet's Corner

My poetry residency at Highfield has got off to a flying start. Since starting last week from reading a few poems in the whole school assembly on the first day (which included the specially written 'First Day at Highfield') I have had a chance to meet and work with several children and their teachers throughout the school. Poetry is everywhere.

The new School Council have managed to craft a poem which spells out exactly what they are about! See their section. Miss Sandford's class, 5S have been thinking about what it means to 'Be Proud' and have produced several pieces of writing already; 'Proud Moments' takes us on a journey of exciting possibilities, 'The Highfield Poem' describes the school and why it makes each of us proud and the children have been working on their own individual portrait poems, putting into words what it means to be them. These will soon be on display in 5S's classroom and in the entrance of the new building.

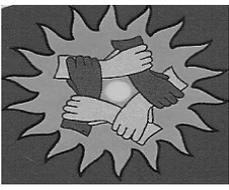
Year 3 are collecting 'yummy words' and putting them into poems to be read aloud and the new Team Captains will be considering how poetry can help team spirit.

Everywhere I go in the school I am greeted by happy, welcoming faces eager to get started, making poetry of their own. Watch this space!

(Highfield Poet, Cheryl Moskowitz)

The Highfield Poem (by 5S, 12/9/14)

Highfield
Half new, half old
Helping kids achieve more
Place of safety and belonging
Epic!



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Dates		
new date to announced soon	Grand opening of new Early Years and Key Stage 1 building	Am
29 September – Friday 3 October	Poetry week	
29 September	Harvest assembly	
3 October	Eid celebrations in phase assemblies	
3 October	4S class assembly	9.15
6 October	Ten Pieces music cinema trip	
10 October	3MB class assembly	9.15
13 October	Parent/carer consultations	4.00-6.30
14 October	Parent/carer consultations	4.00-5.30
14 October	School Council trip to Wallace Collection	
16 October	Year 5 fundraiser	3.20-3.45
20 October	Year 5 Shakespeare workshops	
21 October	Nursery and Reception Phonics meeting for parents/carers	2.30-3.10
23 October	Diwali assembly	
23 October	Years 3-6 reading meeting for parents/carers	9.15-9.45
24 October	3RM class assembly	9.15
24 October	Years 1-2 reading meeting for parents./carers	2.45-3.10
24 October	Last day of term	
27 October – 2 November	HALF TERM – SCHOOL CLOSED	
3 November	First day back – school opens	
3-7 November	Christmas card competition designs	
5 November	Individual and sibling photographs	
7 November	Year 2 SATs meeting for parents/carers	9.15-9.45

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