



Highfield Primary School

www.highfieldprimary.co.uk

Congratulations and celebrations!

Year 4 trip to the House of Illustration



Earlier this term, Year 4 visited The House of Illustration at Kings Cross. We had the opportunity to view the fantastic Quentin Blake exhibition, which included dozens of illustrations from some of our favourite Roald Dahl books. We were able to see the process Quentin Blake went through to get to his final illustrations.

Afterwards, we had the chance to create our own illustrations. In the art studio we were given a range of different materials such as paints, wax, collage materials, watercolours and pencil. Using these, each table created an image to present a different mood and atmosphere. We loved getting arty and it was brilliant to view all the images at the end and take them home!

New Baby!

Congratulations to Mrs Calder who gave birth to a daughter, Lara Rose, on October 6th weighing 7lbs and 10 ozs. We hope to see them both very soon.

Christmas Card Competitions

Highfield had two Christmas Card competitions, one for the school and one for our local MP David Burrowes. The themes were to design a card that reflected the real meaning of Christmas. We had many wonderful entries with some very thoughtful designs.

The winners for the Highfield Competition are Julia 1I, Abbey 6W, Shai 3MB and Sammie in Year 6. These designs are going to be made into cards and sent by Mrs Kemal.

The designs that have been sent to David Burrowes are by Ryan 4S, Holly 3MB, Lewis 3MB, Kadedra 3MB, Kalina 3MB, Vicki 6W, Sindi 6W, Isobella 6W, Angelos Yr6, Ferdows Yr6, Christiana 1A, Shania 3M, Isabella 3M, Mercy 3M, Imogen 3M, Eleni 3M, Selina 3M, Antoni 3M, Parisa 3M, Hamida 1A, and Yusuf 3M. We have our fingers crossed that this year we have a winner and they will be joining Mr Burrowes at the House of Commons for Tea and a tour of Parliament.

The Heart of Art

Peter Swidrak visited Highfield for two days in the Autumn Term and worked with Years 2, 3 and 6. Each class took part in an interactive exhibition studying a range of works by famous artists, they then completed a fun craft activity based on one of the paintings in the Exhibition. Years 2 and 6 analysed 'Poppy Paintings' to link with their learning about Remembrance and Year 3 focused on '15 famous Artists' to link with the whole school theme of Paintings, Pictures and Photographs. It was a fun way of taking a closer look at works of Art in the classroom.

Class Assembly



This term 3RM performed their class assembly to the school, their families and friends. Year 3 have been learning about the United Kingdom in Geography, for their assembly 3RM travelled around the United Kingdom visiting each country. First, children went to Northern Ireland and learnt limericks. They then travelled to Wales where the children performed welsh dancing. Next the children went to Scotland and learnt about the Loch Ness. Children retold a poem about the myth of the Loch Ness. Lastly, children returned to England and sang 'Lambeth Walk.'

Tarik- 'The assembly was very fun and exciting because I was a news reporter and in a big TV with my friends.'

Hamza- 'I was a welsh dancer and I found the dancing really interesting.'

Yousra- 'I was a reporter and visited the different countries in the United Kingdom I really enjoyed climbing the mountain to Scotland.'

Poet's Corner

What a triumphantly moving and poetic month it has been! Poetry at Highfield continues to make the news.

Earlier this month, two year 6 pupils, Miki (6W) and Saaqib (6C) won a London-wide creative writing competition with poems written on the theme of 'War and Peace'. Their work was performed by professional actors at the Lost Theatre in Stockwell and will be displayed in the Weiner Library www.wienerlibrary.co.uk the world's oldest institution devoted to the study of the Holocaust & Genocide from December 10. The competition was organized by Rewrite www.rewrite.org.uk a group that brings together young people from different backgrounds to fight prejudice and injustice, through the power of drama and writing.

Pupils at Highfield understand this principle well. In October, Yr 4 produced some powerful poetry for Black History month; a sequence of haikus that described the life and achievements of athlete Alice Coachman, the first black woman to win an Olympic Gold medal. And over the past few weeks pupils and teachers all over the school have made it their responsibility to 'Stamp out Bullying' for Children in Need. The intelligent and passionate poetry they have been writing on the subject delivers that message loud and clear.

A small group of dedicated young poets across years 3 - 6 was formed to workshop some original poems to submit to the Barnet Open Poetry Competition. The subjects ranged from family, friends, home, school, loved pets and wildlife. There were poems about fireworks and seeing the Queen and even the big subjects like the world, the future and eternity. Fingers crossed there will be some more Highfield

winners when the results of the competition are announced in January 2015.

Yr 5 & 6 school council members have been buddying up with patients from the North London Hospice, writing poetry and creating beautiful memory boxes to preserve treasured memories in. It has been a joyful celebration of life and friendship. The project continues until December 9th when pupils and patients will perform and share the work they have done together.

TREAD SOFTLY (a poem for Anti-Bullying week 21/11/14)

by Cheryl Moskowitz with inspiration from all at Highfield

If you step into my shoes
For just one moment you will be
Close to understanding
What it is that makes me, **Me!**

You'll have a glimpse of who I am
Instead of how I seem;
You'll know what I want, what I believe...
You'll even know my dreams!

I am a jet black stallion
A painted musical note
A strong but elegant lion
A book that no one wrote

I'm a cheetah, red hot fire
I'm a brick, a hug, a bubble
I'm a smile, I'm a monkey
A snake slithering out of trouble

I'm an ice cube, I'm an iPhone
Refreshing, and I'm smart
I'm good at cooking, dancing
Football - I'm even good at art!

I'm a shy fox, I'm a flower
I am a golden thorny rose
I am funny, I am shiny
I'm a secret no one knows

I know that dancing equals freedom
I know that music can be magic
I know that time flies by too quickly
So to waste it is just tragic

I believe in second chances
And that together we achieve
I value friendship and forgiveness
That's what I believe

I think life is like a cupboard
Doors open and they shut
Understanding keeps them open
But bullying does not

If you step into my shoes
For just one moment you will see
How precious and important
Are the things that make me, Me...
(and you, YOU!!!)

BULLIES ARE A VIRUS (by Rhianne, 6W)

Bullies are a virus,
bystanders are minus
heartbreaking words
all of the bad words...
cries of pain.

Names that hurt, kicks, punches and flicks,
threats overpowering you

Don't be nasty....

Say **NO** to bullying!!!

Follow the rules
don't stay behind in school
Just because of bullying
Mean words can hurt you bad

SAY NO TO BULLYING!!!!

Can you help Friends of Firs Farm Park?

Could anyone spare some time to help a local group helping to redevelop the land in Firs Lane?

Our next "Working party in Firs Farm" is this Saturday 29th November 10:00 - 12:00

Planting & Litter picking.. We need YOU to help !!!

We hope to be adding a few more bulbs - we have 2 sacks of daffodil bulbs to plant in Firs Farm! Please put it in your diaries. Remember you can bring the family along too.

Last time (2 weeks ago) we had 3 generations from one family. Grandparents were helping out with babes in prams while parents and other children helped with the planting. They had such fun.

Wait till spring and we will see the fruits of our labour... Just a bit more planting to do before then though....

Don't forget: Bring a trowel and sturdy gloves and wear suitable clothes.

Lets make Firs Farm a pretty local green space for all to enjoy.

See you on Saturday

On behalf of The Friends of Firs Farm Park

Contact:

Firs Lane, Winchmore Hill, London, N21 2PJ

friendsoffirfarm@gmail.com

www.firfarmn21.org

www.facebook.com/FriendsofFirsFarmN21

(Friends)

www.facebook.com/FirsFarmParkN21 (Park)

Attendance

Week beginning

6 Oct	13 Oct	20 Oct	3 Nov
1I	1I	4T	RP
100%	99.6%	99.29%	98.75%
3MB	1A	3M	2C
99.6%	97.9%	99.26%	98.5%
4T	5D	6C	1E
99.3%	97.8%	99.2%	98%

We have had a large number of children arriving late – this not only disturbs the class teacher and other children but often upsets the child who has to walk in late. School starts at 8.55am and doors open for KS2 at 8.50am. It is very important that this level of lateness improves.

Governors' News

Friends of Highfield are a group of parents/carers working together to help the school by providing extra funding for the benefit of all pupils. They are always happy to welcome new faces and an extra pair of hands

Governors can be contacted by leaving a letter in the school office. Thank you for your support.

Di Wren, Chair of Governing Body

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

School Applications for Nursery and Reception 2015 start

Completed applications must be returned to the Admissions Office, Enfield Civic Centre by the deadline of **7th January 2015**. If you are a resident of another Local Authority, eg Barnet or Haringey the form should be sent to that Local Authority Admissions Office. The deadline is the same for online applications.

Food in School Review

As you are aware from last month's newsletter, we have been reviewing food in school. Following the Department for Education's revised guidance (July 2014) and a visit by an Enfield Local Authority representative we now have to bring the school in line with other schools and National advice. See www.schoolfoodtrust.org.uk

New revised standards define the foods and drinks which are restricted and those which must not be provided. This applies to foods provided on school premises but also to breakfast and after school clubs.

Nut-free foods

We will continue to be a "nut-free" school – please do not send in any lunchtime foods containing nuts as we have children who have severe allergies and foods containing nuts represent a serious risk to those children.

Snacks

No snacks can be provided other than seeds, fruit or vegetables without added fat, salt, sugar or honey. **Cakes and biscuits can only be provided as part of a school lunch (including packed lunches) and cannot be given out at breakfast and after school clubs.**

Exceptions to the School Food Regulations

Confectionery cannot be provided at any time of the school day. Exceptions to the school food regulations

- At parties or celebrations to make religious or cultural occasions
- At occasional fund-raising events
- As rewards for achievement, good behaviour or effort
- For use in teaching preparation and cookery skills, provided that any food prepared is not served to pupils as part of a school lunch
- On an occasional basis by parents/carers or pupils.

Birthday treats

As treats can be given on an occasional basis by parents/carers or pupils, and following a request for your views on whether children should be allowed to bring in small bags of chocolates (Maltesers, buttons) we will continue to allow this as no-one expressed strong views on removing this, except to say they did not want "sweets" given out. Teachers will only allow small treat bags of Maltesers or chocolates – nothing else. Please do not send in anything else – Haribos or cakes are not allowed and will be returned to parents/carers at the end of the school day if sent in. However children must wait until they have left the school, to eat the treats.

Tuck Shop

Sadly, the tuck shop on Fridays for Years 3-6 will not be able to continue as confectionery and crisps etc are not allowed. We are looking into alternative products that are allowed such as seeds, fruit and items without added fat, salt, sugar or honey. We will update you on this when this is completed but the tuck shop as we know it have now ended and the new style ones will not start until sometime in January to allow time to explore "sugar-free" options.

However, we know that our children love the opportunity to go the tuck shop and it definitely helps them be responsible with money and get to know the cost of items etc, we have decided to plan the "occasional fund-raising" tuck shop to support our charity fund-raising. In 2015 all profits will go to the North London Hospice, who

we are working with on a School Council project this year.

Therefore every term we will aim to have a tuck shop and it will be open for Years 1-6. The first new fundraising tuck shop will open on Tuesday 16 December. **50p can be spent – please send in change and not £1 coins please.** We will let you have the Spring and Summer term dates nearer the time.

Year Group Fundraising Sales

Again, as occasional fund-raising events are allowed to sell confectionery, cakes etc these will continue as planned.

Dining Hall

Thank you to our catering staff who invited families in on 19th November to taste lots of the new recipes they will be making for us in the coming months.

Office Times

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.

Passive Smoking

To a very small group of Parent/Carers, you must have consideration for others when smoking directly outside the schools gates, it is unfair for the children and parents trying to get into the school and having to inhale the smoke! We continue to receive a large amount of complaints about this and hope that people will now think about their behaviour when so many parents and such young children have to pass by and inhale the smoke just to enter the school.

Car Parking

Unfortunately some families are inconsiderate to the residents of Highfield Road by parking across their drive-ways, you are blocking them in and are very rude when they ask you to move your car. This is not the sort of behaviour that is acceptable or that you should be demonstrating in front of your children.

Illegal parking on zig-zag lines is a traffic offence and car registration numbers are being submitted to the traffic/highway police who will issue you with a fine.

***PLEASE THINK OF THE SAFETY
OF YOUR CHILD AND OTHER
CHILDREN WHEN YOU BREAK
THIS LAW***

CHANGE OF DATE – PLEASE NOTE OUR INSET DAY HAS CHANGED FROM FEBRUARY 23RD AND WILL NOW BE ON FRIDAY 27TH FEBRUARY 2015

Dates		
1 and 2 December	Book Fair in hall	3.20
5 December	Recorder concert in hall	9.05
9 December	Reception nativity performances	9.30 & 2.30
10 December	Christmas circus show – Reception-Year 6	
10 December	Human Rights Day	
11 December	Nursery, Reception, Years 1 & 2 Santa's Grotto	
12 December	Years 3-6 Santa's Grotto	
12 December	Year 5 Hi Highfield children's newsletter published	
12 December	Year 1 visit to church	9.00-10.00
13 December	Choir Singing on Winchmore Hill Green	12.30-1.30
16 December	Years 4-6 carol concert	9.30, 11.15 & 2.15
17 December	Years 3-6 disco	3.30-5.00
18 December	Class Parties	
Friday 19 December	Last day of Autumn term – school closes at 1.30pm	
22 December – 5 January	CHRISTMAS BREAK – SCHOOL CLOSED	
Tuesday 6 January	First day back – school opens	

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