



Highfield Primary School

www.highfieldprimary.co.uk

Happy New year!

We are glad to welcome everybody back for the New Year. It has been lovely to see everybody in school and, even though it is very early in the term, many events have already taken place.

Welcome to;

Mrs Grant

We would like to welcome Mrs Grant to the staff at Highfield. Mrs Grant is a very experienced teacher and will be teaching 45 for the remainder of the academic year. We are very pleased to have her at Highfield.

Mrs Ramen-Christensen

We would like to welcome Mrs Ramen Christensen officially as part of the staff at Highfield. Mrs Ramen-Christensen has been, and will continue, to work with children in Reception and Year 1 supporting Maths and English.

Year 5 school journey briefing for parents/carers

There will be a meeting for parents/carers of current Year 5 pupils about their residential journey when they are in Year 6, on Friday 4 March at 2.45-3.15. Information will be given about the location, activities and

price for the visit. Please come along and find out!

Thames 21 workshops

Reception children thoroughly enjoyed a river storytelling session on Tuesday, 19th January. They explored river pollution, learning about the damage that can be caused to water creatures, plants and the rivers by rubbish being left near rivers. They also explored, through dance, how rain falls into rivers, and how rivers flow, acting out the part of a water droplet. Thank you to Karli, from 'Love the Lea', for these inspiring sessions.



Hope value

Our value of the term is leading to lots of discussion and positivity in the school. We hope (!) you enjoyed talking about your hopes for the whole school homework set recently.

Thanks to Michelle in Year 6 who is recording our children's hopes for the school and will be putting all of them in a big book by the end of this term!

Language of the month - Urdu

At Highfield we enjoy celebrating the many languages that are spoken by our children and families. Because of this we have a language of the month. (You may have seen the display in the reception area).

This month our language is Urdu and the children will be doing various activities to find out information; such as where it is spoken, the history of the language and some simple words and phrases. We would also like to encourage any child who speaks Urdu to talk to their class so we can learn from someone who has first hand experience of the language.

KS1/Early Years Turkish Parents workshop

Thank you to all the parents who came to the workshop. It was great to see so many of you there. The feedback that we had was very positive and we hope this was useful in suggesting ways that you can support your children, in particular in their reading. We are glad it was such a success and we hope to organise similar workshops again in the future.

Girls Futsal Tournament

On Tuesday 26th January 2016 Highfield girls football team traveled to Edmonton County school to take part in the Enfield Borough futsal tournament for the very first time. Highfield had to play three group games against other schools in the borough, only the top team in each group would qualify for the final.

Highfield first game was against Suffolks, Highfield started off playing really well with Rema (5D) scoring a fantastic goal to take the lead. Unfortunately despite the strong start we couldn't hold on to our lead conceding 3 goals and losing the game 3-1.

Our second game was against Raglan, this was a very tight game with lots of good chances being created by both teams but ended in a goalless draw 0-0.

Our final game was against Galliard who had a very strong team. The girls put in a really strong performance and were really unlucky to lose the game 1-0. They also had a lot of fun.

Thank you to Miss Tipping and Mr Charles for giving up their free time to help run the team.



Playground update

I am writing to update you on the playground situation. Firstly, I would like to thank the governors and all of our parents/carers who contacted the Local Authority. We all appreciated your interest and support.

However, I have discussed the problem with the Local Authority and unfortunately, but understandably, given the current financial climate, funding is not available to help tidy up the area in question. We have accepted this and therefore I have already arranged

for the work to go out to tender and three estimates have been received. I have looked at the school budget and successfully found the funding required.

We expect work to begin very soon and this will include the removal of the current fencing and the building of a decking area. This will provide a useful playground area for the children and may be useful for performances during playground events such as the Summer fete.

During the work the contractor will, of course, ensure that the playground area is kept safe and secure so that school life can continue as normal. Thank you for your support on this matter.

Poetry Together

In response to a new initiative and the launch of a cross-generational competition, Cheryl will be running an after-school club on the next six Tuesdays for parents, grandparents or carers to join with their children to make 'Poetry Together'!

You are welcome to come to all six sessions or simply drop in whenever you can. The club will run from 3:30 - 4:30 on the following Tuesdays:

9th February

HALF TERM

23rd February

1st March

8th March

15th March

Each week we will explore new ways of putting our heads together, having fun with

words and turning our ideas into poetry. No experience necessary. All materials will be provided. Just bring yourselves and your imaginations!

The workshops will take place in the lower learning zone so you just need to come with your child/children to the reception area and Cheryl will meet you at 3:30. There is no need to sign up so just come along on the dates mentioned above.

The Golden Notebook (Poetry)

Do you have an idea for a poem you'd like to write...but don't know where to start?

Perhaps you have written a poem already that you want to spend more time on to make it even better?

Maybe there is a subject you are really interested in that you think you could explore further in a poem?

It could be that you are just wondering whether poetry is for you and want an opportunity to find out more?

All you have to do is sign up in the Golden Notebook in order to book a time slot with Cheryl, the Highfield Poet, when she is in on Tuesdays.

You will find the Golden Notebook and a pen hanging outside the door to the Drama Room in the Junior School corridor. Simply write:

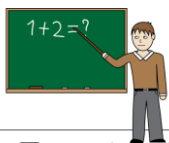
- 1) your name
- 2) your class
- 3) a line or two about what you would like to do in your time with Cheryl

Cheryl will be checking the Golden Notebook every Tuesday. If your name is in it she will

come and find you an arrange a time together with you and your class teacher for you to spend time with her on poetry!

North London Schools Borough Bonanza

On Friday 12th February 2016 we will be raising money for Haven House Children's Hospice as part of the North London School Borough Bonanza. Children will be asked to donate £1.00 to dress up as what they hope to be when they're older, for example, a police officer, teacher, dancer or a postman. Be as creative as you can be! There will be a winner chosen from Early Years, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 for the most individual ideas. It is going to be a fantastic day for the whole school to enjoy and all for such a great cause.



Text Service - Children's good work

We already use the text service to inform you about events happening in the school. We would also like to tell you when your child has done well at school. Each class teacher will choose 2 children a week who have produced good work or shown a good attitude, and there will be a text sent from the school. We feel it is important to celebrate children's achievements and the text service gives an opportunity for parents to find out about their child's successes.

Birthday treats

Please remember as many of our children are allergic to nuts and other ingredients found in biscuits and cakes, teachers are not permitted to give them out as birthday treats. If your child would like to give out a treat - mini bags of chocolate buttons are

allowed. Please do not be offended, therefore, if cakes etc are returned to you.

3MB's assembly

On Friday 15th January 3MB performed an exciting assembly to KS2 and their parents and carers. The assembly was about the explorer and archaeologist, Howard Carter and his discovery of Tutankhamun's hidden tomb in 1922. The class danced enthusiastically and sang beautifully to the Pharaoh. They explained many interesting facts about ancient Egyptian mummification and ended the show with a spooky Mummy dance. It was great fun and the audience enjoyed it immensely.



Y2 Fundraiser

On Thursday 21st of January, Year 2 had their fundraiser. We sold biscuits, cakes and hot chocolate in the canteen to family and friends of Highfield. We made over a hundred pounds. This money will be used for resources in Year 2. Thank you to all those who attended.

Year 5 trip to the British Museum!

On Monday 25th January, Year 5 was fortunate enough to go to the British Museum to learn about the Vikings through a short presentation.

In the afternoon, we took a tour of the Ancient Greek galleries and were inspired by the wonderful Greek pots that were on display.

Thank you so much to the parents who volunteered to help on the trip and to those that accompanied us!



Smoking

Please be reminded that smoking on the school premises is strictly forbidden. Also, please do not smoke directly outside the school gates as it is not pleasant for families leaving the school grounds to have to walk through the smoke.

Playtime reminders

A reminder that children are not allowed crisps, chocolates and sweets at break times. Only healthy options please. It is also essential that children have a warm coat, hat and gloves to wear at playtimes. Children are coming in with lightweight jackets and fleeces and complaining they are cold.

New build bicycle and scooter storage

Highfield Primary has applied for and received funding for new bicycle and scooter storage for our Early Years and KS1 buildings. The pods have now been installed and it would be fantastic to see lots of children cycling or scooting to school and making use of these! There are two sets of storage units and these are located outside the Reception classrooms, and in the walled courtyard just behind the KS1 building (adjacent to the car park).

Attendance

Well done to the 133 children that were able to maintain 100% attendance during the Autumn term. You will be receiving a certificate. Well done.

So far the attendance this term for the school stands at just over 96%. Well done to classes 2M and 3M who have the highest attendance in the school for January.

Form	%
1J	96.02
1L	94.38
1S	96.63
2G	96.91
2I	96.19
2M	97.46
3M	97.77
3MB	94.83
4D	96.15
4S	97.33
4T	96.55
5D	97.07
5S	96.92
6K	97.21
6W	95.37
RC	94.74
RP	94.11
RT	94.97
Totals	96.19

Dates for next Term		
2 nd February 2016	Y5-Y6 Gangs workshops	
4 th February 2016	Y4 Fundraiser	3.:15-3.45pm
4 th February 2016	2G Class Assembly	9:15am
12 th February 2016	2I Class Assembly	9:15am
22 nd February 2016	Y4 trip to British Museum - Ancient Rome	
23 rd February 2016	1L trip to Woodcroft	
26 th February 2016	1S trip to Woodcroft	
1 st March 2016	1J trip to Woodcroft	
4 th March 2016	2M Class Assembly	9:15am
8 th March 2016	2M trip to Woodcroft	
9 th March 2016	Y5 trip to the Science Museum	
10 th March 2016	Reception fundraiser	3:15-3.45pm
11 th March 2016	1L Class Assembly 2G trip to Woodcroft	9:15am
15 th March 2016	6W trip to Woodcroft	
15 th March 2016	Parent/Carer meetings	4:00-6:30pm
16 th March 2016	Parent/Carer meetings	4:00-5:30pm
17 th March 2016	1J Class Assembly	9:15am
18 th March 2016	Sports Relief Day	
22 nd March 2016	Y6 photographs 6K trip to Woodcroft	
24 th March 2016	School closes at 1.30pm	
11 th April	School opens	

The values for this half-term are Respect, Co-operation and Kindness, these are our schools 3 core values. Spring term's value is Hope