



## HIGHFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER - September 2017

**SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS MONDAY 30TH OCTOBER (INSET DAY). SCHOOL RE-OPENS TO PUILS ON TUESDAY 31ST OCTOBER. HAVE A LOVELY HALF TERM.**

### *Headteacher's Message*

#### **Mayor Sadiq Khan recognises Highfield Primary School for exceptional educational achievements**

Highfield Primary in Enfield has been celebrated under a new programme set up by the Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, to recognise exceptional schools in the capital. Schools for Success is part of the Mayor's drive to help tackle education inequality and increase standards for all school children across the capital, whatever their background.

Schools for Success celebrates schools that are achieving academic success with all their pupils, in particular disadvantaged or vulnerable students who started off behind their peers, or those affected by circumstances that could have an impact on their learning. The new programme creates a network for these schools to share best practice with others across London through events, school visits and online profiles. Highfield Primary has been recognised in the Schools for Success Awards, because of its continual drive to provide an education that enables, in particular disadvantaged or vulnerable pupils to achieve outstanding progress. Our curriculum is conducive and raises aspirations for all pupils to develop a love of learning.

**The Headteacher, Maria Kemal** said she is very proud that the school has been recognised for its passion in ensuring all pupils from whatever their backgrounds are or their circumstances are making outstanding progress. It's a credit to the dedicated staff who are committed to the school's ethos that we all value so highly at Highfield.

**The Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan**, said: 'Congratulations to Highfield Primary for its outstanding achievements and for the hard work of its pupils and teaching staff. London has some of the best schools in the country, and Schools for Success shows the huge difference good quality teaching can make to pupils who started off behind in their studies. By sharing best practice with other schools across the capital, we can help every young Londoner reach their full potential, and ensure no child is left behind.'

**Maria Kemal (Headteacher) and Di Wren (Chair of Governors) were invited to City Hall to receive this award for Highfield Primary School from the Mayor of London.**



**Our three core values are Respect, Co-Operation and Kindness.**

**This term's value is Generosity.**





### Enfield Poem-a-Thon in support of Enfield Refugee Welcome

On Sunday October 1<sup>st</sup>, several children from Highfield took part in the Enfield Poem-a-thon at the Dugdale Centre, a nine-hour feast of poetry involving over 60 local and nationally known poets in support of Enfield Refugee Welcome and the government's Vulnerable Children Resettlement scheme. Amongst the many well known professional writers, the children from Highfield were by far the youngest poets there. The event raised £12,500 pounds which will now make it possible for the community organisation, Enfield Refugee Welcome, to provide the necessary support for at least two more of the most vulnerable refugee families to be brought over, welcomed and settled safely into the local community here in Enfield. An amazing achievement!

School Council members Ayaan (5S), Ediz (6L), Ilias (6D), Kloe (4M), Lamys (3M), Nasra (6D) and Senih (4MC) read their poems on Generosity. Akram (5S), Kristina (6L) and Ivana (last year 6K, now in Yr7 at Winchmore School) read poems they wrote with Cheryl last year. The room was packed and the children performed to a rapt audience which included Enfield's Deputy Mayor, Doris Jiage and Councillor Yasemin Brett.

"It was nerve-wracking and exciting," said Ilias (6D) "but mainly I was really proud that I could do something to help other families settle into London. Shai (6D) said, "My mum had never really connected with poetry before but after I persuaded her to come to the Poem-a-Thon she said she had changed her mind and that she now really enjoyed poetry and wanted to do more!" And Nasra (6D) told me, "What I achieved yesterday was so incredible and I am now able to appreciate how amazing poetry is and how it can really bring people together. It was an astonishing feeling to be able to speak my words to the audience with a clarity, calm and confidence that really communicated."

It was a star-studded event with many big names on the programme but everyone agreed that the children's performance was a major highlight of the day. Commenting after the event, one audience member said "Wonderful hearing the beautiful, astonishingly wise words of the children from Highfield School describing the qualities of generosity and kindness and their experiences of coming to a new country and leaving their homeland." Both the Deputy Mayor and Councillor Brett were incredibly moved and deeply impressed.

I want to say a huge thank you to all the children's parents and carers who accompanied their children to the Dugdale Centre and made it possible for them to perform. Also to the teachers from the school who made a special effort to come out on a Sunday(!) to support the event and hear the children perform.

Cheryl (Highfield Poet) October 2017



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### **Class Assembly 4MC**

On Friday 13th October 4MC performed 'The Highfield Underground' to KS2 and Parents. Our assembly combined our whole school topic, Going Underground, with our geography topic, The Local Area. We added a little bit of imagination and created an imaginary underground system which links Highfield Primary School to all our local amenities and attractions. We even added a dream line to take us wherever we want to go! We really enjoyed performing our assembly and we think our audience enjoyed it too!

### **4M Go Underground**

On Friday the 6<sup>th</sup> October 4M had their class assembly. Themed around our current whole school topic 'Going Underground', the class confidently shared how the tube was used during the world wars and to deliver mail using the Mail Rail. The children sang beautifully and impressed us all with their wealth of new knowledge. What a great assembly!



### **Year 4 Postal Museum Trip**

As part of our whole school topic, Going Underground, Year 4 visited the Postal Museum. For many children, it was their first time aboard the London Underground; certainly their first ride aboard the revolutionary Mail Rail. Through narrow tunnels more than 21 metres below street level, more than 4 million letters travelled each day. As we plunged into the dark, the atmosphere was electric. Afterwards the children had a fantastic time exploring the interactive exhibits, dressing up in Victorian postal uniforms, and sending letters via the pneumatic chute. The children all agree that it was one of the BEST trips ever!



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### Shakespeare workshops

Year 5 had the opportunity to work with a professional actor who engaged the children by using drama and role play to re-enact the Shakespearean play 'Hamlet'. The children immersed themselves in the Shakespearean language used in the workshop and were able to build a strong understanding of the play, its characters and themes. We look forward to going to the Millfield Theatre on 7<sup>th</sup> November to watch the full production of 'Hamlet'.



### Year 5 Trip to the Mosque

This week, Year 5 visited the Mevlana Rumi Mosque in Edmonton Green. We learnt how they help the community and about the different parts of the mosque. The children enjoyed the trip and learnt a lot about the Muslim way of life. The children's behaviour was excellent and they were very respectful. Thank you to the parents who volunteered to help on the trip.



### 4D's class assembly.

Over the past six weeks, 4D have been learning the history of British coal mining. They have analysed pictorial and written sources from the 19th century, and have studied news broadcasts and articles from the 20th century. Today they shared their knowledge in our class assembly. With props and costumes inspired by the industrial north, they read excerpts from their English books, and danced to songs by Johnny Cash and Status Quo. For many parents and teachers, it was a trip down memory lane. An excellent performance - well done to everyone.

### Highfields Year 4

Some of the children in year 4 have had the opportunity to work with local artist Catherine Rive. The children have engaged with the natural environment through art activities. They have spent time in the schools nature space observing the changes as summer turns to autumn. Their collections of natural objects became the source of inspiration for their artworks. They have explored colour mixing and had opportunity to experiment with a variety of materials, tools and techniques. They have applied their knowledge, discoveries and skills to create their own artworks.



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## **Safeguarding**

### **E-Safety**

#### **How could my child become radicalised?**

Young people may be vulnerable to a range of risks as they pass through adolescence. They may be exposed to new influences and potentially risky behaviours, influence from peers, influence from older people or the internet as they may begin to explore ideas and issues around their identity.

There is no single driver of radicalisation, nor is there a single journey to becoming radicalised. The internet creates more opportunities to become radicalised, since it's a worldwide 24/7 medium that allows you to find and meet people who share and will reinforce your opinions. Research tells us that the internet and face-to-face communications work in tandem, with online activity allowing a continuous dialogue to take place.

#### **Why could social networking be a concern?**

Your child may actively search for content that is considered radical, or they could be persuaded to do so by others. Social media sites, like Facebook, Ask FM and Twitter, can be used by extremists looking to identify, target and contact young people. It's easy to pretend to be someone else on the internet, so children can sometimes end up having conversations with people whose real identities they may not know, and who may encourage them to embrace extreme views and beliefs.

Often children will be asked to continue discussions, not via the mainstream social media, but via platforms, such as: Kik Messenger, Whisper, Yik Yak or Omegle. Moving the conversation to less mainstream platforms can give users a greater degree of anonymity and can be less easy to monitor.

People who encourage young people to do this are not always strangers. In many situations they may already have met them, through their family or social activities, and then use the internet to build rapport with them. Sometimes children don't realise that their beliefs have been shaped by others, and think that the person is their friend, mentor, boyfriend or girlfriend and has their best interests at heart.

#### **What are the signs I should look out for:**

There are a number of signs to be aware of (although a lot of them are quite common among teens). Generally, parents should look out for increased instances of:

- ☑ A conviction that their religion, culture or beliefs are under threat and treated unjustly
- ☑ A tendency to look for conspiracy theories and distrust of mainstream media
- ☑ The need for identity and belonging
- ☑ Being secretive about who they've been talking to online and what sites they visit
- ☑ Switching screens when you come near the phone, tablet or computer
- ☑ Possessing items – electronic devices or phones – you haven't given them
- ☑ Becoming emotionally volatile



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### **Black History Month 2017**

During the month of October, Highfield have been celebrating Black History Month! At the beginning of the month, our Year 6 History Ambassadors: Jack, Amira, Viktor, Fatima, Tyler and Mercy, taught KS2 all about Black History and why it is so important to celebrate it. During this time, all year groups have learnt about different aspects of black history and have celebrated many inspirational figures. In Year 1, children focused on Nina Simone and Mo Farrah and read the book, 'Oi! Get off our Train!' Year 2 children focused on Rosa Parks and discussed how she may have felt using drama. In Year 3 and 5, children focused on Harriet Tubman and looked at how she showed the value of bravery; helping to free slaves using the Underground Network railway. Year 4 focused on hidden figures and looked at how black people have contributed to society in so many different ways, but may have not received credit for it, and in Year 6, children wrote shape poetry celebrating freedom and liberty, focusing on the life of Harriet Tubman. October has been a wonderful month for History at Highfield; the children have learnt a vast amount of knowledge surrounding the importance in celebrating black history. Well done to all of the children and staff for taking part in such a memorable celebration!

### **Year 2 Diwali Assembly**

Well done to all of the children in Year 2 who worked extremely hard to put on a wonderful Diwali assembly for the whole school. The children retold the story of Rama and Sita and used this important story to reflect on when they have been a hero. Some of the children performed a Diwali dance using brightly coloured sticks and traditional Hindu dance moves. The children also sang a happy Diwali song with actions.

*Wishing all our  
families a very  
Happy Diwali*



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### Headteachers Awards

#### **Week Ending: 29.09.2017:**

**Afra RT** for always thinking of others

**Sol 1P** for making the right choices and always accepting a challenge

**Eylul 3M** for working hard to complete all tasks set to the best of her ability. Her behaviour is continually improving and she demonstrates the schools' values very well

#### **Week Ending: 06.10.2017**

**Melih RJ** for showing great enthusiasm for his learning and having a fantastic start to the year

**Carter Black 1S** for settling into Year 1 brilliantly, loves learning and being challenged

**Amelia 3I** for her fantastic work in maths

#### **Week Ending: 13.10.2017**

**Eden RF** for being a super learner and asking for extra work

**Eemani 1J** for being kind and caring and always looking after others. She tries very hard with her school work

**Ellis 3C** for having an excellent week at school and doing fantastic work

#### **Week Ending: 20.10.2017**

**Zachary NAM** for always sitting so nicely on the carpet and always listening and following instructions. He has settled into Nursery so well

**Alexandra 2B** for trying her best even when she finds something tricky. Her determination has meant that she has made brilliant progress with her maths and I am a very proud teacher.

**Aleksandra 4D** for a powerful poem on the subject of environmental issues. She wrote about large forest lands and colossal fires; majestic flamingos and sad feather coats. It was a fantastic piece and she performed it beautifully



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October 2017	ATTENDANCE
Group	%
1J	94.61
1P	95.35
1S	96.44
2B	97.76
2D	97.15
2L	95.36
3C	94.19
3I	94.21
3M	96.82
4D	95.9
4M	96.47
4MC	97.81
5B	96.79
5S	92.18
6D	95.63
6L	96.07
6P	95.59
RF	98.48
RJ	97.72
RT	98.72
<b>Total</b>	<b>96.1</b>

November 2017	Diary Dates
30.10.2017	Inset Day (no school for students)
	Nursery & Sibling photographs
01.11.2017	ESOL Classes 9-11am
07.11.2017	Hamlet Millfield Theatre Trip –Y5
08.11.2017	ESOL Classes 9-11am
09.11.2017	Year 2 SATS Parent/Carer Meeting
10.11.2017	Class 5S Assembly
14.11.2017	Nursery/Reception Parent Briefing
	Year 6 Hall Palaeo Quest
15.11.2017	ESOL Classes 9-11am
	Year 6 to Winchmore Secondary
21.11.2017	Nursery/reception Parent Briefing
22.11.2017	ESOL Classes 9-11am
24.11.2017	Class 3C Assembly
28.11.2017	Nursery/Reception Parent Briefing
29.11.2017	ESOL 9-11am

**OUR VALUE  
THIS TERM IS  
GENEROSITY**



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