



Highfield Primary School

www.highfieldprimary.co.uk

Up-to-date Parent/Carer Mobile numbers

Please ensure the school has your up-to-date mobile details. This is particularly important in case of an emergency with your child or severe weather conditions, where we would need to contact you immediately.



Summary of late collection procedures

3.40pm – The school will call the parents and if there is no response then the school will then call the emergency contact numbers that we hold.

4pm – If the pupil remains at school then a place will be secured at the Tea Time Club and parents will be charged £8.

4.30pm – If there is no contact from families/emergency contacts then the matter will be referred to a duty social worker from Enfield Children and Families Service. They will then determine the next course of action.

Vomiting/Diarrhoea Guidance

The school have been asked the reason for following the 48 hour rule re vomiting/diarrhoea. The school have consulted with the Local Authority Health department and we are required to follow Public Health, England, May 2016 guidance which specifies that pupils should only attend school 48 hours after the last episode of vomiting or diarrhoea. Some families have disputed whether the pupil has been unwell at school. School staff will only send a pupil

home when they have been physically unwell. We don't rely on hearsay or pupils reporting that they may have been unwell.

ESOL Classes

Family learning/ESOL classes are mixed level and programmes have been running at Highfield Primary for a number of years. The course is designed to support those parents with English as a second language. We develop strategies to help improve the 4 skills in English: Speaking, Listening, Reading & Writing and include a number of practical activities to improve life skills. We also use ESOL websites to encourage parents' independent learning for homework.

Parents develop their own English skills to work together with and support their children's learning. Parents learn about the phonic system and supporting their children with reading. As parents' English skills improve, they are empowered to support their children with homework.

Parents gain confidence and progress in many ways: for example some go to college to facilitate progression, some find work. Some volunteer in school or work as an SMSA. Some volunteer at the North London Hospice.

If you are interested, please contact Sel Ulug, who will put your name on the waiting list.

Year 2 Class Assemblies

2I took a trip to The Gambia on Friday 3rd February, when they retold the story of Grace and Family by Mary Hoffman. The children performed enthusiastically, retelling the story of a little girl who has two families, one in London and one in The Gambia. 2I opened the assembly with a loud welcome, having learned to play a rhythmic pattern

on the djembe drum. The djembe drummers also accompanied a song during the assembly. The assembly closed with a song called, 'We are Family.' The children sang beautifully and showed the drawings they had made of their families. At the end of the assembly, the children gave the pictures they had drawn to their families.



2M's Amazing Class Assembly! The Friday before half term 2M had their class assembly. Everyone worked really hard to learn their lines and to make the props before the performance. We chose to base our assembly on the storybook Zog, by Julia Donaldson. The book is about a dragon named Zog. In the story he works hard to achieve different challenges and never gives up, however hard he finds each challenge. We linked this story to our whole school value of motivation. We had a great time performing the story and singing the song 'Three Little Birds' by Bob Marley. All the parents, friends and carers who came to watch the performance really enjoyed it!



Year 5 Swimming

Highfield's Swimming Program for Year 5 will be starting this term and will continue for the rest of the year. Swimming sessions take place on a Monday at Arnos Grove Swimming Pool and give the children the opportunity to develop water confidence and water safety skills; to master basic stroke techniques; to participate in enjoyable social activity; to participate in activities, which can help improve health and fitness;

to provide opportunities to participate in appropriate progressive challenges through the Enfield Award Scheme. Your child will need the correct swimming kit every Monday along with a towel: girls must wear a one piece swimming costume and a swimming hat, boys must wear swimming trunks and a swimming hat for long hair.

Boy's football

On Tuesday 21st February the school had two matches at Edmonton County Upper School. The first was against St Pauls and the 2nd was against Hadley Wood.

St Pauls

Highfield played against a very good St Pauls team that had some very talented players. We defended well as a team and made it difficult for them to play their passing game. Unfortunately our defending from throw ins and corners was not as effective. St Pauls scored several goals from set pieces and despite Billy hitting the post and Emre hitting the bar twice we lost the game 5-0.

Hadley Wood

The game against Hadley Wood was a much closer affair. Despite going 1-0 to an early goal the team stuck together and goals from Billy and Emre saw Highfield come into the break with a 2-1 lead. Billy reacted first to as the ball dropped in the Hadley Wood area and tapped it in. Emre's goal was long distance shot that he smashed into the bottom corner. In the 2nd half Hadley Wood equalized but then a great solo effort from Billy, in which he rounded the defender and then the goalkeeper saw Highfield take the lead once again. After that a great defensive effort from the team saw Highfield home. The willingness of Aziz and Nektario to put in tackles and blocks as well as some good saves from Callum typified the never say die attitude of the team. Well done boys.

Highfield Team – Callum, Nektario, Brandon, Aziz, Luke, Kieran, Billy, Emre

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

Author, SF Said, visits Highfield on January 31, 2017
by Lewis, Mark, Samir and Mohamed (Yr 5 Wicked Writers)

SF Said, an amazing author, came to visit our school and shared his experience of being a writer. He also inspired us to be writers ourselves.

In Year 4 we read his first book, *Varjak Paw*. In our opinion it is one of the best books we've ever read! It's about a young cat called Varjak Paw who strays from his family and the old house he was born in. Varjak gains powers, learns to survive danger and eventually becomes a gang leader. SF Said has written a sequel, *Varjak Paw, Outlaw* and another book, *Phoenix*, about a human boy who dreams of going into space to touch the stars. SF told us that one of his books might even be turned into a film! We can't wait.

He's only written three books so far but he explained why that was. The first book took him 5 whole years to finish, the second one 3 years and the third one 7 whole years! When he was first starting out he showed his work to many publishers but they kept telling him that they didn't think it was ready. His work has been rejected over 90 times! Some might think it is sad to be told so many times that your writing is not good enough but for SF Said that only made him more determined.

SF Said wants his books to be as good as they possibly can and he has learned that this takes time. When he was young his mum gave him *Watership Down* to read. It's a big book and the young SF didn't think he would manage to read it all but his mum told him to have a go. He started and couldn't stop. He thought it was the best book in the world and it was his dream to try to write something that might be even half as good. Around that time he saw the first Star Wars movie and was amazed. He wanted to do something as good as *Watership Down* and as big and amazing as *Star Wars*.

The magic word that SF Said kept coming back to when he was trying to improve his writing was 'drafts'. You can't just write something once and expect it to be the best it can be. You have to keep coming back to it and working on it, making new drafts, over and over again. You have to read your own work as if it was someone else who did the writing and decide whether you think it is worth reading, especially whether it is a story you would want to buy and if it would be worth spending your own money on! That is the real test, says SF Said.

We are in a Wicked Writers group with Cheryl, the Highfield Poet. With Cheryl, we were inspired to write

a poem about the character in SF Said's first book. We called our poem Paw's Portrait and we gave it to SF when he came. SF Said told us that it was watching his own kitten go outside for the first time that inspired him to write the book. And we told him that it was his book that inspired us to write a poem about it. He was very pleased to have our poem and said he would put a copy of it on his website. That means people will read our writing too!

Mohamed says: SF Said inspired me because he never gives up. He got rejected 90 times, that is a lot! Even when his family and friends told him it wasn't worth it he carried on. I understand about that because when my dad was young he wanted to be a but his mum said that he'd never make it and told him to stop, but the head teacher at his school encouraged him and said 'you can play on the team', so he was a footballer, he played for his school and he feels proud of that.

Lewis says: I like SF said because he is determined, and so patient. It is amazing how someone can focus their mind for seven years. That is a very interesting thing to me... and inspiring. I'm lucky because I have a mum who encourages me never to give up on my dreams, though she tells me it might be hard work! One of things I liked about *Varjak Paw* was the part in the book where Varjak manages to join a gang. He was only allowed the leftover piece of meat, but even though he was starving he still managed to fight. My best piece of work ever was on *Varjak Paw*.

Samir says: SF Said makes really good books, he's good at describing atmosphere and he is very good at speech. He's a very clear person. I know that can be very hard to achieve in writing. In Year 4 I had to do several drafts of my work when we were trying to describe atmosphere in *The Highwayman* but I was proud of what I did in the end. I like Varjak because at first he wasn't regarded as a special cat but he proved himself to be very unique.

Mark says: Varjak Paw went from being the lowest in the family to the leader in the family. It's an incredible book because things can happen like cats can turn invisible. When I was in Year 3, I was playing football and someone from Year 6 did this amazing shot. It should have been a goal but I did an incredible save and stopped it from going in. It was that one amazing shot, and my incredible save that inspired me to be a goalkeeper.

Governors Learning Walk

On Tuesday 21st February 3 governors carried out a Learning Walk in the morning. This is part of the schools monitoring schedule to quality assure teaching and learning

They went into classrooms across the school and asked children about their learning and how they can improve their work. They also asked the children how they keep safe in school.

What Governors said...

"All students were so engaged in the activities and willing to help each other. Their awareness of wellbeing and safety as well as their awareness of their own abilities is exemplary" ***Parent Governor***

"The behaviour is outstanding and pupils are confident in speaking. The displays around the school and in the classrooms are excellent" ***Chair of Governors***

The children were able to tell me how they can improve their work and showed an eagerness to learn. They were confident in where to go to if they felt unsafe and spoke about the Highfield Five, Thinking Room and the Red Box. The whole school environment is excellent" ***Parent Governor***

We are grateful and would like to thank all the staff and children for welcoming us into their classrooms.



It is time to get our noses on!

Friday 24 March

On Friday 24th March 2017, children will be able to wear all red. They can wear as many red accessories as they like and donate £1.00 to Comic Relief. The team captains will be selling red noses all week, if your child would like to buy a funny red nose they will cost £1.00 each. All donations will go towards charity.

Each class will be having a class comedy afternoon and will be competing against each other to do funny activities and games. For example, a hula hooping competition, a dance off, who can draw the best picture of their teacher in just two minutes, and many more!

There will be a winner chosen from each class for showing the most effort and making the most people smile.



Staff Achievements

Ms Dunbar has gained the Higher Level Teaching Assistant (HLTA) certificate

Ms Montague has gained the qualification in Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT)

Mrs Arif has passed her Cache level 2
Congratulations to them all!

Congratulations, Good luck and Goodbye



Congratulations to Ms Tipping who got married at the end of January.

She will now be known as Mrs Lock.

We wish her and her husband every success and happiness in their future!

Good Luck to Mrs Bauss who will commence her maternity leave on Wednesday 1st March. We wish her a safe delivery and await lots of cuddles!!

Sadly we have to say goodbye to Ms Reid.....

Ms Reid has worked at Highfield for almost 3 years in the role as Receptionist and Administrator. She has relocated to live in Ely in Cambridge therefore the commute is a challenge!

We would like to express our gratitude for the manner in which you have performed during your time at the school. Your contribution has been invaluable. The excellent skills and attributes you have displayed will be greatly missed.

We wish you every success, good health and happiness for the future.

Thank you from all the children, families, staff and governors.



Headteacher's Award Winners

Congratulations to Bentli-Rae Nursery AM, Zach 1S, Irini 3M, Alice RT, Orestina 1J, Sabri 3MB, Ziven RP, Robin 1L and Arda K 3C

Class Attendance

Group	Attendance %
RT	98.47
RP	96.72
RC	97.35
1S	95.51
1L	94.79
1J	94.98
2B	94.61
2M	94.68
2I	94.57
3M	97.13
3MB	96.77
3C	95.66
4D	95.84
4M	95.86
5S	95.39
5L	96.57
5D	95.7
6K	96.43
6W	95.12
Whole School	95.91

	March Diary Dates	
2 nd March	World Book Day	
3 rd March	Bike It Breakfast and Bling Your Bike	8:30-9:00
3 rd March	Class Assembly 2B	9:15
3 rd March	Year 2 Class to Woodcroft	Morning
3 rd March	Book Fair	3:20-4:30
6 th March	Book Fair	3:20-4:30
7 th March	Parent/Carer open evening	4:00-7:00
9 th March	Parent/Carer open evening	4:00-6:15
10 th March	Year 2 Class to Woodcroft	Morning
14 th March	3MB Petrie Museum Trip	
14 th March	Boys Football League at Edmonton County	3:00-4:00
17 th March	Class Assembly 1J	9:15
17 th March	Year 2 Class to Woodcroft	Morning
21 st March	3M Petrie Museum Trip	
21 st March	Year 5 Science Museum Trip	
21 st March	Year 6 contemporary photos	10:00-11:00
21 st March	Netball League at Highfield	3:00-4:00
23 rd March	Year 3 Egyptian Day	
23 rd March	Class Assembly 1L	9:15
24 th March	Comic Relief	
27 th – 31 st March	World Autism Awareness Week	

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28 th March	Year 3 Easter Performance	9:45-10:15
31 st March	SCHOOL FINISHES 1:30pm	1:30