



# Highfield Primary School

www.highfieldprimary.co.uk

## Christmas is coming!

### **HIGHFIELD IN TOP THREE!**

#### **End of Key Stage 2 (Year 6) League Tables**

The league tables showing the performance of 11-year-olds at London state primary schools who took the National Curriculum tests this year were published yesterday. They give the results of the reading test, writing assessment and maths test.

#### **ENFIELD**

School	Reading	Writing	Maths	All 3
Hadley Wood	90	100	100	90
St James CofE	92	92	96	88
Highfield	88	85	88	77

### **YES – HIGHFIELD IS IN THE TOP THREE!**

**What an amazing achievement for all our staff, Governors, families and Friends. Thanks to all our parent/carers who read the news yesterday and sent their congratulation!**

#### **Just some explanation of how the league tables work:**

The first column shows the percentage of children at each school who reached the Government's expected standard in reading. The second column gives results in writing, while the third relates to maths results. The fourth column shows the percentage of pupils who reached the expected standard in every one of the three tests.

Schools are ranked in order of this figure and, where more than one has the same result, in alphabetical order. This year, progress was calculated by subject, rather than "expected progress" on the overall result. This data is not included.

Across England, only 53 per cent of 11-year-olds reached the expected standard in all three tests. Previously, the tests in the final year of primary school were measured in levels, with schools classed as failing if fewer than 65 per cent of pupils reached level four in all three tests. In the new assessments,

the expected standard is set at 100 but scores can range between 80 and 120. This means that anything at 100 or over is, in effect, a pass, and anything under is a fail. The results have been scaled to 100 per cent on this table.

**A fantastic end to the Autumn Term. What a very Merry Christmas at Highfield! We wish you all a peaceful and happy holiday, and good health and happiness in 2017.**

#### **Performing Our First Nativity.**

All three Reception classes performed a Christmas play called 'Our First Nativity' to our parents and carers. The children were brilliant, remembering all their words, learning and singing many songs, and telling the Christmas story courageously and clearly.

Alfie: "I liked doing the singing because it wasn't too loud and it was fun."

Sophia: "It was fun when we did the talking because we did the talking in a microphone so you could hear us."



#### **Christmas lights**

Thank you to the friends of Highfield for organizing the event for switching the Christmas lights on. The children had lots of fun making the decorations and were very excited to see the lights being switched on.



### **Highfield Choir**

Our amazing Choir has been very busy this month! On Thursday 1st December, the children sang a selection of Christmas carols at the Highfield Christmas tree launch. Then, on Wednesday 7th December the Choir performed two carols at our Christmas assembly. Their singing was beautiful, and Christian (3C) even encouraged the whole school to join in to sing 'We Wish you a Merry Christmas'!



On Monday 19th and Tuesday 20th December, the Choir will be leading a Christmas carol sing-along outside the main office. Lyric sheets will be available – come along and join us!

### **Christmas Grotto**

The Friends of Highfield set up a magical grotto this week. Classes visited the grotto and were welcomed by Santa's elves who showed them a writing wall where they could draw pictures or write their Christmas messages to Santa. Santa then gave each child a Christmas gift! Years 5 and 6 were treated to a visit from Santa in their classrooms.



### **Christmas Post Officers**

Thanks go to Christian and many other children in Year 6 who have been busy collecting, sorting and delivering our children's Christmas cards this year. They have been enthusiastic workers, and have always donned their Christmas hats whilst on duty. Merry Christmas to you all!

### **Christmas Market-Non Uniform**

**Day:**



**Great  
Ormond  
Street  
Hospital  
Charity**

On Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2016 we raised money for Great Ormond Street Hospital. Children were allowed to come into school in non uniform and donate £1.00 towards the charity. There was a 'Christmas Market' in the canteen during KS1 and KS2 morning break where children bought handmade Christmas crafts, which were made by all the children in the school. There were Christmas postcards, calendars, bookmarks and Christmas cupcakes as well as lots of other Christmas themed goods to buy. We raised a total of £760.50 Thank you to Deborah, Emilia and Zilan in year six for planning such an amazing event.

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





### **Christmas Craft Workshop.**

The Friends of Highfield ran two craft workshops after school this term. Imogen's mum (21), was the artistic mind behind the creation of some amazing snow globes. The workshops were attended by children from Year 1 to Year 6. They first created a Christmas scene and then filled jars of water with glitter and snow to create the globe. The snow globes were very festive and finished off with ribbons and labels. Some lucky parents may be receiving them as gifts this year!

### **Assemblies**

#### **Language of the term (Albanian)**

Over the past term children have been learning about Albanian. In the week of the 28<sup>th</sup> November (Albanian Independence Day) some of the children in our school, who speak Albanian or have an Albanian background, performed an assembly to the school. The children spoke about their own experiences, about Albanian independence and the country's flag. Thank you to Dion, Leart, Orestina, Kleo, Bianka, Daniel, Brouklin, Brandon, Emily and Necktario and to all the parents that came to watch.

### **Christmas assembly**

The Christmas story was presented in a novel way by Andy Potter, the Minister of Winchmore Hill Baptist Church, when he visited Highfield today. Mr Potter told the children about the Christmas story and the importance of this festival for Christians all around the world. The children were delighted to take part in a huge Christmas pass the parcel game where each present, when opened, revealed an element of the Christmas story. It was a lovely assembly thoroughly enjoyed by all! The school choir was brilliant in their performances that opened and closed the assembly!



### **World War 2 day**

Year 6 have been learning all about World War Two in their History lessons. On the 25<sup>th</sup> November 2016, Mr Kennedy and Ms Wren organised a World War Two themed day for all of Year 6 to really experience what life was like during this time.

Children and teachers came to school dressed in 1940s clothes. As the children entered the classroom, they were greeted with some classic music from this era.

Luckily, Mrs Wren ( Ms Wren's mum) came to talk to us about what life was like during war-time in London for her father ( he was a soldier that fought abroad). Other activities included: making rationing books, identity cards and propaganda posters.

The best part of the day was singing and dancing to the 'Rationing Song' and having the opportunity to taste some rationed desserts including Semolina and rice pudding. Although, the semolina pudding was nice we all came to the conclusion that we much rather prefer desserts of today. The day ended by watching 'Goodnight Mister Tom'; all about a young boy that was evacuated to the country. Ryan from 6K said "I really enjoyed dressing up and imagining myself as a young boy during WW2".

### **Trip to the Dugdale Centre – Christmas Tales**

After a very exciting journey on a bus, Reception children took their seats in the theatre, and eagerly awaited the start of the show. Christmas Tales. Tyler said: "The show was really, really funny."

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### **Gymnastics Festival**

Last week was the Enfield Borough Gymnastics Competition at Southbury Leisure Centre. The children in Year 1 and 2 were asked to perform a floor routine as well as a vault; there were judges present from many Gymnastics Schools across the Borough as well as the Enfield PE Team. The floor routine included forward rolls, a jump and poses. All of the children did exceptionally well and Highfield Primary School are extremely proud of them! Well done Sofie, Aaron, Georgie, Annasa and Celeste! Thank you to Mr Griffiths for helping the children learn their routines.



### **Book Fair Success**

Many thanks to all the families who bought their child a book!! – Such a worthwhile purchase.

A total of £1,717 was spent.

The school gained 100% commission from this total and this was used to purchase books for the Y3 classes. Well done to Mrs Oskis who organises these events.

### **Staff news**

#### **Congratulations**

Congratulations to Mrs Yussein on the birth of her baby girl – Melodi Both mother and daughter are very well.

### **Congratulations to Ms McGovern.....**

Ms McGovern has been successful in securing a temporary secondment at a Primary School as the Acting Head Teacher for up to 1 year.

Ms McGovern has been the Deputy Headteacher at Highfield for almost 10 years. Her dedication and commitment to the school was paramount in the school achieving “Outstanding” during the Ofsted Inspection in April 2016. She took a lead role in whole school developments.

She has done a considerable amount of work on assessment and helping children reach their full potential, whilst encouraging staff to give their best at all times.

Ms McGovern has been very supportive; she works well with all the staff, children, parents/carers and governors in “The Highfield Primary School Community”.

Whilst we will be very sorry to lose such an excellent Deputy Headteacher, we recognise that her strengths lie in her taking charge of her own school and leading it forward. She is a real asset to Highfield and will be truly missed.

On behalf of all the staff and governors we wish you a successful and happy time in your new school in Camden, and thank you for everything you have done at Highfield!

***Further congratulations .....whilst Ms McGovern is on her secondment I am happy to announce that Mr Wilson will take up the role as Acting Deputy Headteacher in her absence.***

## Goodbye Mr Blount

Most recently Mr Blount became a father and his decision to leave the school is so that he can spend time with his baby daughter and wife. They hope to use this time to travel and spend time together as a family.

Mr Blount has worked at Highfield for 3 years as an Assistant Head Teacher and was part of the Senior Leadership Team during the Outstanding Ofsted outcome for the school.

During this time he has shown commitment and a drive to ever improve the standards at the school and has played a strategic part on the schools leadership team.

He has a professional, patient manner with families and has developed a great partnership with them; he has positive relationships with all the children at the school and they have grown very fond of him. The Year 6 Maths sets that he teaches have been very fortunate to have him.

All the PE activities that Mr Blount has set up, and there are many, have proved so popular and have had direct impact on the improvement of the PE curriculum, these will continue in the school with Ms Tipping leading in this area.

On behalf of all the staff, parents and governors we wish Mr Blount and his family a successful and happy time together.

## Mr Tsendetes

Mr Tsendetes has worked at the school for 3 years as a Teaching Assistant.

He has worked in KS2 classes and is in Year 1 now. Mr Tsendetes has a great rapport with all the children; he works with whole classes and with his focus groups, ever improving their English and Maths skills. He is very popular with all the children who really look forward to working with Mr T!!

He has chosen to fulfil a lifelong ambition and to volunteer his services in working as part of a school community in Zambia – Africa. It is an admirable decision and one that he will excel in as he has a lot to offer. We all wish you well on this endeavour!

On behalf of all the staff, children and governors we wish you every success and thank you for everything that you have done for the school.

## School Grounds

We continue to receive many complaints re smoking at the school gates. Please could we ask that if you smoke could you do so away from the entrances and exits to the school where there are many children and carers passing who do not wish to be exposed to smoking when they have no choice as they need to enter and exit the school grounds



## Illegal Parking

Please do not park illegally outside the school. It blocks traffic and, more importantly, makes it dangerous for children crossing the road. The CCTV camera out front of school is in full working order now. The fine for parking on the yellow or white zigzags is £130. You could also get three points on your licence.

## Message from our Governors

The Governors are often asked about their role and responsibilities. This is what they said: "Being a governor takes up some of our time but it is very rewarding. As a governor we can gain a real insight into the workings of the life of the school. You can be a tool for change and help your school meet the needs of its pupils."

## What is a Governing Body?

It is a group of people working together with the Headteacher to manage the school. A Governing Body is made up of parents/carers, staff, people from the local community and people appointed by the Local Education Authority.

## What is The Role of Governors?

Governors work as a leadership team and in partnership with the Headteacher.

In order to:

- " Raise standards, including setting targets for pupils
- " Plan the future direction of the school
- " Ensure the curriculum is balanced
- " Monitor that school policies are implemented
- " Oversee how the School's budget will be spent
- " Make decisions about staffing.

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	<b>December/ January Diary Dates</b>	
20 <sup>th</sup> December	Choir singing carols outside school reception	3.15pm
<b>21<sup>st</sup> December</b>	<b>School finishes 1.30pm</b>	<b>1.30pm</b>
<b>22<sup>nd</sup> December-4<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>Christmas holidays</b>	
<b>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>Spring Term starts – school opens</b>	
10 <sup>th</sup> January	Y6 trip to the Science Museum	All day
13 <sup>th</sup> January	Class Assembly 3M	9:15
19 <sup>th</sup> January	School census day	All day
20 <sup>th</sup> January	Class Assembly 3MB	9:15
<b>THURSDAY 26<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Class Assembly 3C	9:15
27 <sup>th</sup> January	Maths masterclass workshop in school	
31 <sup>st</sup> January	SF Said (author) visit for Years 5 & 6	1:30-3:30
3 <sup>rd</sup> February	Class Assembly 2I	9:15
10 <sup>th</sup> February	Class Assembly 2M	9:15

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