

## HIGHFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER -

October 2018



### *Message from the Headteacher*

What a very busy month here at Highfield!

Whilst this month is Diversity month, we are very proud that at Highfield, we always celebrate that our school is both multicultural and multi faith.

The children have been involved in lots of exciting learning around our theme for this term which is "Step back in Time"

Many of the homework projects set around this theme, have come back into school, they are absolutely stunning! – well done to all that took part in this.

Our Value for this term is **Empathy** and it has provoked many long discussions between children and adults as to what this means, and indeed if we have ever felt empathy for someone or something. The definitions and examples the children gave were very impressive.

Parent/Carers Evenings this month proved very popular with a turnout of 93% of you attending. It was lovely to see so many of you involved in your child's progress and working closely with the teachers to enable your child to be the best they can be!

Thank you to everyone who filled in the parent/carer questionnaire, as always your comments are taken very seriously and we are always striving to make our school even better than it already is!

***An analysis of the questionnaire will be on the website shortly.***

I do need to mention that our website is under construction. We will be updating our content and improving the online experiences for the parents/carers, children and the whole school community. We will inform you when the new website will be going live and will welcome feedback to ensure that our website is user friendly. Thank you for your patience – watch this space!

Thank you for your continued support

**Maria Kemal**



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

This term's value is Empathy





### OUR 3 JARS

These 3 jars represent 3 words that are very important to us.

These words help us ensure that our **values** in our school are carried out by everyone!

The words are:

**RESPECT CO-OPERATION KINDNESS**

If an **adult** sees any child showing **RESPECT CO-OPERATION OR KINDNESS** they are given a **red** bead to put into the jar.

If **any child** sees any adult showing **RESPECT CO-OPERATION OR KINDNESS** they are given a **Yellow** bead to put into the jar.

**We use the jars to evaluate what we are doing well by seeing the amount of beads we have.**

**We can see clearly what adults and children are doing to contribute to our school values.**

**We can see where we need to further improve if the jar has few beads, and identify if it is adults or children.**

**We discuss these words and what they mean during assembly and in our classroom.**

**Our Aim is for everyone to contribute to the values we have decided on.**

**"Together we can achieve more"**

The School Council decide on an additional value every term

This term they have chosen 'Empathy'

Ms Modeste has empathy for me, she understands how I was feeling when I was new to the school" by Afiifa

Our value this term is:



## Empathy!

*"Empathy is **seeing** with the eyes of another, **listening** with the ears of another, and **feeling** with the heart of another." - Alfred Adler*

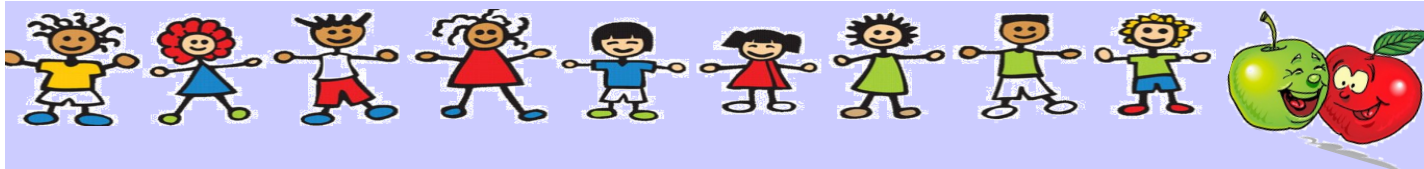
"My friend Melika always knows how I feel when I am sad, she has empathy because she feels sad sometimes too" by Meliz



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### **Year One Harvest Assembly**

On Monday 1<sup>st</sup> October Year One put on a fantastic performance in their Harvest Assembly. They brilliantly spoke about all they have learnt this term about the Christian Festival including, sharing their thank you cards, how they share and what they believe is wonderful in the natural world. They loved singing their songs and remembered all the Makaton signs which accompanied the lyrics which they sung. Well Done Year One, we are so incredibly proud of you all!



### **Year 2 Diwali Assembly**

Congratulations to all of the children in Year 2 who worked extremely hard to put on a wonderful Diwali assembly for the school. The children retold the story of Rama and Sita whilst others acted it out. The children also shared why Diwali is important and reflected on when they have been a hero. During the assembly children really enjoyed singing the Diwali songs with actions. Well done Year 2 you were fantastic!

### **4MC Assembly – Step Back to Roman Times**

On Friday 5<sup>th</sup> October 4MC presented their class assembly to KS2 and their parents. The assembly consisted of time travel, Celtic war cries, Roman soldiers marching and the mighty Boudicca! They demonstrated two versions of historical conflict in a fun and exciting way. The end song, 'Like a Roman', was performed wonderfully. Well done 4MC.

### **4A Assembly – Animals and their habitats**

On Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October, 4A presented their class assembly to KS2 and their parents. We took on the roles of animals living in various habitats, news anchors, field reporters and experts. Using our knowledge from our science lessons and additional research we delivered a fun and informational performance! Our recital of the 'Habitats Song' added to the entertainment while providing some extra facts about animals and the habitats that they reside in. Well done 4A!

### **iGospel**

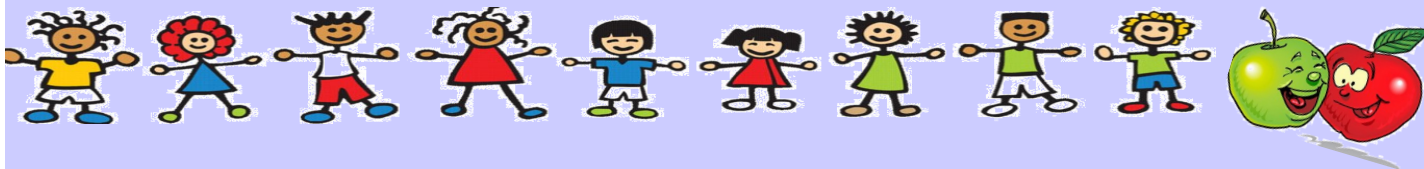
This term, Year 3 have been taking part in iGospel workshops. iGospel is a team of professional singers and musicians who work in many schools to bring gospel music alive. 3L, 3CA and 3I are learning to sing a range of songs, including some that reflect our school's values of Cooperation, Kindness and Respect. The children are working with David Leval to improve rhythm, tone and pitch and are greatly enjoying the sessions. Some of the children have also had the opportunity to take on solo parts! The children can't wait to perform to the school at the end of term!



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### **Cross Country Competition**

On Friday 28th September Highfield took part in the Enfield Borough Cross country competition in Forty Hall. This was the first time Highfield had entered the event competing against twenty-four other schools. It was a beautiful day and our team consisting of Martyna, Carmen, Laura, Victor, Rayan, Stefan, Michael and Avin ran around the tough 1.2mile course. The whole team achieved an amazing 12<sup>th</sup> place, with Victor finishing in 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the boys' race (out of over 100 boys). Well done Highfield's cross-country team and a big thank you to Mrs Redondo for her help and expertise.

### **Year 5 Shakespeare Workshop**

This afternoon, we were visited by an actor and educator from the Young Shakespeare Company. Under his direction, we told the story of A Midsummer Night's Dream. One by one, he introduced us to a complex cast of characters: There were illicit lovers and jealous suitors; a proud fairy king and his haughty fairy queen; a band of simple workmen and a group of mischievous imps. At key turning points, we stopped to discuss their thoughts and feelings, actions and motives. We tested our skills of prediction and inference and learned lines of Shakespearean English. Using our voices, we mimicked the sounds of owls and wolves, and the school hall was transformed into a forest at night. It was an immersive experience and an enchanting introduction to one of Shakespeare's most famous comic plays. We are all looking forward to watching it performed at the Millfield Theatre.



### **Black History Month at Highfield**

During Black History Month, the children have been learning about inspirational black women that have made a difference throughout history with their lasting legacy. Each year group were given key individuals to focus on during this month, as they researched and learnt all about their lives and actions for change. Some of the inspirational women that were covered include; Raven Wilkinson (Ballerina), Lorna Simpson (Photographer), Mahalia Jackson (Gospel singer), Althea Gibson (Tennis champion), Phyllis Wheatley (Poet) and Katherine Johnson (NASA mathematician). Across the school there was a wonderful range of activities going on, including film making, creating fact files and appreciating the work of musicians, all celebrating the achievements of these women. Black History Month at Highfield has allowed the children to explore how and why these inspiring black women have changed the world we live in today and how they can help to shape their own futures.

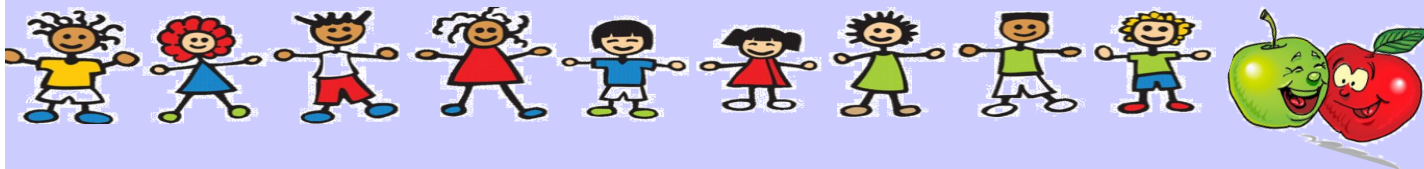


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### **Year 5 take a step back in time!**

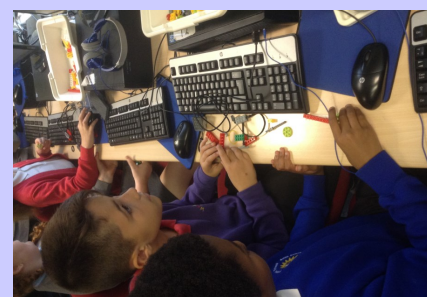
On Wednesday October 3<sup>rd</sup>, Year 5 took a step back in time and visited Hampton Court Palace. Throughout Autumn 1 and as part of our whole school topic 'Step Back in Time', Year 5 have been engrossed in learning about Tudor Britain and the reign of the notorious King Henry VIII. The trip to Hampton Court Palace was a brilliant way to end a fantastic unit of work and gave year 5 the opportunity to roam the palace as young Henry once did. The visit was a great success and saw the children engaging in an interactive workshop themed on the Great Kitchens and exploring Henry VIII's Apartment. Highlights include visiting the Chapel where Henry once married Catherine Howard and admiring the Great Dining Hall with its beautiful stained-glass windows. A fantastic time was had by all and a big thank-you goes to all the adults who helped on the day.



### **Robot Day**

On Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2018, future computing engineers from nine local Enfield primary schools gathered their Year 5 students to engineer their own robotic devices. Our very own Jaylen (5D), Chiara (5B) and Aleksandra (5M) represented our school and spent the morning building and programming robots using a combination of mechanics, electronics, problem solving and teamwork. The ultimate aim of this event was to get children to interact with children from opposite schools and to get students interested in and excited about the fields in engineering, mechatronics, and software, using Lego education and Boe-bots. Our children did an exceptional job and even managed to make their Robots dance.

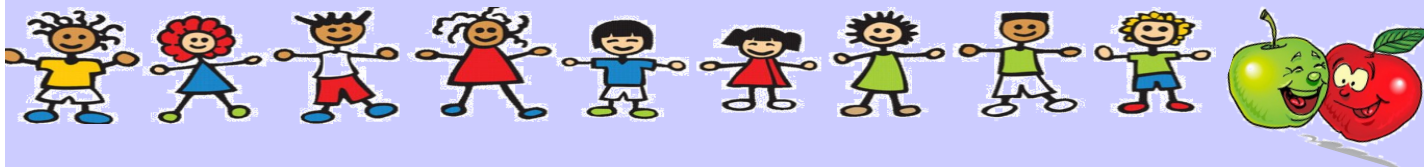
Aleksandra "I loved preserving with my partner, when we struggled to programme our robot. With hard work, we finally managed to get our robot to make a range of movements".



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### Headteacher's Award

#### Week ending: 05.10.2018

**Stella RJ:** For settling well into Reception and always following our class rules. Stella has shown herself to be a kind, caring and helpful member of RJ.

**Asi 1P:** For always putting her very best into her learning.

**Veer 3L:** For being a great role model and for always trying his best

#### Week ending: 19.10.2018

**Lawrence RH:** For being polite, considerate, helpful and a lovely member of RH.

**Demi 1M:** For producing amazing writing.

**Irmak 3I:** For always getting on with her work and trying her best.

**For the Attention of Parents/Carers of children in the Reception Classes**

**Please adhere to this very important message, children MUST NOT use the equipment before and after school.**

**Many are not being supervised.**

**This garden area is for use during school time only.**

**Thank you for your co-operation.**



Please **do not** allow your children to use the outdoor equipment or climbing frame **before or after** school!



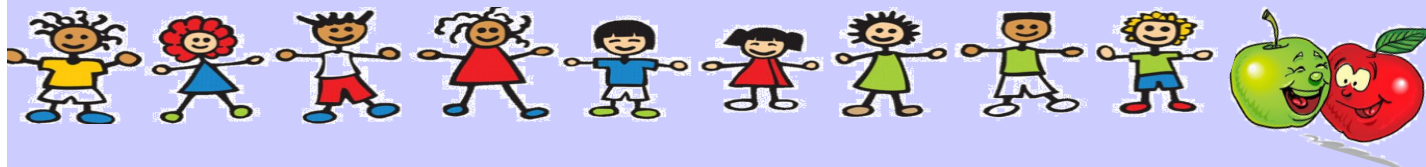
Thank you, EYFS Team



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## ATTENDANCE

## MAKE EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNT

### At Highfield Primary - Attendance & Punctuality

Regular attendance and punctuality at school is very important for your child's wellbeing. Children who miss school are missing out on essential social interaction which can affect their ability to make friends. The facts show that if your child doesn't attend school regularly, they are less likely to do as well as other children.

At Highfield we are committed to working together with parents to increase the attendance and punctuality of all our pupils.

Although being absent cannot always be helped as we all do become ill from time to time, please note at Highfield School we expect all our children to aim for 100% attendance each half term and to be on time every day, every week! Take a look at the table below to show you exactly what your child could be missing over the year.

| TIME ABSENT FROM SCHOOL | ATTENDANCE      |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| 0                       | 100% attendance |
| 10 DAYS                 | 95% attendance  |
| 19 DAYS                 | 90% attendance  |
| 28 DAYS                 | 85% attendance  |
| More than half a term   | 80% attendance  |
| 9 + weeks               | 75% attendance  |

## EVERY MINUTE COUNTS

As well as being absent a lot from school affecting your child's development being **LATE** also has a big effect, please look at the table below.

| <b>Lateness = Lost Learning</b><br>(figures below are calculated over a school year) |               |
|--|---------------|
| 5 mins late each day   | 3 days lost   |
| 10 mins late each day  | 6.5 days lost |
| 15 mins late each day  | 10 days lost  |
| 20 mins late each day  | 13 days lost  |
| 30 mins late each day  | 19 days lost  |

Every day your child is absent from school affects their education! You will notice from the figures above, that the odd day off really does mount up. Please be aware that Highfield School **WILL NOT AUTHORISE** any **HOLIDAYS** during term time, this is done in the interest of your child's education.

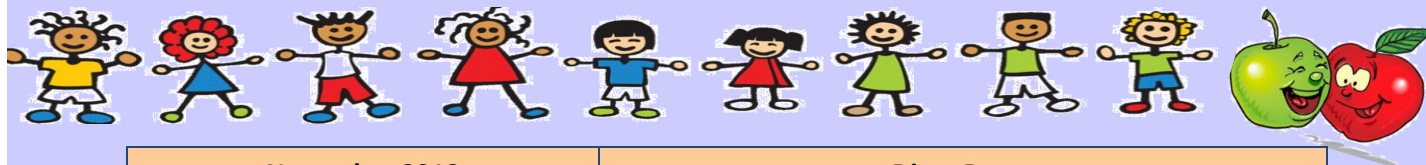
| Form  | %     |
|-------|-------|
| RF    | 99.05 |
| RH    | 98.94 |
| RJ    | 99.58 |
| 1J    | 96.19 |
| 1M    | 95.18 |
| 1P    | 95.94 |
| 2B    | 95.22 |
| 2D    | 96    |
| 2S    | 97.47 |
| 3CA   | 97.65 |
| 3I    | 96.02 |
| 3L    | 93.45 |
| 4A    | 96.33 |
| 4M    | 97.39 |
| 4MC   | 96.89 |
| 5B    | 97.35 |
| 5D    | 96.74 |
| 5M    | 94.89 |
| 6B    | 95.87 |
| 6P    | 97.65 |
| TOTAL | 96.64 |



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| November 2018    | Diary Dates                                     |
|------------------|---|
| 01/11/2018       | RH visiting Firs Farm Wetlands                  |
| 06/11/2018       | Year 3 IGospel in hall                          |
| 07/11/2018       | ESOL  |
|                  | Year 2 SATs parents/carers meeting              |
| 08/11/2018       | Reception-Year 5 nasal spray flu vaccination    |
| 09/11/2018       | Class 4M Assembly                               |
|                  | Year 2 Florence Nightingale workshop            |
|                  | Year 5 Midsummer Night's Dream                  |
| 12-13/11/2018    | Reception hearing test                          |
| 13/11/2018       | Year 3 IGospel in hall                          |
| 14/11/2018       | KS1 Pinocchio show                              |
|                  | ESOL  |
| 16/11/2018       | Class 5D Assembly                               |
| 20/11/2018       | New parent talk/tour 9.30am/2.30pm              |
| 21/11/2018       | ESOL  |
| 23/11/2018       | New parent talk/tour 9.30am/2.30pm              |
| 23,26,27/11/2018 | Book Fair open to children/parent/carers 3.20pm |
| 27/11/2018       | Year 6 Fossil workshop in classes               |
| 27/11/2018       | Year 3 IGospel in hall                          |
| 28/11/2018       | Year 4 Saxon day in hall                        |
| 30/11/2018       | Class 5M Assembly                               |

#### **DRIVING SAFELY & PARKING AROUND THE SCHOOL**

Thank you to the vast majority of parent/carers who are taking road safety outside our school very seriously. It is so important that everyone does this to avoid putting our children in danger. It is in the interest of all our children that everyone drives carefully.

Could we please ask parent/carers NOT to use the car park entrance of the school as a place to turn their vehicles around. Children and parents are walking across it. We need to keep everyone safe.

#### **PARKING ACROSS RESIDENTS' DRIVES**

Unfortunately, we have had several complaints of a small number of parents parking across local residents' drives. This behaviour is unacceptable and means that residents have been unable to pick their children up from school, have missed medical appointments and has generally caused them inconvenience. Please do not park in front of peoples' drives. There is alternative parking further away from the school and we would encourage people not to drive at all if possible, as the high number of vehicles around the school make it dangerous for children. At Highfield we are part of the local community and we need to respect everyone in it.



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