

HIGHFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL

"Together we can achieve more"

Newsletter - January 2019



Message from the Head teacher:

Welcome back to a new term, may I start by wishing you all a Happy, Healthy New Year. On behalf of myself and all the staff, thank you very much for your good wishes and kind gifts/cards, last year. I hope that you all had an enjoyable holiday and the children returned rested and ready for the busy term ahead.

It was wonderful to see all the children eager to start their learning!

We are ready to start the Spring term with our exciting topic – **Planet Earth** and our value this term is **Self-Belief**.

Although it's a short term, we have plenty happening to keep everyone busy!

You should all have received a letter earlier this month with the announcement of my retirement. After 12 years at Highfield, I will be very sad to leave in the Summer.

The Governors are now looking for a new Head teacher and they will be working hard to appoint a successor. You will be kept posted!

Thanking you for your continued support.

Maria Kemal

Message from the Chair of Governors:

As you are aware Mrs Kemal is retiring at the end of the Summer Term. Mrs Kemal has been an excellent Head teacher in her last 12 years at the school.

She has worked tirelessly for the pupils, staff, parents and governors resulting in an Ofsted Outstanding judgment in 2016.

The Governors have started the process of recruiting a new Head teacher to start at Highfield in September 2019. I will keep you updated on this.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Kemal and to wish her an exciting new chapter in her life.

Diana Wren – Chair of Governors



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

This term's value is Self Belief





Head teacher's Award

Week ending 11th January 2019

Zac RF - for a lovely manner, amazing reading and being a good role model for the rest of the class. He is also a fantastic singer!

Archie 1M - for starting the new term with an excellent attitude towards all of his learning.

Thomas 5M - for persevering in learning and applying his timetables and becoming Highfield's first Rock Hero on timetables Rock Stars.

Week ending 18th January 2019

Lucy NAM: Being a good friend and always being kind and caring to other children.

Oliver 1J: Settling into Year 1 really well, persevering and developing his independence and for being a kind and caring member of 1J.

Isabella 5B: Always trying her best in class.

Week ending 25th January 2019

Furkan NPM: For always being focused during carpet sessions and joining in with everything we do in the class.

Melika 2B: For working extremely hard and has become an independent learner and it is wonderful to see her confidence grow so much. I am really proud of you Melika! Miss Barton.

Rebecca 6B: For working exceptionally hard in all subjects across the curriculum especially Maths. She is a role model to others and a great asset to Year 6!



Place2Be Children's Mental Health Week

As you know, in January 2018 Highfield began a partnership with Place2Be, a mental health charity working in over 286 primary and secondary schools in the UK. Place2Be is committed to enhancing the well-being of children and families by providing emotional and therapeutic support to the whole school community – children, parents and staff.



This year for Children's Mental Health Week on 4-8 February Place2Be has chosen the theme of **Healthy Inside and Out** to encourage children to think about the link between their minds and their bodies. Through a range of classroom activities children across the school will be exploring topics such as healthy eating, self-care, the different emotions we feel and what contributes to a happy and healthy mind and body.

Please remember if you have any questions about our service or any concerns about your child don't hesitate to contact our Place2Be School Project Manager, Becca Bomford, who is in school every Wednesday and Thursday from 8.30 to 4.30.

Becca can be reached by telephone via the main office or at rebecca.bomford@place2be.org.uk.



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Language of the Term

The Language of the Term is Somali. Here are some useful words:

Welcome - Soo dhawoow

Hello - Haye

Goodbye - Nabadey

Good morning - Subax wanaagsan

Good afternoon - Galab wanaagsan

Thank you - Mahadsanid

Sorry - Waan ka xumahay

Please - Fadlan

Yes - Haa

No - Maya



Active Planet

The topic this term is '**Active Planet.**' The children will have the opportunity to explore different aspects of Planet Earth, from the movement of the tectonic plates that form the Earth's crust, to earthquakes, volcanoes and tsunamis that devastate communities across wide areas and how we can learn to predict and protect ourselves in the future. Other year groups will learn about mountains and rivers, the weather, flooding, coastal erosion, global warming or climate change.



In the second half of the spring term we will hold a STEM week, to promote the subjects of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics across the school.

Value of the term: Self-Belief

This term the School council have chosen 'Self-Belief' as the new value. We felt this would be fitting for everyone and it reminded us of the saying 'the sky is the limit'. As long as we have self-belief there are no limitations on what we are capable of and we want the whole school community to believe in themselves.

Our value this term is:



Self-Belief!

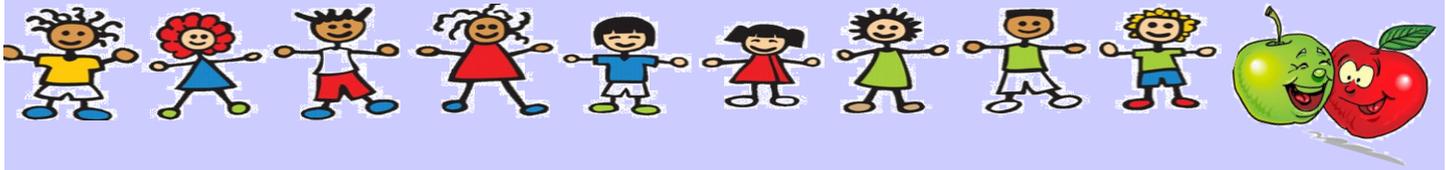
"I am not what has happened to me. I am what I choose to become."
Carl Jung



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Year 1's Victorian Day!

Year 1 had such an enjoyable day on Friday 11th January when they stepped back in time into a Victorian School. All the children dressed up in Victorian costumes and explained who they were and what special jobs they had. The children took part in many activities throughout the school day including, handwriting on chalk boards, time tables and drills. They noticed that the classrooms looked very different in the Victorian times because 'the children sat in rows' and 'the teachers were much stricter!'

'I learnt that the boys sat at the front and the girls sat at the back.' (Dahen 1P)

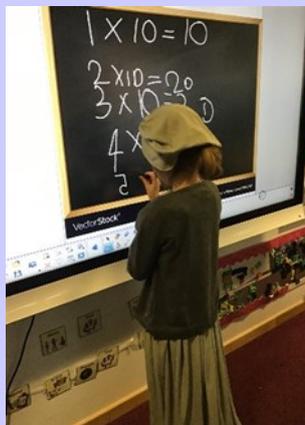
'Our handwriting activity was really fun, I liked doing it with chalk.' (William, 1P)

'We had to sit in lines like they did in a Victorian classroom.' (Sophia 1M)

'The Victorians got to use a feather quill after lots of handwriting practice' (Archie 1M)

'I really enjoyed making our own Victorian objects.' (Phoebe 1J)

'I loved dressing up in my Victorian clothes.' (Florence 1J)



WW2 Day

Our Year 6 pupils turned the clock back to 1940s wartime Britain when Morse codes were used for battle communication and long before colour TV, mobile phones and the internet!

The hands on WW2 history day provided the children with the opportunity to write emotional diary entry as a D- Day war hero, design and make their own gas masks, create bunting for their VE day party and create salt dough medals for brave and courageous soldiers.

Elizabeth "I really enjoyed learning about the events during D-Day and about the celebrations in Trafalgar square during we day"



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Reception and KS1 River Workshop

Reception and KS1 were extremely lucky to be visited by Mike from the Canal and River Trust on Monday 21st January. Each class got the chance to have their own interactive session designed to help keep themselves and others safe around rivers and canals. This is especially important to the children in our school due to our proximity to the New River. The children were shown a large poster of a river with lots of dangers on it. The children had to work in pairs to find the dangers and discuss what the problem was. Mike then showed the children how to use a range of life saving equipment and how to help pull someone out of the water alive. The children were extremely engaged and were asking some very interesting questions that Mike was able to answer for them. The session also showed the children how to call the emergency services for help and how to explain what had happened. The children's favourite part of the session was the game of tug of war they played in order to help them understand the need to consider their own strength, and the strength that would be needed to pull someone out of the river. The children took away life saving knowledge and most importantly how to help someone but not put themselves in any danger whilst doing so.



4A's Pizza Express Visit

On Wednesday 16th January, 4A visited Pizza Express where each child made their very own margarita pizza by listening and following the chef's instructions. First, the children spread the dough evenly around the pan and created a crust around the outside. Then, they spread tomato sauce over their base. Finally, the children spread an even layer of cheese over their pizza. While the pizzas were baking, the children evaluated their work and considered potential ways to improve their pizzas. It was a fantastic morning!



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Code of Conduct for Parent/Carers and Visitors

On Friday 25th January you all received a copy of the code of conduct outlining expectations from you, in relation to the school and its staff.

A letter regarding social media use was also sent outlining the implications using group chats, particularly when naming staff and other pupils.

We would hope that this guidance will make the very few parents that are naming staff and pupils on such forums realise that it is a concern and is not advised.

If you have a concern, please speak to the classroom staff directly.

We promote an inclusive ethos at Highfield Primary School and would like this to extend to our wider community.

Visitors from China

'We had 11 students, 4 teachers and the Head Teacher visit our school from China on Wednesday 23rd January. They spent an hour with our lovely nursery, reception, year 1, year 2 and Year 6 classes. They enjoyed joining in with the learning and sharing some of their skills, language and culture with us all. We were very lucky to have them and they all left Highfield full of smiles and thanked us all for having them'.

3I's Assembly

3I did a musical tour of an art gallery in our assembly, where we linked Literacy, Music and Art. In Literacy we have been studying the book Katie and the British Artists. The book tells the story of a little girl's adventures in an art gallery where the pictures come to life. We wondered what it would be like if this happened in real life. In the assembly a 'teacher' taught his class about Kandinsky, who is our class artist, and took them to an art gallery where the paintings came to life. We sang 3 songs linked to famous paintings with great enthusiasm and confidence. Our dance routine was fantastic too! The song that people most enjoyed was Waka, Waka by Shakira. This song brought to life the highlights of the 2010 World Cup. 3I did a brilliant job!



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HALF TERM HOLIDAY CYCLE ENFIELD

Cycle Enfield are once again offering FREE half term holiday cycle skills for various age groups **Monday 18th February – Friday 22nd February**. These FREE sessions are happening in 2 locations across the borough. Training can be booked at: <http://www.cycleconfident.com/sponsors/enfield/>

Where: Russet House School and Kingsmead School

Booking restriction: Live, work or study in Enfield

Price: Free

	Kingsmead School	Russet House School
Monday 18th February	9am -11am Complete Beginners (4-9) Primer Group Training	9am -11am Complete Beginners (4-9) Primer Group Training
	11am -1pm Complete Beginners (4-9) Primer Group Training	11am -1pm Off-Road (6-9) Group Training
	1.30pm - 3.30pm Off-Road (6-9) Group Training	1.30pm -3.30pm Complete Beginners (4-9) Primer Group Training
Tuesday 19th February	9am -11am Complete Beginners (4-9) Primer Group Training	9am -11am Complete Beginners (4-9) Primer Group Training
	11am -1pm Complete Beginners (4-9) Primer Group Training	11am -1pm Off-Road (6-9) Group Training
	1.30pm - 3.30pm Off-Road (6-9) Group Training	1.30pm -3.30pm Children (9+) on road group training (4 day course – Day 1)
Wednesday 20th February	9am -11am Complete Beginners (4-9) Primer Group Training	9am -11am Complete Beginners (4-9) Primer Group Training
	11am -1pm Complete Beginners (4-9) Primer Group Training	11am -1pm Off-Road (6-9) Group Training
	1.30pm - 3.30pm Off-Road (6-9) Group Training	1.30pm -3.30pm Children (9+) on road group training (4 day course – Day 2)
Thursday 21st February	9am -11am Complete Beginners (4-9) Primer Group Training	9am -11am Complete Beginners (4-9) Primer Group Training
	11am -1pm Complete Beginners (4-9) Primer Group Training	11am -1pm Off-Road (6-9) Group Training
	1.30pm - 3.30pm Off-Road (6-9) Group Training	1.30pm -3.30pm Children (9+) on road group training (4 day course – Day 3)
Friday 22nd February	9am -11am Complete Beginners (4-9) Primer Group Training	9am -11am Complete Beginners (4-9) Primer Group Training
	11am -1pm Complete Beginners (4-9) Primer Group Training	11am -1pm Off-Road (6-9) Group Training
	1.30pm - 3.30pm Off-Road (6-9) Group Training	1.30pm -3.30pm Children (9+) on road group training (4 day course – Day 4)



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Joining Hands to Support our Children's Future



Friends of Highfield Newsletter - January 2019

Happy New Year from the Friends of Highfield.
Welcome back everyone, we hope you had a relaxing festive break!

Bag-2-School

Kicking off the New Year with a big clear out? Please keep all your unwanted clothes for our Bag-2-school day which is scheduled for **Friday 22nd March**.

Bag-2-school have been helping schools for over 15 years and have paid out over £32 million to PTA's and Friends of Schools Groups during this time.

Highfield Primary received a donation of £144 last year from Bag-2-school, but with your support, we know we can top that this year.

Please donate any unwanted clothing items including:

- Men's, Ladies' and Children's clothing
- Paired shoes (tied together or elastic band around)
- Handbags
- Hats
- Bags
- Scarves and ties
- Jewellery
- Lingerie
- Socks
- Belts
- Soft toys
- Household linen
- Household curtains
- Household towels
- Household bedding (bed sheets, pillow cases and duvet covers)

Please also take note of items that they DO NOT accept including:

- Duvets and blankets
- Pillows and cushions
- Carpets, rugs and mats (inc bath, shower and toilet mats)
- Soiled, painted, ripped or wet clothing
- School uniforms with and without logo
- Corporate clothing and work wear
- Textile off cuts, yarns or threaded material

A bag-2-school plastic bag will be sent home with your child w/c 4th March (but please feel free to use black bin liners if you have more than one bag's worth of donations)...the more we collect the more money we raise for our school.

The bags should be dropped off to the pram shelter on the **morning of the 22nd March** and then they will be collected by Bag-2-school shortly after 9am. **PLEASE DO NOT BRING BAGS TO SCHOOL ON ANY OTHER DAY.** They will be weighed and a donation is paid to our school depending on the weight of bags collected. Bag-2-school pay 40p per kg. So, get sorting and help us have a really good collection!

FOH Meetings

Meetings are normally held in the canteen in the morning and the Orange Tree Pub on Highfield Road in the evenings. The dates and times of these meetings are communicated via text from the school.

Keep an eye out for these messages, everyone is welcome!

We discuss upcoming events and the Chair shares updates concerning our school.

Easyfundraising

Just a reminder to sign up for 'easyfundraising'! We have 47 members signed up so far and have raised a total of £127.77, but we would love to get more members on board. It's simple and easy to use and it doesn't cost you anything! Please google 'easyfundraising' or see posters on school gates for more info.

It's official....! We are a Charity!

It is with great pleasure that we wish to announce that 'Friends of Highfield' have now been officially granted charitable status.

This will help us immeasurably with our fund-raising efforts as donations and funding are much more accessible to registered charities. A massive thanks to our treasurer Siobhan for making this happen!

Calendar of Events

March 22nd - Bag-2-School

April 4th - Easter Egg Hunt

June 29th - Summer Fete



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Summer Fete

The date for the Summer fete has been confirmed for **Saturday 29th June**, 12-4pm.

Almost all classes with reps have chosen a stall to run. Please take a look at the table of stalls and assigned reps.

Classes without class reps: 5M, 6P & 6B. If you are a parent from any of these 3 classes, please email friendsofhighfield@hotmail.com if you're willing to run a stall/help out on the day. This doesn't mean you will go down as the class rep; it just enables the children in your class to be more actively involved at the fete.

Class	Responsible for stall	
N am	Kirsty Tindle & Andre Theodorou	Pocket Money stall
N pm	Maria Naghshbandi	
RJ	Andrea Vivas & Rhona Crewe	Dance-a-thon
RF	Sophie Mumford	Swish clothing (& 2D)
RH	Carljen Rendall	BBQ
1M	Asha Dhanji	Lemonade stall
1J	Kirsty Tindle	Lucky Dip
1P	Juliet Wood & Molly Taylor	Pick a lolly
2B	Angela Brookes	Pick and Mix sweets
2S	Janine Stewart	Jar raffle
2D	Hannah Ruthven	Swish clothing (& RF)
3I	Claire Varnavides	Hook a duck
3L	Anastasia Arvanitidou & Jane Warrington	International Food Hall
3CA	Liz Whale	Ball at a bucket & FOH Merchandise
4A	Stephanie Rizzo	Ponies (with staff support)
4MC	Monica Farfan	Old toy & book stall
4M	Asha Dhanji	Animal Balloons. Eleni-face painting.
5D	Skevi Menicou	Tea & Cakes
5M	NO REP	NO CLASS STALL
5B	Catherine Johnston	Nail Painting, tattoos & chalk hair
6P	NO REP	NO CLASS STALL
6B	NO REP	NO CLASS STALL

This will be a great day for all and we hope to make it the best yet as it will be Mrs Kemal's last one ☺

We will also be welcoming our local MP Mr Bambos Charalambous who has agreed to pop in, and in support of our school has also donated a very special prize for our raffle.... keep your eye open for this one!

So please put the date in your diary and come along to show your support.

Easter Egg Hunt

The date for the Easter Egg Hunt has been confirmed for **Thursday 4th April**. Tickets will be available to purchase one month before event date and will need to be purchased from the school office reception. Your child will need to bring their ticket to the Hunt in order to be able to claim their Easter Egg...so please keep it safe once purchased!

Keep an eye out for the posters that will go up around school nearer the time!

FOH contact information

Email: friendsofhighfield@hotmail.com

Facebook & Twitter: The Friends of Highfield

Website: www.highfieldprimary.co.uk/parents/friends-of-highfield

Note to parents with Businesses

If you run your own business and would like to place an advert in our Summer Fair Brochure, then please get in touch so we can arrange this for you.

Last year we had around 1200 people attend our Summer Fair, and we are hoping to beat that this year!

For an application form and prices, please email andre.foh@hotmail.com

Do you work for an Estate Agent?

Every year, a local Estate Agent gets involved with advertising our Summer Fete. Parents and Carers give permission for the agency's board to go up outside their house. This offers the Estate Agency a fantastic opportunity to promote their company name for a small fee. If you are interested in making the most of this publicity, please contact friendsofhighfield@hotmail.com for more information.

Match Funding

Calling all parents!
Do you work for any of the following companies:

- Banks
- Building societies
- Insurance companies
- Supermarkets
- Utilities providers
- Phone companies
- Car manufacturers

Please ask your employers if they offer 'Match Funding' and don't forget to mention that we are now a charity as this will have offset benefits for your employer.

This is an initiative that is offered by some of these larger companies whereby they pledge to 'match' funds raised by our school. This can dramatically increase our fundraising efforts and help towards improving our school and its facilities.

Please get in touch.... details in box below!



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January 2019
ATTENDANCE

MAKE EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNT

At Highfield Primary - Attendance & Punctuality

Form	%
RF	96.71
RH	98.18
RJ	97.2
1J	95.25
1M	95.15
1P	95.73
2B	93.47
2D	95.73
2S	96.19
3CA	96.09
3I	96.3
3L	95.3
4A	96.2
4M	96.06
4MC	94.47
5B	96.43
5D	95.74
5M	95.59
6B	96.45
6P	96.49
TOTAL	96.02

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 effecting your child's development being **LATE** also has a big effect, please look at the table below.

<u>Lateness = Lost Learning</u> (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.**



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February 2019	Diary Dates
Friday 1st February	3L Class Assembly
Wednesday 6th February	ESOL
Friday 8th February	3CA Class Assembly
Tuesday 12th February	Reception Parents Phonics Talk - 9.15 in the Hall
Wednesday 13th February	ESOL
Friday 15th February	2S Class Assembly
Monday 18th-Friday 22nd February	Half Term
Tuesday 26th February	Reception Parents Phonics Workshop in the Canteen
Wednesday 27th February	Pizza Express Visit 3I
	ESOL

DRIVING SAFELY & PARKING AROUND THE SCHOOL

It is absolutely vital that parents/carers DO NOT park over our neighbours' driveways or directly in front of the school gates. We appreciate that parking is limited, but the relationship we have with local residents is really important to the success of our school and for the safety of our children. Thank you for your cooperation.



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