

## HIGHFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL

*"Together we can achieve more"*

Newsletter - February 2019



### Message from the Head teacher:

It has been a busy and enjoyable month with many highlights and special events. One important update is that we have, after lots of research and listening to what our pupils wanted via school council, we have decided to purchase some playground equipment that will actively involve us all in exercising!

It is going to be a brilliant addition to our outdoor area.

**Maria Kemal**  
**Headteacher**



### Update your Contact Details

It is really important for Parents/Carers to keep us up to date with their current contact details. Occasions can arise when we might need to contact you urgently during the school day regarding your child. We regularly send out text messages with important information about your child and school.

Please go to the school office and let them know of any changes to your contact details.



### Chinese New Year

To welcome the year of the pig people celebrate with food, fireworks and performances to mark the annual lunar new year. The pig is believed to be a symbol of optimism, enthusiasm and being hardworking. Happy Chinese New Year to all our families that celebrate.



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This term's value is Self Belief





## Head teacher's Award

### Week ending 1st February 2019

**Stacey-jay RJ:** For writing his name beautifully now. Good listening this week and trying hard with his behaviour.

**Elin 2S:** For building her resilience when facing challenges in class and learning not to give up.

**Elizabeth 6P:** For her amazing creative writing.

**Evie RH:** For becoming a lot more confident recently. She puts her hand up on the carpet to answer questions and is making great progress in all areas.

**Esme 2D:** For always showing perseverance in her Maths learning.

**Nasteexo 3L:** For always trying to challenge herself.

### Highfield goes French - Oh là là

Les escargot, des anguilles et beaucoup de tartes avec des Milkshakes de chocolat, de fraise et de banane were all on the Menu at the French Café. Years 4 and 5 learnt their vocabulary, earned their Euros and made their way to the Café de Paradis. Each class got a chance to order in French, choose and consume their tea-time treats. Bon appétit à tous.

Running the Café were the members of French Club who made the tarts, served the Milkshakes, sold the snails and eels, added up the bills and took some wonderful photos at the event - all in French! Well done to all of them, keeping their poise while they served 180 children and several members of staff. A great achievement for the French Club and children in years 4 and 5.



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### 3L's Amazing Assembly

On Friday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2019, 3L put on a fantastic show for their parents and the rest of the school. The children danced, sang and acted their way through the history of the Ancient Egyptians. They were able to share all the remarkable information they found out about Ancient Egypt. In the assembly, the children acted as Egyptian gods, pharaohs and embalmers. Everyone looked fabulous in their costumes. The audience got to watch the process of mummification and a competition for the best god. The children used their brilliant voices to sing about Tutankhamun and mummification. Finally, they performed a dance. 3L did a wonderful job!

### 3CA Active Planet Assembly

On Friday 8th February, 3CA performed their active planet assembly which was a huge success. They performed three songs, including the well known Michael Jackson songs 'Heal the World' and 'Earth song' as well as presented their class poem which was very moving. So many parents and carers came and were incredibly impressed with the children's acting and singing skills. At the end, Miss Wren gave 3CA a standing ovation and described the assembly as 'outstanding' which made Miss Celik and Mrs Giarnese very proud. Well done 3CA on your fantastic performance!

### **Parent Comment:**

I just wanted to extend my huge congratulations to Miss Celik and Mrs Giarnese for this morning's FANTASTIC assembly. Every child knew exactly what they were doing, and delivered their words beautifully. The singing was gorgeous. The teachers had obviously put so much work in to the production, too. There was lots of movement, and so much expression. Most importantly, every child was confident, relaxed and clearly enjoying the experience. What more can you ask of teachers than encouraging these qualities in their pupils? I was so proud, and so impressed. Thank you!

### 2S Assembly

On Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February, 2S took Highfield on a journey to Antarctica! As part of our Geography and English work, we have been learning about penguins. 2S were so excited to share all the facts they knew about penguins and even read out some amazing penguin poems! The children learnt their lines perfectly and entertained their audience with two fantastic penguin songs, including a rap!

"I loved being a penguin! I like how they waddle!" said Aidan.

"My favourite part was about regurgitation. The female penguin is sick in the chick's mouth to feed it!" said Sarah.

Well done, 2S for an amazing assembly!



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### POLICE AND PEOPLE WHO HELP US!

On Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2019 PC Doris and PC Louise who work for the London Borough of Enfield came to Highfield School to visit Reception and Year One. The children learnt about their special uniforms and how the police keep children and adults safe. They showed the children their uniform and demonstrated how the different equipment is used to protect us. The children were then given the opportunity to ask the police their own questions about their jobs. e.g. "What problems have you fixed." "How many police officers are there in London?"

"The police help us find our mummies if we are lost." (Reception Child)

"The letters on the uniform show where they work and the number is the police officer they call up." (Year 1 Child)

"I learnt that they use the baton to break glass to help people in their houses." (Year 1 Child)



### Phonics Workshop

On Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> February the reception parents were invited to a Practical Phonics Workshop. This workshop was planned following the evaluations from the parents after the initial Phonics meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> February.

**Aim of the workshop**, 'give an insight of how phonics is taught in a fun and practical way that will give parents/carers ideas on how to support their children with phonics at home'. Mrs Halil-Docherty and Miss Johnson got parents involved by joining in with mini Phase 2 and Phase 3 lessons. It was great to see such a good turn out and to receive the positive feedback. Thank you to you all.

### Comments from the parents/carers with regards to the phonics meeting and following workshop:

- "I have a greater understanding of the different stages of phonics"
- "Liked the examples given"
- "I liked the ideas on the different ways to make writing fun"
- "Organised, interactive, simple and interesting"
- "I liked the practical nature. We experienced what the children do!"
- "I now understand how children learn in class that gave us fun ideas to use at home"
- "I really enjoyed this workshop"
- "I was happy to be in the workshop because I learned a lot"
- "Thanks for organising. I really enjoyed it!"

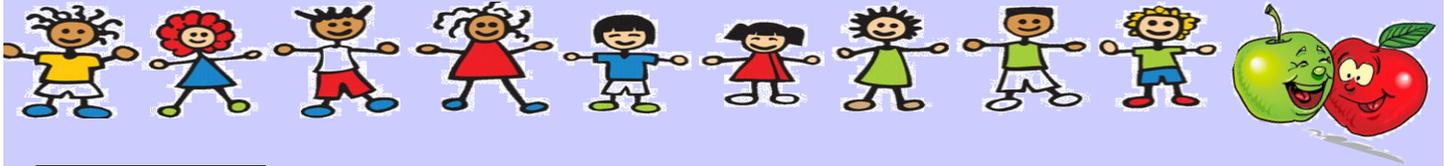
**Next Workshop will be on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March at 9:15am-9.45/50am. We will inform parents/carers of focus closer to time.**



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**February 2019**  
**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.

Form	%
RF	95.22
RH	97.76
RJ	96.84
1J	93.64
1M	94.81
1P	94.41
2B	93.25
2D	95.47
2S	95.93
3CA	95.39
3I	95.9
3L	95.48
4A	96.01
4M	95.72
4MC	94.33
5B	96.16
5D	95.71
5M	95.67
6B	96.18
6P	96.49
TOTAL	95.64

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.

<b><u>Lateness = Lost Learning</u></b> <b>(figures below are calculated over a school year)</b>	
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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March 2019	Diary Dates
Wednesday 6th March	3L Pizza Express Visit
	ESOL
Thurs & Fri 7th-8th March	Year 2 Science Museum Trip
Fri 8th, Mon 11th and Tues 12th March	Book Fair open for Parent/Carers and Children
Monday 11th March	Stranger Danger Workshop for Year 2-4
Wednesday 13th March	ESOL
Monday 18th —Friday 22nd March	Bikeability Level 1 and 2—Year 5
Wednesday 20th March	Reception to visit Gruffalo Trail
Friday 22nd March	4MC Woodcroft Trip
Tuesday 26th—Wednesday 27th March	Bikeability Level 1—Year 4
Tuesday 26th and Thursday 28th March	Parents Evening 4.00-6.30pm
Friday 29th March	Year 1 Raglan Music Festival
	4M Woodcroft Trip

### 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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