



HIGHFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL - "Together we can achieve more"

NEWSLETTER - October 2019



Message from the Headteacher

What a very busy month here at Highfield!

The children have been involved in lots of exciting learning around our theme for this term which is "The circle of life"

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.

We have also had our Diwali assembly performed by year 2. They retold the story of Diwali that explained why light is such a central part of the festival. We have also had our first class assembly from 4MC.

We have also had various sporting fixtures in Handball, football and netball with Highfield recording wins.

Our uniform sale was also a great success (thank you to all who donated). Not only is this a way that we can reduce the cost of uniforms but we also are reusing perfectly good uniforms and reducing waste. I would also like to thank the Friends of Highfield for buying 6 recycling bins for the school playgrounds so we can increase the amount that we recycle.

Our value for this term is *mindfulness* and it has provoked many long discussions between children and adults as to what this means, and how we can support our mental wellbeing. The definitions and examples the children gave were very impressive. Linked to this we have been doing surveys with some of the children to about their wellbeing and how, as a school, we can best support them.

Parent/Carers evenings this month proved very popular with 96% 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.

Thank you for your continued support

David Wilson



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

This term's value is Gratitude

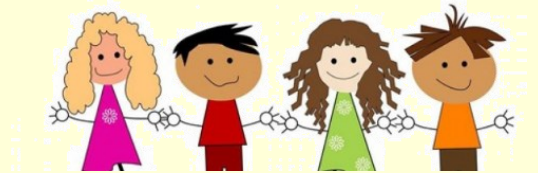




Class Community Action Plans

This term each class has developed their own Community Action Plan. The children were asked to identify an area that could be improved, think about how they could bring about change and how this would help the Highfield community. They then had to consider how they could carry out their action and any resources/costs involved, before submitting their plans to the Headteacher for approval.

The children have come up with some really thoughtful and creative ideas including: setting up book donation schemes, running their own activities at lunch times, growing their own vegetables for snack time, ways to encourage everyone not to use single use plastic water bottles or bags on school trips, giving up their Golden Time to teach younger children how to read, writing letters and postcards to those in the elderly community and sending Christmas cards to show our appreciation and respect to those who help in the wider community such as the police, fire station and hospital.

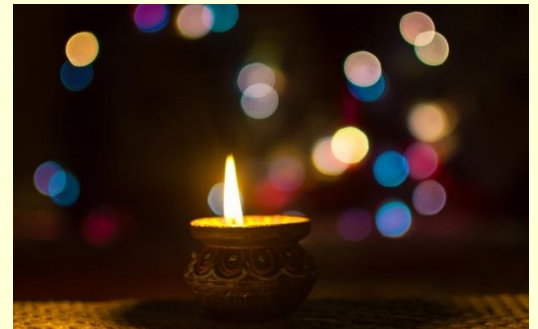


We look forward to seeing their plans in action and the difference that they make:

‘Together we can achieve more.’

Year 2 Diwali Assembly and Day

This term, Year 2 have been learning about Diwali! We had an amazing Diwali day where we made Rangoli patterns, Diya lamp holders and puppets of Rama and Sita. It was so fun!



On Monday 14th October, Year 2 performed a Diwali assembly where they retold the story of Rama and Sita and used this important story to reflect on the importance of friendship. The children were amazing and impressed their audience with their brilliant narrating, acting and singing. Well done, Year 2!

Goodbye Mrs Shaughnessy

It is a goodbye and congratulations to Mrs Shaughnessy who will be leaving us at the end of the term to become Headteacher of Meridan Angel school in Edmonton. Mrs Shaughnessy joined the school in 2005 as a Reception class teacher, then became SENCO and Assistant Headteacher and since 2016 has been a Deputy headteacher. Over the years Mrs Shaughnessy has shown a great commitment to the school and it's pupils, always fulfilling her various roles to a high standard. She has played a significant part in the progress of the school over the years, particularly in her leadership positions. We will miss her but we wish her the very best in her new role and know she do an excellent job.

Mr Wilson



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Trashion Show

This term the children in Y1-Y6 have all been reinvigorating existing clothing in creative ways and designing and making their own clothing using recycled materials.

On Friday 27th September each class had the opportunity to explain what they had made and why, before parading down the 'catwalk' at Highfield's Trashion Show.

It was a lovely opportunity to share and celebrate each other's work across the school and the children really enjoyed modelling their designs. Reducing waste, re-using and recycling products can be a lot of fun!



JTA Early Morning Survey

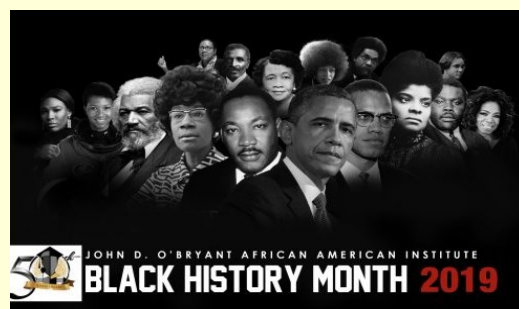
On Friday 4th October Highfield's Junior Travel Ambassadors came to school early so that they could carry out a before school survey. They were extremely fortunate that PC Doris was able to come along to help them and ensure that every member of the Highfield community is safe on their way to school.

The JTA children monitored how safely children were arriving at school, including safe dropping off from cars and if children were holding their adults hand whilst crossing the road. They were very happy that lots of children were coming to school on bikes or scooters, however they saw a lot of children crossing the road without looking both ways or holding their adults hand. These are the areas that the JTA children have decided to focus on this term.



Year 2's Black History Day

Year 2 were very lucky to take part in a day of activities to celebrate Black History Month. We learnt about influential people and how they contributed to modern day society. One activity was finding out about Mary Seacole and her influential work on medicine and hospital care. To celebrate the children created storyboards about her life we also learnt about footballer Ian Wright and completed Maths questions about his number of goals. Lastly, we created identity photos in the style of Lorna Simpson, a photographer, who uses photos and photos to express her views. What an amazing day we had!



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Year 4 Trip to Broomfield Park

On Wednesday 2nd October, Year 4 took a trip to explore the facilities at Broomfield Park. On our visit we looked at the Boating Lake, the Wetland Development, the Conservatory, the Remembrance Garden, the Community Café, the Green Gym and the Adventure Playground. During this we investigated the number of visitors, why it might be of interest to visitors and adjective to describe the different places. We then used this information to create a visitor guides for Brookfield Park.



4MC Assembly

On Friday 11th October 4MC performance their amazing assembly 'We can make a difference'. The assembly focused on environmental issues and the children identified many problems and expressed their ideas for change e.g. recycling, upcycling reducing the amount of plastic they use. They had so much fun performing the songs and the poem.

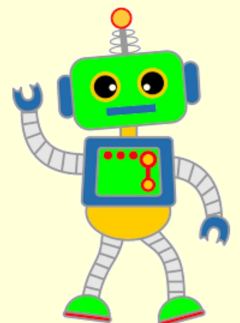


Year 5 Robot day

Highfield pupils had another chance to boost their STEM learning on Friday 11th October 2019. Local Enfield primary schools gathered their future computing engineers from Year 5 students to develop their own robotic devices. Highfield were represented by Louca (5P), Ella (5D) and Isabelle (5B).

The children spent the morning building and programming robots using a combination of mechanics, electronics, problem solving and teamwork, in the afternoon they applied these skills to use more advanced programming to create a more sophisticated robot. 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; they managed to make their Robots dance and were even able to synchronise their robot with one from another school.

Louca, "I enjoyed working with children from other schools, it was interesting to work together to programme our robot. At first, it was tricky to work out what to do but with hard work, we finally managed to get our robot to make a range of movements".



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Pre-loved Uniform Sale

A huge thank you to everyone who donated school uniform, the staff who helped organise and run the sale and everyone who came along to grab themselves a bargain. We are pleased that this has contributed to our commitment to reduce, re-use and recycle as much as possible – which many of the children at Highfield feel very passionate about! We have raised over £60, which shall go towards buying construction toys and games for the Thinking Room.

We will be holding further uniform sales in the spring and summer term.



Year 6 Trip to Bhaktivedanta Manor

As part of the Year 6 Autumn RE topic on Hinduism, we visited Bhaktivedanta Manor in Watford. We learnt about Hindu religious beliefs in an informative talk, listened to a Hindu story, fed cows, went on a cart ride pulled by oxen, tried on saris and even got treated to a delicious lunch! It was such a lovely trip that was enjoyed by all. Some children will even visit again!

“I would like to return and visit with my family.” Amandos 6B



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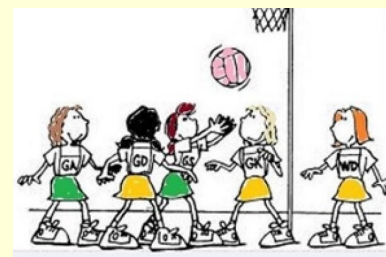
Forty Hall Cross Country Event

On Thursday 3rd October the Highfield Cross Country A team took part in the Borough Cross Country event at Forty Hall with 22 other schools. The hilly course was just over a mile and the conditions were perfect. The girls race started at 2pm with a punishing uphill 70 meters. The route then went downhill through the trees and then it levelled out before returning once more to finish at the top of the steep hill. The girls ran well and Carmen ran brilliantly finishing in 3rd place. Evie also ran a fantastic race finishing in 16th place. The boys race followed the same route and by the final hill Brouklin was in 5th place. Stefan and Jude came 16th and 18th respectively resulting in overall 3rd place for the boys team. With fantastic run from all 10 team members combined, Highfield came 4th overall out of 23 schools. Well done Carmen, Evie, Kloe, Sofia, Lamys, Brouklin, Stefan, Jude, Ardior and Thomas.



Highfield v Firs Farm

On Wednesday 2nd October the new Year 5 and Year 6 netball team played their first match against Firs Farm. The girls played well using spaces and attacking successfully. They won 7:4, a great start to the season!



Highfield v Hazelwood

On Friday 11th October Highfield's girls' and boys' teams played at Hazelwood Primary School. The matches were thrilling minutes of end to end action refereed by Filiz Fernandez who coaches both schools. The girls played first and were initially nervous playing on a smaller pitch with smaller goals and bigger opponents. In the second half they found their confidence and played well. The boys' match was fast and furious. Both sides played to the max scoring goal after goal. Excellent entertainment for the audience! The schools will play again in the new year.



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FOH UPDATE

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Some events over the next few months that will be organized by The Friends of Highfield:

- Bag-2-School- **20th November**
- Christmas Lights switch on and School Choir Carols- **29th November**
- Christmas Grotto- **3rd and 4th December**
- Christmas Quiz Night- **6th December**

Keep a look out for posters around the school in the coming months that will detail dates and times.



friendsofhighfield@hotmail.com



Facebook, Twitter & Instagram @
'The Friends of Highfield'



Chair- Kirsty Tindle

parentkind.org.uk

is brimming with articles for parents, to help you support your child's school life and learning, and it's open to everyone!

FRIENDS OF HIGHFIELD

Highfield Recycling!

The Friends of Highfield have funded 6 new recycling bins for our playground. The kids can now recycle paper, cardboard and plastic. This is a great step forward!



Bag-2-School

Don't forget to bring your used items to school on the morning of **20th November**.

Please drop them at the Pram shelter outside the main reception.

Please note we can only accept donations at this time and place. Thanks for your support!



Parents School Disco #OfftheLeash

A huge thanks to:

Katie & Steve Burke,

Sandra & Mark Stemman

Laura & Michael Yates (parents at Highfield) who helped organise the Parents School Disco Night in the Kings Head Pub on 4th October. We received an **£800.00** donation from this event!

There will be another #OfftheLeash event on 20th December so keep your eyes peeled for details for this up and coming event!



Thought of the month....

'Education is not the learning of facts, but the training of the mind to think'

Albert Einstein

Parentkind
Member Association

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MAKE EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNT At Highfield Primary - Attendance & Punctuality

Oct 2019	
ATTENDANCE	
Form	%
1D	96.28
1J	96.93
1M	96.21
2J	97.64
2M	94.51
2S	93.42
3CF	97.37
3L	97.26
3M	97.96
4A	95.34
4C	95.2
4MC	96.63
5B	95.25
5D	94.24
5P	96.21
6B	98.05
6GC	94.83
6M	96.46
RB	96.11
RF	98.52
RH	98.49
Total	96.25

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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November 2019	Diary Dates
01/11	Wetlands Trip for RH/RF
04/11	FOH Meeting in the Canteen at 9am
08/11	Class Assembly 4A
	Year 5 to Millfield Theatre
	Year 2 SATs Parent/Carer Meeting
11/11	Year 4 Synagogue Visit 9.30am-12pm 4MC & half of 4C
12/11	Scrooge Show in the Hall to Years 1,2,3,
14/11	Scrooge Show in the Hall to Years 4,5,6
18/11	Year 4 Synagogue visit 9.30am-12pm 4A & half of 4C
19/11	New Nursery/Reception parent/carers briefing 9.30am/2.00pm
20/11	Bags to School - FOH
	Year 6 gang and knife awareness
21/11	Class Assembly 4C
22/11	Year 3 to British Museum
	New Nursery/Reception parent/carers briefing 9.30am/2.00pm
26/11	Chicken Shed Performance in Hall for Nursery/Reception
29/11	Christmas Lights switch at 3.30pm - FOH
	Class Assembly 5D

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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