



**HIGHFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL** - "Together we can achieve more"

NEWSLETTER - November 2019



## Message from the Headteacher

**New Parent/Carers meeting** - We have held 4 meetings this month to welcome new parents/carers to our school for the September 2020 intake. An overwhelming amount of interest in joining Highfield Primary School has been demonstrated once again through the 173 families that have come to the meetings and had a tour of the school. During the meeting the I spoke about Highfields' Vision and Ethos and Standards. The Deputy Headteachers spoke through what we offer to Reception and Nursery children many questions were answered. A tour of the school was conducted by the Senior Leadership Team. In addition to these meetings, many families are shown around the school by our admissions officer on a Monday! - Please contact the school office if you would like to visit. I wish all the parents/carers all the very best as they embark in their child's learning journey into school, and very much look forward to working with them in partnership if they start with us at Highfield in September 2020.

## RECEPTION 2019

If your child was born 01/09/2015 - 31/08/2016 they are due to start Reception in September 2019. If your child was born 01/09/2016 - 31/08/2017 they are due to start in Nursery September 2019. Please come to the school office for more information or go to the Enfield admissions website <http://www.enfield.gov.uk/admissions> . The deadline for applications is 15th January 2019 for Reception intake and 15th February for Nursery intake.



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

**This term's value is Gratitude**





## Geography in Year 6

Year 6 were lucky enough to have a special visitor from the 'Thames Explorer Trust', who wanted to educate us about Rivers and the River Thames.

During his visit, we looked at aerial and satellite photos of the source and mouth of the River Thames and watched a fascinating time lapse video of the tide moving in and out.

We also became captain of the Knock Nevis oil tanker (the size of 54 London buses) and planned short and safe routes from Mauritius, Japan and Jamaica to the United Kingdom. Can we really survive without rivers? If you want to know the answer, just ask any Year 6 child!



## Year One's Church Visit

On Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November, Year One walked to Winchmore Hill Baptist Church. The children were so wonderfully behaved in the church and listened carefully to the minister as he explained the Christmas Story in detail using figurines. The children learnt about how the church welcomes people at Christmas time and were given the opportunity to ask some of their inquisitive questions about the Christmas Story. We were also lucky enough to be shown the baptistery and were explained what it is used for and why people may wish to be baptised. We thoroughly enjoyed our visit which has consolidated our learning in our RE topic, 'The Nativity Story' and now we have a better understanding of why Christmas is celebrated by Christians.

Sami - "Miss Johnson got baptised."

Jonny - "The church had lots of crosses on the walls."

Alicia - "Miss Johnson was so brave when she got baptised!"

Faris - "We got to look at The Holy Bible."

Deniz - "It is beautiful."

Logan - "They gave the Baby Jesus Frankincense, Myrrh and Gold."

We would like to thank Mrs Wren, our Chair of Governors, and all the parents and who volunteered their time to accompany us to the Church.



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### Firs Farm Wetlands Trip

Reception really enjoyed their trip to Firs Farm Wetlands at the end of October. It was their first trip out of school and they were extremely excited. We have been learning about Autumn and whilst we were at the Wetlands we collected autumnal objects to explore further once we got back to school. We also collected sticks linking to our core text 'Stanley's Stick', that we are going to use to support us in our writing. Whilst at the Wetlands we also got to do other activities such as feeding the ducks and taking a woodland walk to see what wildlife we could find. The children had a lovely time and we would like to thank the parents that volunteered their time to come with us-without whom these trips would not be possible.



### RH Artis session

Today RH were lucky enough to have a performing arts session with Twang from Artis. Artis is a creative learning charity who physicalise the curriculum through the performing arts, providing magical learning experiences that help children to achieve and schools to raise standards. Today the children started off by moving to music and copying actions, some children then had a turn at leading the rest of the class. We played lots of games and even got to pretend to be pirates!

"I'm going to get the treasure!" Mustafa

"The sea monsters are coming and I am running away!" Elliott



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### **MET Office Visit**

Reception and Year 1 were very lucky to have Rosie from the MET office visit our classes on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November for an interactive session all about the weather and seasons. We enjoyed looking at Rosie's weather symbol T-shirt and discussing what they knew about weather forecasts. We talked about the clothing and items that we need to use depending on the weather, for example the need for waterproofs in the rain. Rosie also talked about the different seasons, the season we are in now, the order the seasons go in and which weather type was linked to each season. We finished the session by asking Rosie our questions about the weather and also her job.



### **Children in Need Day**

On Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November Highfield raised money for Children in Need. We raised an incredible total of £1,120.00, which is the highest record yet! Thank you for your generous donations throughout the week for wristbands, badges and donations to dress up. The children thoroughly enjoyed the day in their own clothes and reflected on the less advantaged lives of other children and young adults in the UK



### **4A's Assembly – Living Things and Their Habitats**

On Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November, 4A presented their class assembly to KS2 and their parents. The children presented their learning from their Science topic of Living Things and Their Habitats. Firstly, the scientists explained exactly how you qualify as a living thing using the handy acronym 'MRS GREN'. They ended that scene with their brilliant performance of the song 'I'm Alive' by Johnny Thunder. Following that, there was an appearance by David Attenborough and his voice doubles who transported us to various different habitats using their wonderfully detailed descriptions. They finished off their informative assembly with an exciting performance of the Habitats Song. Well done, 4A!



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### **Tapestry Meeting 28<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

Mrs Halil-Docherty and Mrs Morton led a meeting where a small group of 14 parents attended across Nursery and Reception. We discussed how to access Tapestry and reiterated the expectations. We also had a chance to look at a child's Tapestry Profile and see how parents can comment and upload photographs, videos, voice recordings but also how to add comments to the observations.

#### **Parents feedback -**

"It involves the whole family"

"We are excited parents waiting for the next upload from the teachers"

"It's a really important application and great job!"

"I like it! It is important for parents to see what our children are doing in school"

"Our children can talk about their learning by looking online!"

"It is lovely seeing our children in the school environment"

"We can see the different parts of their personality from home to at school"

"Great way to communicate with home and school"

"I like seeing my child's development"

"Thank you so much to the EYFS team!"

**Thank you to all the parents that attended and thank you for all of your lovely comments.**

### **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2019 - Great Fire of London Day**

Year 2 had an amazing Great Fire of London day today! We had a carousel of activities between the three classrooms; with Miss Sutton we did a quiz about the fire and learnt to sing 'London's Burning as a round', with Miss Johnson we acted out the fire using our Tudor houses and with Ms Myers we created artwork showing the fire over a silhouette of London! What a fantastic day!



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### 'Christmas Tales from The Shed'

Nursery and Reception watched a performance by the Chickenshed theatre company. The children enjoyed joining in with lots of dancing and singing. They learnt lots of actions and even learnt some British sign language. They met lots of characters including a cloud monster! We even all got to meet Santa, a reindeer, a snowman and a lion called Lion Down to give them cuddles and high fives! The performers were super impressed with Highfield School and thought that the children were brilliant!

"I liked the dancing!" Marley

"I liked the green puppet  
Manisha!" Clyde

"I liked the snowman best"  
Asiyo



### Rocksteady Assemblies

On Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November, Highfield was treated to a rocking afternoon! Tommy from Rocksteady introduced the children to some instruments that make up a rock band; electric guitar, electric drums, keyboard and vocals. He taught us about how the instruments are played and what they sounded like and showed us how to rock out! It was an amazing afternoon and the children all left the hall envisaging their future rock careers...

Cosmin (5P) said "The Rocksteady assembly was very exciting because we had go sing at the top of our voices. Also it was very fun because we got to see how a rock band is made with all the different instruments."

Lexi (4C) said 'The best assembly ever because we could sing and be loud.'

Mohammed (5B) was singing his heart out and said "It was awesome, I loved singing the songs and want to play rock guitar!"

Zilan (2S) said "It was so loud but I loved hearing the different instruments and joining in!"



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NOVEMBER ISSUE 2019

## FRIENDS OF HIGHFIELD

### Christmas Lights Switch On!

Don't forget to wrap up warm and join us on the afternoon of 29<sup>th</sup> November (after school in the playground) for our annual Christmas Lights Switch on. There will be Hot chocolate and mince pies as well as other festive treats for you to enjoy, and the children's choir will be singing Christmas carols.

For the second year running **Knights Estate Agents** are sponsors of our Christmas Lights Switch On.

We would like to thank them for their continued support of our school, and their generous donation towards this festive event.



### UPCOMING EVENTS

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

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

### Bag-2-School

Don't forget to bring your used items to school on the morning of 20<sup>th</sup> 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!



### Christmas Quiz Night

If you still want to come to our Christmas Quiz night there are still some tickets available, but hurry they are running out fast. Only 5 tables left!

You need to arrange your team and book your tickets with reception.

Don't miss out on this great night of fun and festivities, the last one was a blast!

Thanks again to Knights Estate Agents who have also made a generous donation towards this event.



### Thought of the month....

**'Creativity is contagious, pass it on'**

Albert Einstein

**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!

**Parentkind**  
Member Association



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

Nov 2019	
ATTENDANCE	
Form	%
RB	96.3
RF	98.37
RH	97.16
1D	96.7
1J	97.55
1M	95.89
2J	97.67
2M	95.13
2S	94.05
3CF	97.26
3L	97.6
3M	97.52
4A	95.76
4C	96.47
4MC	96.53
5B	95.93
5D	94.9
5P	96.91
6B	98.25
6GC	94.76
6M	96.73
TOTAL	96.61

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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December 2019	Diary Dates
29/11/2019	Christmas Lights Switch 3.30pm - FOH
	Class 5D Assembly
02-04/12/2019	Santa's Grotto - FOH
02/12/2019	FOH Meeting in the School Canteen 9.00am
03/12/2019	Year 4 Recorder Concert to KS2 and Parents
06/12/2019	Christmas Parent's Quiz 7.30pm - FOH
	Class 5P Assembly
	Democracy Day for Whole School
11/12/2019	RH Christmas Assembly for Parents
12/12/2019	RF Christmas Assembly for Parents
13/12/2019	RB Christmas Assembly for Parents
	School Choir Visiting North London Hospice
14/12/2019	School Choir Visiting North London Hospice
19/12/2019	Last Day of Term Early Finish 1.30pm

### 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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