



HIGHFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL - "Together we can achieve more"

NEWSLETTER - December 2019



Message from the Headteacher:

Dear Parent/Carers

I would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a New Year that will be filled with good health, happiness and laughter!

Your continued partnership with the staff and support for the children of Highfield is most greatly appreciated.

I would also like to thank the Governors and Staff for their support during this term and thank the children for continuing to make Highfield a very special place.

"Together we can achieve more"

Best wishes

David Wilson



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

This term's value is Gratitude





Car drop offs

As you are aware Highfield Road is very narrow and not suited for the level of traffic that is caused by a school for almost 700 children opposite another school of almost 1,000 children. This is why I am asking parents that still drop their children off and pick them in vehicles directly outside the school to reconsider. Often residents are blocked in by vehicles parked across driveways, it also has an impact on air quality right outside the school where hundreds of children are walking past and most worryingly can make it very dangerous for children to cross the road as they have to cross between cars.

If you feel you have no alternative but to drive your child to school please try a little bit further from the school and walk the last section of your journey. This may be slightly more inconvenient but it would make the area around the school less chaotic at the start and the end of the school day, it would improve the air quality around the school and would most significantly make it a lot safer for children to cross the road.

Girls Football

On Wednesday 20th November, the Girls' Football team competed in a Borough football tournament at Edmonton Power League. The atmosphere was exciting and energetic, and the girls rose to the occasion. They played in 5 tough matches and went from strength to strength. They learnt numerous new strategies and team tactics whilst there. We are particularly proud of the great team spirit shown by all. Well done Highfield.



Year 4 Recorder Concert

After a term of recorder lessons with Leah from Enfield Music Service, Year 4 performed to their parents and siblings on the morning of Tuesday 3rd December. The children played a selection of pieces they had learned throughout the term using their musical understanding, such as Funky 3 Notes, BB Blues and Got the EBGBs. They were able to read notation and follow a conductor during the concert. For their grand finale, Year 4 wrapped up their concert by singing The Shadow Song. Well done, Year 4!



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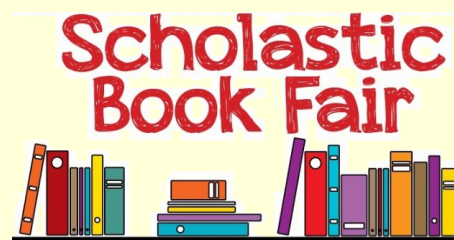
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Book Fair

We raised a huge total of £2,091.00 at the book fair! The 100% commission of books has gone to our Year 5 book corners. Once again a huge thank you to Mrs Oskis and Mrs Neal for their hard work during the book fair.



Save the Children
**CHRISTMAS
JUMPER DAY**

Christmas Jumper Day

Highfield wore their festive jumpers on Friday 13th December to raise money for the 'Save the Children' charity. We raised a fantastic total of £452.50. Thank you for all your generous contributions, particularly during this time of the year when it is important to consider people who are less fortunate than us. Save the Children provide support to children both in the UK and worldwide. Our donations will aid them in their vital efforts to support children.

POSTCARDS OF KINDNESS

Children in 6B were on a mission to sprinkle a little Christmas joy around Winchmore Hill. They choose to write special postcards thanking members of our wider community like the employees at Sainsbury's and staff at the Winchmore Hill library.

They also wrote postcards to individuals who live in the local care homes to wish them a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. They recognised that some members of our community may feel lonely during this festive time of year and wanted them to feel like they "were not forgotten and valued" - Ashton.

They definitely made many people smile and brightened their day!



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RH Nativity

RH put on a fantastic performance for their families. They worked incredibly hard to learn their lines, the songs and actions and even learnt some British sign language. They looked incredible in their outfits and really got into character. They were so brave and all joined in, despite it being a little scary, as it was their first ever time performing in the hall! Mrs Hitchens and the RH team are so proud of their achievement! Well done RH!

Quotes-

"I spoke nice and loud and clear" Lara

"I remembered when to say my line!" Dayana

"I liked being an angel" Essia



Year 3's Amazing Ancient Egyptian Day

Our day started with showing each other our outfits and explaining who we were. Then we had a carousel of activities in each class. With Miss Levison we learned about the job of an archaeologist and carefully excavated for artefacts. With Miss McGrath we looked at Egyptian hierarchy, what it means and who was the most powerful in Egyptian society. Then with Miss Fantela, we explored the process of mummification through science and made observations of each step of the process. Finally we went to the hall and learnt Egyptian dance moves. We had such a wonderful day and thoroughly enjoyed being Ancient Egyptians for the day.



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5P's Class Assembly

On Tuesday 17th December, the children of 5P took their parents and Years 5 and 6 on a festive journey around the world. They started the assembly off with a wonderful song about travelling the world and all the beautiful things there are to see. In groups, the children explained different Christmas traditions and events that happen in various countries. We learnt about Japan, Brazil, Austria, Jamaica and Russia. Following this, the class also had a go at learning the Spanish song, Feliz Navidad. To end the festive journey, the class explained that these traditions could be carried on for years and years to come and it is exciting that we all get to be a part of it. They finished their festive assembly with an energetic performance of the song 'It's Christmas Time'. Well done 5P!



Highfield School Choir

Our amazing Choir have been so busy during the run up to Christmas!

On Friday 29th November, they led a carol sing-along in the school playground. There was a huge crowd, who had gathered to watch the Christmas tree lights be switched on and to buy Christmas goodies. The Choir sang beautifully and it was lovely hearing their audience singing along.

On Friday 6th December, the Choir visited the North London Hospice and sang a selection of carols to the patients. The Choir were amazing and brought a smile all of the patients' faces – what a lovely Friday morning!

On Sunday 8th December, the Choir had their annual visit to Winchmore Baptist Church where they sang carols and took part in the special family service. Each year the children look forward to their visit and the congregation always enjoys listening to their brilliant singing!

Finally, On Saturday 14th December, the Choir performed at Holy Trinity Church's Christmas Fair. The children stood on the balcony and sang wonderfully.

Well done, everyone for your hard work this term. Miss Sutton is so proud!



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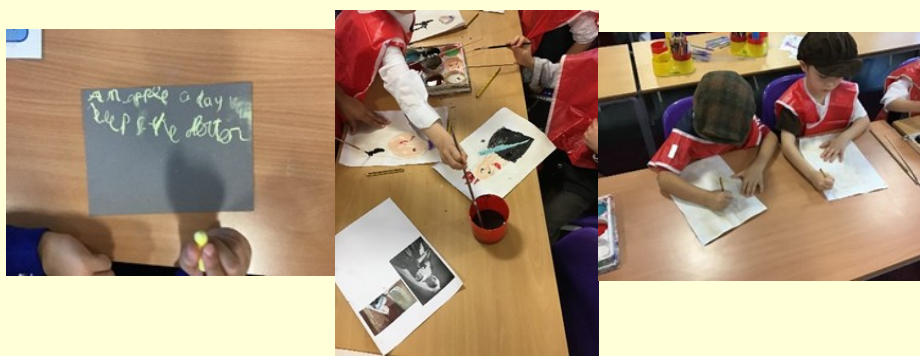


Year 1 step back in time to Victorian England! - Tuesday 10th December 2019

Year 1 have had a Victorian themed school day. The children came to school in their Victorian garments, some children were chimney sweeps and others were very well dressed! The children had to practise their handwriting using chalk and a chalk board. We had exercise drills. We compared life from then to now, all of the children reckon life is better now than it was then as they didn't even have TV!

Finn "Prince Albert introduced Christmas trees to the UK"

Evie "I wish it could be Victorian day all the time!"



Year 6 Science Taster Day at Winchmore Secondary School

On Tuesday 10th December twenty passionate scientists from Year Six were invited to Winchmore Secondary School to take part in a science taster lesson lead by a specialist chemistry teacher. They had the opportunity to explore the different functions of a Bunsen burner and spent time testing a variety of metal salts which are present in fireworks.

The science teacher leading the session was impressed with the type of inquisitive questions asked by the children. She explained that it is important to never stop questioning, as curiosity has its own reason for existing.



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NEWS

DECEMBER ISSUE 2019



UPCOMING EVENTS

Keep a look out for posters around the school in the coming months that will detail dates and times for events that will be coming up in the New Year!

The Friends of Highfield would like to take this opportunity thank everyone, and in particular the Class Reps who have done a wonderful job of sharing news and updates with their classes throughout 2019.

Thank you for your continued support and we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Peaceful New Year!



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

Christmas Lights Switch On!

Thank you to everyone who came along to our Christmas Lights Switch On. And a very big thanks you to all the volunteers who gave up their time to help out. Your help is always so much appreciated. Thank you! This year we managed to raise an amazing **£579.95** for our school. Including £100.00 sponsorship from Knights Estate Agents.



Christmas Grotto

Huge thanks to all the volunteers who helped run this year's grotto, especially the Santa's elves and the Big man Himself (5 Daddy's!)

Bag-2-School

Thank you to everyone who donated their unwanted/used clothes for our Bag-2-School collection.

We managed to raise an amazing **£192.00!**



Thanks for your continued support!

Christmas Quiz Night

Thanks to all the lovely parents who attended our Christmas Quiz Night.

Massive thanks to Andy Polycarpou (Dad in Year 5) for comparing the evening- he was an amazing Quiz master, and very, very funny! It was such a great night and we have had such positive feedback from the parents that attended, that we are already thinking ahead to plan our next one!

Everyone had a great time and we managed to raise an astonishing **£1,807.90** for our school, which again includes £100.00 sponsorship from our very generous friends at Knights Estate Agents.



Thought of the month....

'Our children need our presence more than our presents'

Jesse Jackson

Parentkind
Member Association



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

Dec 2019	
ATTENDANCE	
Form	%
RB	94.74
RF	97.79
RH	96.97
1D	96.74
1J	97.39
1M	95.87
2J	97.48
2M	95.38
2S	93.52
3CF	96.79
3L	96.54
3M	96.63
4A	95.02
4C	96.42
4MC	96.11
5B	95.98
5D	94.97
5P	96.31
6B	98.21
6GC	94.6
6M	96.12
TOTAL	96.26

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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January 2019	Diary Dates
Monday 6th January	School open - First day back
Thursday 9th January	3CF Visit to Winchmore Hill Library
Friday 10th January	Year 6 Gangs Workshop in the Hall
Thursday 16th January	3M Visit to Winchmore Hill Library
Thursday 23rd January	4A Visit to Winchmore Hill Library
Thursday 23rd/30th January	Phonics Workshop for Reception Parents - 9.30am
Friday 24th January	Class 5B Assembly
Wednesday 29th January	Year 5 Masterclass in Hall
Thursday 30th January	4C Visit to Winchmore Hill Library
Friday 31st January	Class 3L Assembly



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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