



Highfield Primary School

NEWSLETTER



Message from Headteacher - SEPTEMBER 2020

First of all I would like to welcome everybody back. It has been a very long time since the school has been fully open and these first few weeks have been a reminder to myself what a great job we have as educators and how wonderful the school feels when it is fully open. Our attendance has been at almost 95% over the first 3 weeks and given the circumstances that is excellent. All the staff have done an excellent job welcoming the children back and it has been great to see children learning again. Everyone has really enjoyed being back at school. The children have adapted to our new systems and procedures really well and their behaviour has been excellent.

I would also like to take the opportunity to thank parents and carers. As a senior leadership team we have been really impressed how you have followed our new procedures, both in the adjusted drop off/collection times and following the rules regarding testing and self-isolating, particularly as I know tests have not been easy to get.

It is difficult to know exactly what the future looks like and we know there will be tough times ahead. What happens outside of the school obviously has an impact on what happens within it, but I think it is important to enjoy those happy times when they come and this first 3 weeks of term has certainly felt like that.



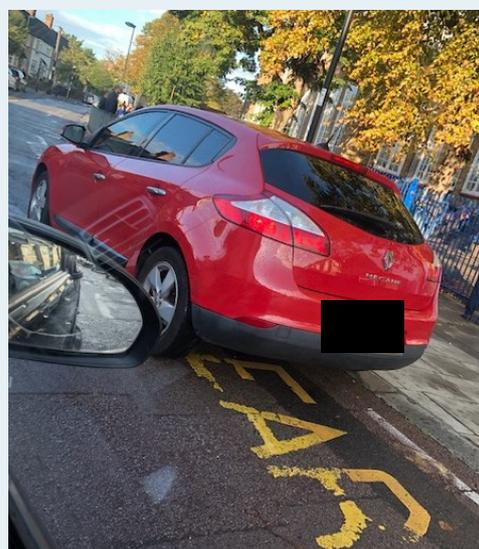
Our three core values are Respect, Co-Operation and Kindness.
This term's value is Kindness

Flu vaccine

You will have recently been sent information about the flu vaccine that is available to all primary school children. This year it will be more important than ever to get children vaccinated. Colds and flu like symptoms are very common, especially in young children, but this year, if your child has these symptoms it will mean household self-isolation and having to book a test. We have already seen what testing is currently like and it will have to significantly increase if the system is going to cope through the Winter months. This could mean even more time at school lost. It is of course your right to decide whether your child has the vaccination or not but our advice would be, that unless there is a good medical reason for your child not to have the vaccination, to give permission for your child to have it.

DRIVING SAFELY & PARKING AROUND THE SCHOOL

We would like to remind parents to park considerately, thinking about where you leave your cars whilst dropping your children off to school. It is absolutely vital that parents/carers DO NOT park over our neighbours' driveways or directly in front of the school gates (as seen in the image below). We appreciate that parking is limited, but the relationship we have with local residents is really important to the success of our school and as always, the safety of our children remains paramount. Please also remember you do have the option to park in Sainsbury's and walk over. We also encourage as many of our families as possible to walk, scoot or cycle to school. Thank you for your cooperation.



Child Sufficiency Assessment Survey - Promoting the Enfield Childcare Sufficiency Assessment Survey

The Education service is required to carry out an annual Childcare Sufficiency Assessment to collate and analyse data regarding access to Early Years Childcare. A short survey has been published that will take between 5-10 minutes to complete. It is aimed at residents of Enfield who are parents and carers of children between the ages of 0-19 years.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/K9PFD8L>

The survey is a great opportunity for parents and carers to “have their say”. Please complete before 23rd October. Thank you.

New Climbing Frame

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the friends of Highfield for using some of the funds that have been raised to install a new climbing frame for the children. The children have really enjoyed playing on it and it was very exciting for them to come back and see the new equipment. The Friends of Highfield support the school in many ways that are not quite so visible (but equally important) but this shows you how some of the money they have raised, with your support, has been spent.



Welcome Nursery and Reception!

The Staff in our Early Years Foundation Stage have been busy welcoming our wonderful new Nursery and Reception children (and their families!) this past few weeks. The children have all settled so well and have been so brave when saying goodbye to their loved ones at the door. The children in Reception even started Multi-Skills this week and were taught by their very own Sports Coach - Ask them to tell you all about it at home as they had lots of fun! The Nursery and Reception Classrooms are already decorated with fantastic writing and beautiful drawings - We definitely have a talented bunch this year that's for sure! Finally, thank you to all parents/ carers for your support in ensuring the transition to school was a smooth one, and thank you also for adhering to our Covid-19 measures - We know it can't have been easy only one parent/ carer being able to bring the children in on their first day but we are grateful for your support in keeping the Highfield Community safe.

Lost Property

Please ensure that your child's clothes, lunch box and water bottle **are all clearly labelled with their name and class**. Due to the current restrictions in the school there is no way that we can have a lost property box, which means if items are not labelled there is very little chance of them finding their way back to your child.

Returning to School and Be Proud Week



Year 3

3D: " We missed being at school and spending quality time with our friends!".

3L: "We love being back at school with our friends. Our class is full of lively children and life. "

3J-" We feel happy coming back to school because we have been at home for a long time. We feel very confident with our work and very settled in. We feel safe with everyone around me in school."

Year 4

4CF- 'We have loved being back at school and seeing our friends and playing with them at break time! We have also enjoyed learning about animals and creatures that can camouflage themselves!'

4C-"We were in lockdown for 5 months straight. We were bored, unhappy and things weren't looking great. But now we're back at our home, the one we call school. The factory is running and everyone is having a ball!"

4M- "I have enjoyed being back at school and learning new things. I liked making my own kaleidoscope in DT, it was fun drawing the patterns that we could see inside."

Class 5BD

"I was nervous at first, I was shaking, but as soon as I saw my friends in class, it felt normal. I am happy and excited!" - Mert

"I was looking forward to learning in class again. I missed working with my class mates and writing on paper." - Eleftherios

"I enjoyed learning about our community during Be Proud Week because Highfield is our community"- Max

"When we reflected on lockdown in Be Proud Week, it made me realise how glad I was to be back at school"- Robin

Class 5CM

Nelly – "It was calming being back at school and I knew I was safe with the bubbles and the sanitising. Decorating the whole classroom was fun."

Qalam – "It's been better at school than staying at home for 6 months because I can to see my friends and teachers can explain the work."

Class 5P

"I felt very excited to be back because lockdown was very boring. My experience of BeProud week was good because we had the chance to do lots of fun activities." - Emily

"I was glad that I was back to school because I could see my friends and learn. My experience in BeProud week was really awesome!" Lachlan

Class 6C

Lamys: "Coming back to school was really enjoyable and I was really happy to see my friends again and be in the classroom learning with everyone."

Brouklin: "The first day I was happy and excited to see the new teachers and my friends. The activities during Be Proud week were fun; I enjoyed making my birds of paradise for our Kaleidoscope of Colour display."

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