



## Highfield Primary School NEWSLETTER



### Message from Headteacher - February 2022



Dear Parent/Carers,

February has been an exciting month at the school. We have had class assemblies, taken part in inter school competitions, had visitors into the school to further enrich children's learning and are taking part in a readathon. Our Junior Travel Ambassadors have also been looking at ways that traffic can be reduced around the school at pick up and drop off times advising on safe parking places away from the school as part of the 'park and stride' initiative.

Unfortunately, events in the wider world have not been so positive. We know that some of our families have been directly affected by the events in the Ukraine and our thoughts and prayers are with them in this incredibly difficult time. I know we will all be deeply concerned. Many of our children have had questions about what is happening and as adults it can be very difficult to know how to respond. I have shared advice in this newsletter of how adults can best support children who are worried about what is happening. I hope you find it useful.

Mr Wilson



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

**This term's value is Equality**

## **Headteacher Awards this month:**

**Week Ending: 04/02/22**

Anya 6C

Jayden 6P

George 6A

**Week Ending: 11/02/22**

Sarah 5M

Nikol 5P

Tadeusz 5C



**Week Ending 25/02/22**

4GF Asi

4C Uthman

4M Isabelle

## **Attendance Class Awards this month:**

**Week Ending 04/02/22**

KS1 2M - 98%

KS2 3D - 99%

**Week Ending 11/02/22**

KS1 RL - 100%

KS2 3L - 99%



**Week Ending 25/02/22**

KS1 RL - 98%

KS2 6A - 97%

### Language of the Term

The language of the term is Bulgarian. Mrs Marsh held an assembly for the children. Here is some of the information that was included in the assembly:

- Bulgaria is a mountainous Balkan country that borders the Black Sea and has a rich cultural history of Greek, Slavic, Ottoman, and Persian influences.
- Capital: Sofia
- Population: 7 million
- Key Cities: Sofia, Plovdiv, Varna, Burgas
- Official Language: Bulgarian
- Major Religions: Orthodox, Roman Catholic, Muslim, Protestant
- Bulgaria has hot summers and long, cold winters. From December to mid-March, the country gets a lot of snow, especially high in the mountains.
- Bulgaria's currency is the Bulgarian lev. The majority of Bulgaria's citizens speak Bulgarian, a language that uses the Cyrillic alphabet. Turkish and Romani are also spoken, along with foreign languages such as Russian, English, Italian, and Spanish.
- Bulgarian Orthodox is the main religion in Bulgaria, but the country is also home to Roman Catholics, Muslims (about 12% of the population), Protestants, and Jews.



- |               |                |              |
|---------------|----------------|--------------|
| • Добро утро  | (Dobra Utro)   | Good morning |
| • Добър вечер | (Dobar vecher) | Good evening |
| • Здравсти    | (Zdrasti)      | Hello        |
| • Довиждане   | ( Doviždane)   | Goodbye      |
| • Как си?     | (Kak si?)      | How are you? |
| • Благодаря   | (Blagodarja)   | Thank you    |
| • Моля        | (Molja)        | Please       |

### **Reception and The Junk Orchestra!**

Reception had a fantastic time with The Junk Orchestra, we enjoyed a workshop with our classes and then finished off with an amazing band jam! The teachers even got involved! This was a fantastic opportunity for the children to discuss the impact that recycling has on our planet and our local area. Well done everyone!



### **3L Assembly**

On Friday 11th February, 3L wowed us with their fantastic Class Assembly. They showcased their learning about Rocks and Soils and also demonstrated all they had learnt about Puppetry during their DT lessons in the most wonderful paired dance routines - Their collaborative work (and confidence!) was very impressive! It was also brilliant to see their performance poetry in action - Such loud, clear voices with corresponding actions too. Well done 3L!

### **3J Assembly**

On Friday 4<sup>th</sup> February, it was 3J's class assembly. The children talked about their learning and the amazing things they had done during their time so far in Year 3. The audience listened attentively as the children spoke enthusiastically about the History topic they had studied, 'The Stone Age', their Science topic on the study of rocks and their English work about the story 'Gregory Cool'. The children also went on to wow their audience with their beautiful singing and wonderful playing of 'Twinkle, twinkle little star' on the glockenspiels. All the staff in 3J were so proud of the children. Well done 3J you were absolutely fantastic and all superstars!

### **Highfield School Football Team**

On Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February Highfield's Year 5 and Year 6 football team played their third match in the Enfield Borough league. They were due to play two matches on this day but the second match was postponed.

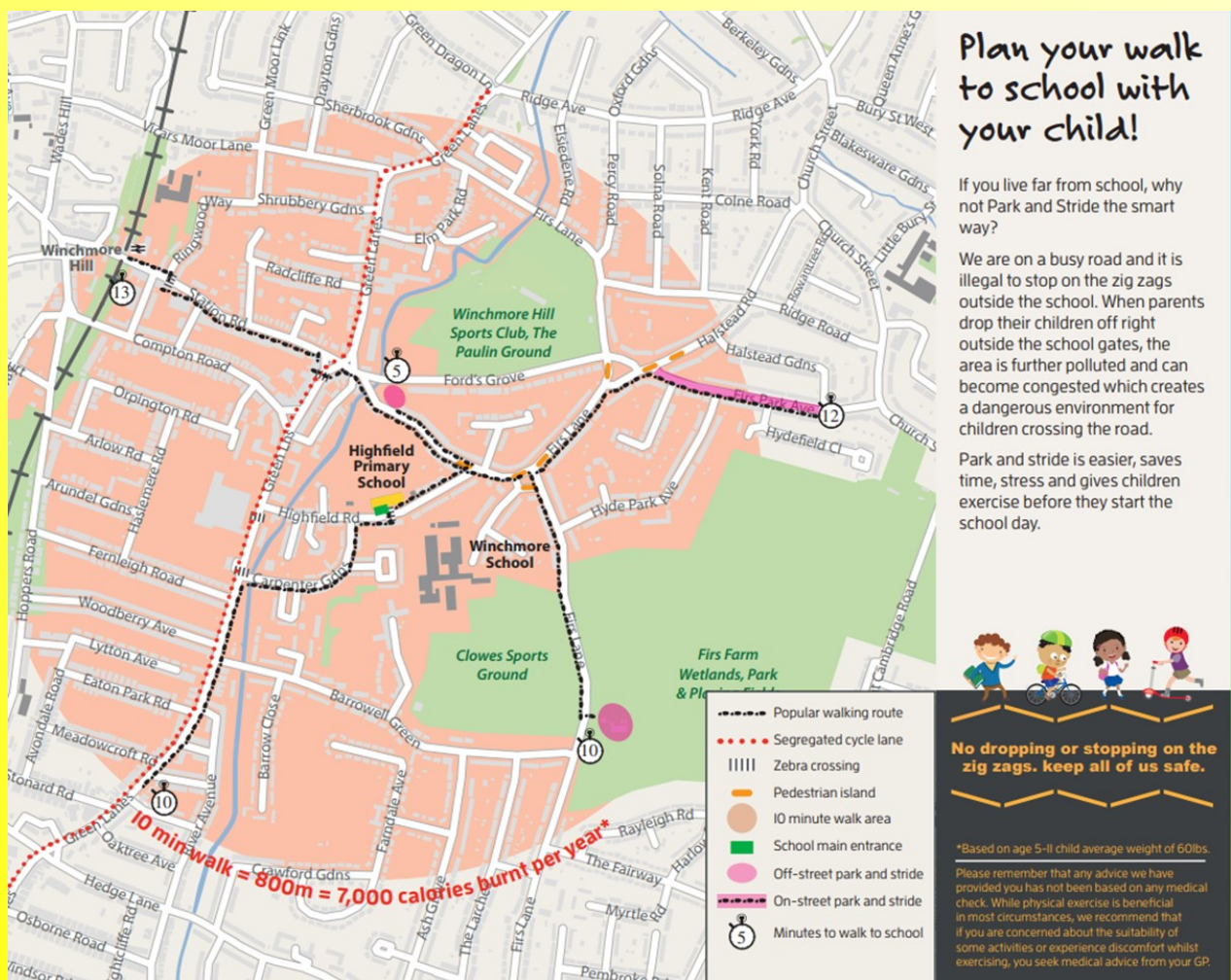
The event took place at Edmonton County Power League against Raglan School. Highfield played well working closely as a team. In the first half they defended successfully against a very strong team and they had some shots on target. In the second half they kept their team spirit despite letting in a number of goals. They lost the game but they are already looking forward to the next match. Great teamwork Qalam, Adem, Kyran, Mert, Jayden, Lachlan, Marcus, Alex and Manny.



## Park and Stride to Highfield Primary School

Highfield's JTA children are working very hard in school at the moment promoting the positive benefits walking to school. We fully understand that for some of our families this is not possible due to the distance they live from school but we have a solution! Have you considered parking a short distance from the school and then walking the rest of the way with your child/ren? There are many benefits to walking the whole way or part of the way to school including; reducing the traffic congestion and pollution on and around Highfield Road in turn keeping our children safer, daily exercise helps everyone to stay fit and healthy and also walking to and from school allows time to talk to friends and family. These are just a few of the benefits that walking to school can have. Children may also choose to ride their bike or scoot to school, with these also being great ways to stay fit and healthy and reduce traffic congestion and pollution around our school.

Below is a copy of Highfield Primary School's Park and Stride map showing you distances from school, safe parking locations and additional information. Happy parking and striding to school!



### **ELC Maths Competitions**

On Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> February, a team of 4 Year 6 children took part in the 'Excellence in Learning Community's interschools Maths competition via Zoom. On Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February, it was the turn of our Year 5's to compete against the 6 other schools.

Both competitions involved 3 rounds, the first was arithmetic, followed by word problems and then a third and final round on problem solving. Our Year 6's scored highest out of all the schools in arithmetic and 100% in the third round. In total they scored 31 points, only 4 points behind the winners, which allowed them to secure third place overall!

Well done to all the children who took part and represented our school. We are very proud of you!

Year 5: Satya, Minnie, Noah and Andrey

Year 6: Alexander, Seriban, Robin and Nelly

### **Readathon**

To promote our children's love of reading, this year to coincide with National World Book Day, we are running a Read for Good Readathon from Monday 28th February to Monday 28th March and it would be wonderful if your child is able to join in.

'It's been proven that children who read for pleasure are more likely to be successful and happy throughout their lives' (OECD). The charity Read for Good encourages children to read, through its unique motivational approach inspiring reluctant readers to give reading a go, and keen readers to read more widely. Pupils can choose whatever they want to read - from comics to classics and audio books to blogs - they are not being assessed, it's all about reading for fun. They are motivated to read because the money they raise in sponsorship helps to provide a regular supply of new books and a resident storyteller to every major children's hospital in the UK.

All you have to do is: 1. Take a look at what they plan to read, or help them complete their list of books to read. Children can read whatever they want: books, e-books, poetry, comics. Sharing books is fine too as well as listening to audio books.

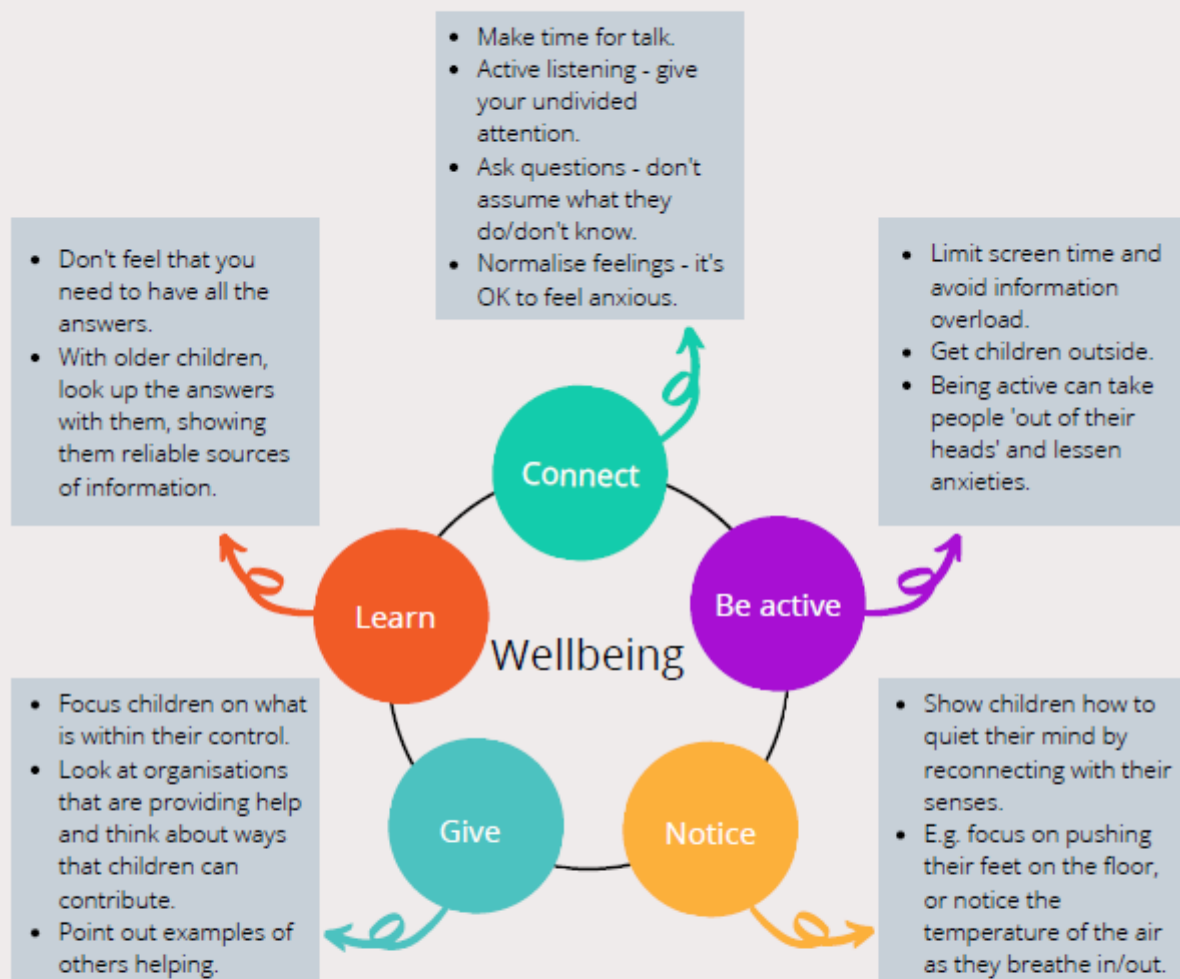
2. Help your child find sponsors among family and friends. The easiest way to sponsor a child is at <https://readathon.secure.force.com/sponsor> (which family and friends can use too). Alternatively, cheques may be made payable to Read for Good with the sponsor's name and address on the back. Cheques should be sent into school in an envelope clearly marked with your child's name and class.

Please support your child's sponsored read as much as you can. They'll be helping children in hospitals while developing their own love of reading. Highfield will also receive free books worth 20% of the total sponsorship money for use in the school. For more information, please see your child's sponsorship card and visit [www.readforgood.org](http://www.readforgood.org).

### **Year 4 Natural History Museum Workshop**

On the 21st and 24th February, Year 4 took part in an online workshop with the Natural History Museum in London. During the workshop children became volcanologists, learning about parts of volcanoes, types of eruptions, how a seismograph is used and they took part in a special challenge to save Volcano Town! All the children engaged with the workshop and enjoyed taking part in this unique learning experience.

# The Ukraine - helping children cope with world conflict.



The five ways to wellbeing are evidence based ways of looking after your mental health. Here, we think about how they can support children during a time of heightened anxiety and fear amid world events. Children under 7 are unlikely to take on board much of what is going on, so it can be best to wait for them to bring it up. With older children and teenagers, adults have less control over where their information comes from. Ask them questions to determine what they know and correct any misconceptions. With older children, respond to questions but don't overload them with facts. Keep messages simple and offer reassurances about the distance and the minimal risk of events directly impacting them or their families. Teens might have 'what if' questions - help them reality check these 'what ifs', explore what they could do in certain situations and focus them on the things they can control.



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

<b>February 2022</b>	
<b>ATTENDANCE</b>	
<b>Form</b>	<b>%</b>
RF	95.37
RJ	90.92
RL	97.99
1B	96.05
1C	94.62
1S	95.64
2BD	91.29
2M	93.93
2RM	98.21
3D	93.07
3J	94.71
3L	96.17
4C	91.19
4GF	92.6
4M	91.09
5C	93.57
5M	93.33
5P	92.84
6A	93.86
6C	92.73
6P	90.61
Total	94.04

While the majority of pupils at Highfield do have good attendance and are only absent when absolutely necessary, we want to remind our families about the importance of attendance and 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. 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, particularly with the self-isolation rules in place for covid, 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.

<b>TIME ABSENT FROM SCHOOL</b>	<b>ATTENDANCE</b>
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.**



<b>March 2022</b>	<b>UPCOMING EVENTS AT HIGHFIELD</b>
Tuesday 1st March	4M Woodcroft Trip
Thursday 3rd March	World Book Day
Thursday 3rd-Thursday 10th March	Library Book Fair
Friday 4th March	Class 2M Assembly
Tuesday 8th March	International Women's Day
Wednesday 9th March	Year 3 and 5 Easter Workshop
Thursday 10th March	Year 4 and 6 Easter Workshop
Thursday 10th March	Author Visit for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2
Friday 11th March	4C Woodcroft Trip
Friday 15th March	Class 2RM Assembly
Tuesday 22nd and 24th March	Parent's Evening
Friday 25th March	Class 2BD Assembly
Tuesday 29th March	4GF Woodcroft Trip
Wednesday 30th March	Trashion Show
Friday 1st April	Last day of term for Easter Holidays
Monday 4th-18th April	Easter Holidays
Tuesday 19th April	First day back to school