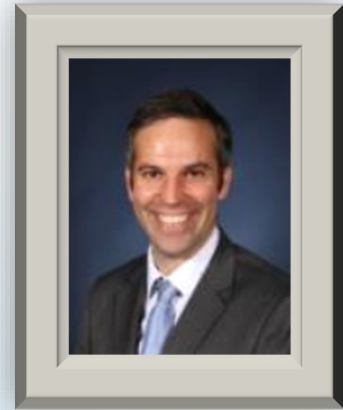




Highfield Primary School

NEWSLETTER September 2023



Message from Headteacher

First of all, I would like to give a warm welcome to our new families. At Highfield we are a community and it is always lovely to welcome new members. I have had the pleasure in going into all the classrooms and seeing how excited the children are to be here. They have quickly settled into their new classes and have thoroughly enjoyed being back at school with their friends and new teachers.

Our theme for the term is 'Little People, Big dreams'. You may well be aware of the book series with the same title and the children have been looking at people who have changed the world around us by dreaming big! We have also been thinking about the dreams we have for the future and how we can improve the world that we live in. It has been lovely to see the children's work displayed around the school.

Another focus we have for this year is hands on, creative learning. Children have told us some of their favourite lessons are when they work practically and creatively and we are ensuring that they get plenty of opportunities to do so. Already children have been taking part in golf lessons, programming robots to complete tasks, learning about the features of different trees and many other activities.



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

Headteacher Awards this month:

Week Ending 22/09/23—Year 6

Nadine 6P
Raphaelle 6A
Gloria 6C

Week Ending 29/09/23—Year 5

Angela 5C
Carlos 5P
Zac 5M



Attendance Class Awards this month:

Week Ending 08/09/23

EYFS/KS1: 1M 99%
KS2: 5C 99%

Week Ending : 15/09/23

EYFS/KS1: 2BD 99%
KS2: 5C and 5P 100%

Week Ending : 22/09/23

EYFS/KS1: 2S 99%
KS2: 5C 100%

Week Ending : 29/09/23

EYFS/KS1: 2S 100%
KS2: 5C 99%



Chair of Governors

This month the Governing body appointed a new Chair of Governors. After many years as Chair, and even longer on the Governing body, Diana Wren has stepped down as Chair. In her time as Chair she has been involved in 3 OFSTED inspections, seeing the School achieve Outstanding status in 2016 and retain this status in 2022. She will remain on the Governing Body.

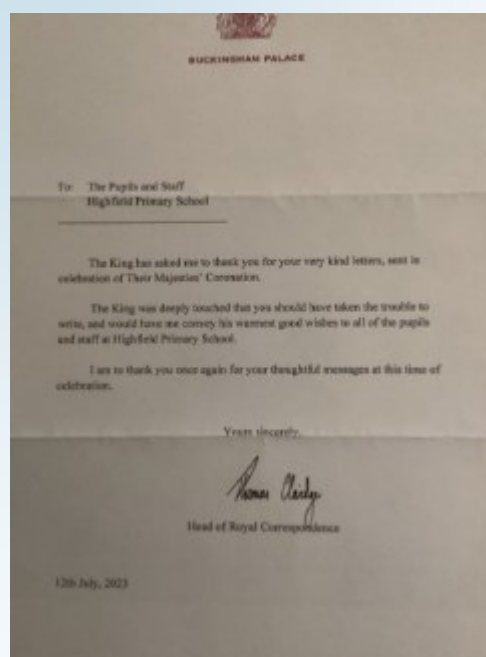
Tim Guha, whose three children attend Highfield, is the new Chair of Governors. He has the following message for parents;

'I joined the Governing Body in 2021 and am privileged to have been nominated and appointed as Chair of Governors, building on the excellent work of my predecessor Diana. We all want what's best for our children and with three myself currently at Highfield, I am fully committed to leading an effective governing body that works with the Headteacher and school community to drive improvement and success.'



Letter from the King

At the time of the King's Coronation our Year 1 children (now in Year 2) wrote to the new King. Earlier this month the children received a letter back from the Head of Royal Correspondence and a card from King Charles and Queen Camilla, thanking them for their kind and thoughtful messages. The children were very excited to see their letters had been responded to.



Pupil Leaders

Buddies

The Highfield Buddies for the coming year are; Maaya, Kleandra, Etta, Max, Amelia, Chara, Evin, Stella, Kabir, Carla, Paloma, Phoebe, Tiffanie, Sarah, Leigharna, Cinar and Derin.

Their role is to make sure that every child has a friend to play with at lunchtimes. They will be stationed in our Guadi garden at lunchtimes so children know where to go if they feel lonely.



Anti Bullying Ambassadors

The Anti Bullying ambassadors for the coming year are; Lois, Eddy, Georgina, Rafi, Tselmuun, Sophia, Rheo, Miray, Lawrence R, Ronan, Ada, Demi and Gloria.

Their role is to raise awareness of the anti-bullying message within their class and across the school, particularly during Anti-bullying week. They also help children solve their problems and let an adult know if needed.



Environmental Prefects

The environmental prefects for the coming year are; Lily, Josh, Garid, Sewal, Cecilia, Kerem, Sena, Mariciano, Liat, Bentli, Elsie, Andya.

Their role is to help make the school environment as lovely as possible, helping with litter picking, sweeping, planting flowers and suggesting ways in which the school environment could be improved.



Be proud week

During Be Proud Week, each class from Year 2 to Year 6 voted for their School Council representative. Those wishing to be considered for the role presented a persuasive speech to the class. They were then voted for democratically.

Our School Council representatives are Rabia 6C, Noomi 6A, Florence 6P, Faris 5M, Maliq 5P, Evie 5C, Lara 4AC, Leyla 4C, Mustafa 4GF, Benji 3P, Zeff 3L, Ruby 3J, Max 2BD, Maddie 2M, Rafe 2S. Congratulations to you all. Watch this space for School Council updates.

Little People, BIG DREAMS



What was your dream when you were younger? Have you achieved all your dreams?

Our autumn whole school topic, '**Little People, Big Dreams**' is inspired by the collection of books written by Spanish author Maria Isabel Sánchez Vegara. Her stories introduce children to artists, trailblazers and dreamers, who each made a big impact in the world around them. Our hopes for the topic is to show Highfield children that they can achieve anything they put their mind to and that dreams can come true! We have lots of inspirational parents coming in during 'Aspirations Week' to share their jobs and how they accomplished their dreams.

We look forward to showing the fantastic work produced over this term.



Hands-on learning in Year 3

Children in Year 3 have been taking part in hands-on and cooperative learning across the curriculum. They have been getting robots to follow instructions in Computing, learning hieroglyphics in their Ancient Egypt topic and using practical resources to further develop their understanding of place value in Maths.



Golf Kkds

The children had a great start to the term by taking part in golf sessions. They learned how to putt and chip a golf ball. Looks like Highfield might have some Pro Golfers in the future!!

Florence “ It was fun that everyone had a turn and it was educational”.

Minnie “ I really enjoyed the golf lessons today because 1. It helped me improve my golf skills and 2. It was very fun.”



Eco council

In September, the new Eco council children were appointed from both KS1 and KS2. The children have surveyed the green areas around the school, by visiting already existing bug hotel and developing areas around the pond. To begin with, they decided on tidying up the flower pots near the entrance of Year 4. They have weeded out the dead flowers, spread the soil evenly and planted the new wildflower seeds. Let's watch how fast the new flowers grow!



Outdoor learning in Year 1

Year 1 have settled fantastically into Year 1 and have enjoyed lots of outdoor learning opportunities. They have especially enjoyed their Science learning this term where they have been learning about the parts of our body and our 5 senses. The children have enjoyed drawing around their friends and labelling their body parts as well as going on a sight and sound walk.

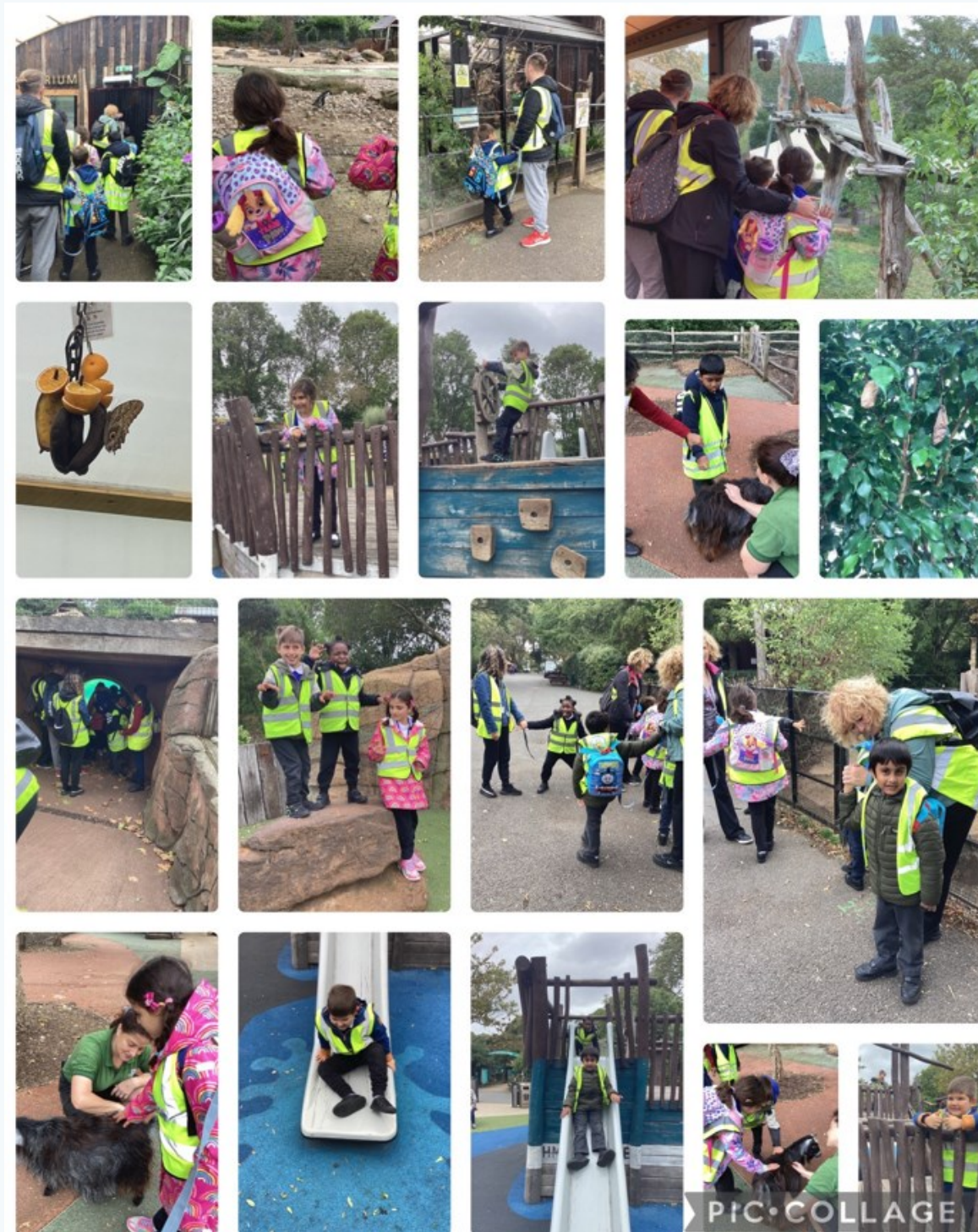


Outdoor learning in Year 4

As part of their 'All living things' topic in Science children have been looking at the different habitats around the school and how they change. They recorded the different habits minibeasts have in and around the trees and discussed why they chose to live there.



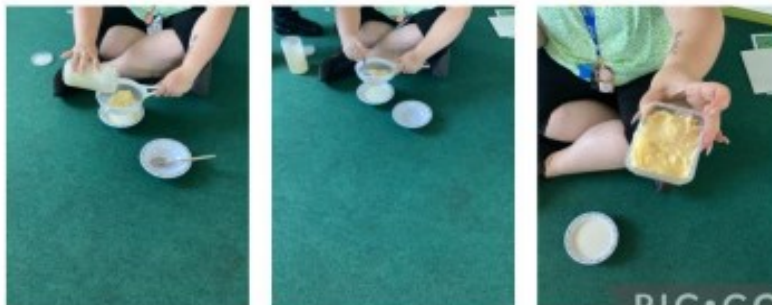
BERRY CLASS—Trip to London Zoo



Berry Class had a fantastic day at London Zoo. We were able to see many of the animals. As part of our Science topic, we are learning about different life cycles. We visited the butterfly farm and saw different types of butterflies and the different stages of their life cycle. We also visited the farm area where we met some very friendly goats as part of our history topic 'Life before shops'.



How did people before shops make their own food?



PIC•COLLAGE

In Berry Class the children were learning about how people on farms created different foods. We learned that before shops, people had to make their own butter. We did this by pouring whipping cream into a jar and took turns to shake it. After a while, we were able to separate butter and butter milk. The children were all able to say what they made.

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

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.

Sept 2023

ATTENDANCE

Form	%
RF	96.65
RJ	96.25
RL	98.56
1B	97
1M	97.3
1W	96.13
2BD	95.73
2M	94.76
2S	98.11
3J	97.11
3L	98.11
3P	97.52
4AC	93.99
4C	97.13
4GF	96.3
5C	99.64
5M	98
5P	96.99
6A	95.41
6C	96.29
6P	97.57
Total	96.89

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, 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.**

October 2023	UPCOMING EVENTS AT HIGHFIELD
Monday 2nd October	Year 4 trip to Synagogue
Tuesday 3rd October	Geography workshops in hall for Reception, Year 1 &
Friday 6th October	Class 5M Assembly
	Year 5 & 6 Borough cross country
Friday 13th October	Class 5NC Assembly
	Year 1 Trip to the Church
Tuesday 17th and Thursday 19th October	Parents Evening
Monday 23rd-Friday 27th October	Half Term
Monday 30th October	Inset Day
Tuesday 31st October	School opens for Children

