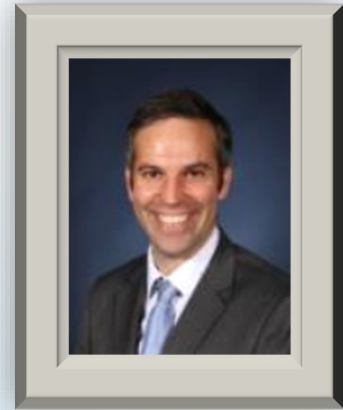




Highfield Primary School

NEWSLETTER October 2023



Message from Headteacher

Dear Families

We have had a very exciting month at Highfield. Our sports competitions have started, both boys football team enjoying a successful start to their seasons. The girls netball team played their first matches (winning 2 out of 3 games) and we took part in the borough cross country. We have had Year 5 class assemblies, where the children have been able to show what they have been learning, as well as their dancing, singing and oratory skills. We marked world homelessness day and had an inspirational Aspirations week, where the children got to hear about some of the jobs they could do in the future and think about their aspirations and what they would like to be.

We also had a week of creative writing. The children were able to choose what they wrote about and the form it took. I know the children really enjoyed applying their writing skills and creating something they are proud of.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mr Wilson

Headteacher



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

Headteacher Awards this month:

Week Ending: 06/10/2023

4GF Nicholas

4C Anna

4AC Aaran

Week Ending: 13/10/2023

3L Zeff

3J Kleandra

3P Frankie



Week Ending: 20/10/2023

2M Freya

2S Dionis

2BD Lily

Week Ending 03/11/2023

1M Jacob

1W Sophia

1B Camilla



Attendance Class Awards this month:

Week Ending: 06/10/23

EYFS/KS1: 2M 100%

KS2: 3P 99%

Week Ending: 13/10/23

EYFS/KS1: 2BD/2M 99%

KS2: 3L/4GF 99%

Week Ending: 20/10/23

EYFS/KS1: 2S 99%

KS2: 3L 98%

Week Ending: 03/11/23

EYFS/KS1: 2M 99%

KS2: 5M 100%

Creative Writing Week 16-20th October

This week the children have had a fantastic time exploring their own ideas for writing creatively.

Early Years have been mark writing, creating characters and writing indoors and out - on the floor, on boxes, in mini books and even under the tables! Year 1 created their own animals to write stories about.

Year 2 chose a tiger theme and wrote poems, fact files, stories, news reports and even songs.

Year 3 wrote about an unexpected and unexplained visitor to Highfield. Year 5 focused on an oceans theme and have produced some incredible writing.

Years 4 and 6 followed their own individual ideas and have written comics, poems, fact files, autobiographies, mystery, thriller and adventure stories.

We are so proud of everything they have achieved and know they have also enjoyed sharing their ideas and writing with their parents/carers !

Year 4 Synagogue Trip

Year 4 visited the Cockfosters and North Southgate Synagogue as part of their RE learning focused on Judaism. Whilst there, the children had the opportunity to explore the surroundings and to ask Rabbi Schindler questions about some of the special items/features that they noticed. They saw some Hebrew writing and learnt that Hebrew books are read from back to front and right to left. The children were also lucky enough to see the sacred Torah and learnt that when they take this out during any Service (e.g. Shabbat), bells on the end of this jingle to remind people to stand and show their respect. They also learnt that the beautiful stained glass windows lining one of the walls of the Synagogue were gifted to them and represent different Bible Stories, one of them representing Moses. Rabbi Schindler then modelled how a Prayer Shawl (Tallit) is worn and explained these are worn to pray. On our way out the children also got to walk through the 'Sukkah' - This is a temporary hut constructed for use during the week-long Jewish festival of Sukkot. It was topped with branches and decorated with autumnal images and decorations, some of which had been created by local children and families.

As well as demonstrating exemplary behaviour during the trip, the children also showcased their vast knowledge of this religion that they have retained from recent RE lessons - You made us all very proud Year 4; Well done!



Year 1 Church Trip

Year 1 were really lucky to visit Holy Trinity Church in Winchmore Hill on Friday 13th October 2023. They took their Harvest festival contributions and placed them at the front of the church so that they could be donated to a local charity who needed it. They had the opportunity to sit in the pews of the church and listened to a talk by Father Morris. He told them all about Harvest and what happens at this time of year. Year 1 then had the opportunity to sing their Harvest song that they have been learning.



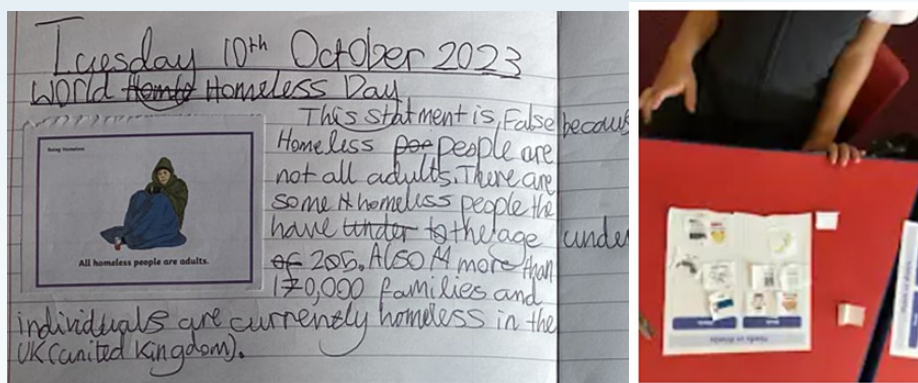
World Homeless Day

On Tuesday 10th October, we observed World Homeless Day. Children watched a PowerPoint which taught them why some people are homeless and what we can do to help. Some activities were:

Year 1 and Berry class, visited our local church within the week and discussed the importance of helping others less fortunate than ourselves and when they got back to class they completed an activity about needs and wants.

Year 2 came up with ideas about how they could help the homeless people.

Year 4 looked at true or false statements and gave reasons for their answers and corrected any misconceptions people have about homeless people and their situations.



Drama4ALL Workshops

On Tuesday 3rd October Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 were lucky enough to take part in drama sessions run by Drama4ALL. The children got the opportunity to 'meet' Phileas Fogg and travel with him on an exciting globe trotting adventure around the world. The children had the opportunity to learn a song about Australia, become animals they saw along the way and also act out a range of dilemmas that they faced. The children were able to link their previous Geography knowledge and build on this during the workshops.



The children had a wonderful time during the workshop and we are very grateful that Drama4ALL were able to come to our school.

Year 2 - Diwali Day -13th October 2023

To celebrate the children's learning about Diwali, in year 2 we had a Diwali day! The children came to school wearing colourful clothing to begin the Diwali celebrations. In class we learned all about Rangoli patterns and we created our own Rangoli patterns using playdough and a range of colourful beans, seeds and lentils. We learned a Bollywood style dance as well as making paper candles. We watched videos of families celebrating Diwali. We also were very lucky to have some of the children's parents talk to us about how they celebrate Diwali as a family whilst sharing their traditions. They also revisited the story of Rama and Sita.



5C Class Assembly: Oceans

On Friday 13th October, 5C presented their assembly on Oceans to Year 5, Year 6 and their parents and carers. All children worked incredibly hard to share their knowledge from our Geography unit on Oceans and how climate change is affecting our world. 5C also learnt two beautiful songs (What a Wonderful World and The Clean Up Song) to express their compassion for the world and its oceans. Also, 5C also designed and created their own River and Oceans Clean Inventions and shared these as part of our assembly. It was a brilliant assembly and enjoyed by all!



Aspirations Week (Monday 16th October-Friday 20th October)

This term our school was transformed into a buzzing hub of inspiration during our Aspirations Week. This term we organised Aspirations Week (w/b 16th October 2023). It provided a fantastic opportunity for children to develop an understanding of the link between their school learning and the broader world of work. Aspirations Week enabled children to expand their awareness of the array of future job possibilities, breaking down stereotypes and challenging biases. We were incredibly grateful that some very kind parents generously volunteered to come to the school, where they shared insights about their careers through workshops or assemblies during the week. On Friday, 20th October, children came to school dressed up as what they aspire to be when they grow up.



Boys Football

On Wednesday 4th October the Highfield boy football team took part in the first round of the league. They had three games, the first game was against Raglan, it was a tough game, they lost 4-2 with Paul and Dylan scoring for Highfield. Their second and third game had better outcomes with Highfield winning both matches. Eldon 1-0, with Kevin scoring to ensure we would win. Prince of Wales 3-0 goals scored by Paul, Kevin and Dylan.

Well done to Paul, Dylan, David, Kevin, Jackson, Brodie, Luca, Ferit and Berkin!



Cross Country

On Friday 16th October the Cross country team took part in the annual borough event at Forty Hall. It was a great day and the sun was shining. Highfield was joined by 25 other schools. The girls team came 4th overall and the boys came 9th, both teams did amazing. Overall Highfield came 8th out of 25 schools which is amazing. A huge well done to Dylan, Paul, Sophia, Izzy, Hira, Lawrence, Abdi, Harriet, Zach and Aleeha !!!



Netball

On Tuesday 10th October the Netball team took part in the newly 'High Five' netball match. The rules change slightly, there are no WA or WD positions and two boys are allowed on the pitch at all times. It was challenging but the children picked it up quite quickly. They had 3 games, the first game was against St Pauls, where Highfield won 4-0, goals scored by Harriet. The second match was against Edmonton county, Highfield were successful by winning 6 -0 goals, scored by Harriet and Jay. The last match was the most challenging against Raglan. Highfield unfortunately lost, but the team kept their spirits up, right until that last whistle. Great teamwork Ronan, Izzy, Hira, Christine, Harriet, Eden and Jay!!



5M Class Assembly - Little People Big Dreams

On Friday 6th October 5M performed our class assembly, Little People, Big Dreams to parents of Year 5 and Year 6. From the beginning of term we had been researching significant people who had big dreams when they were young, and who had made a difference to people's lives as they grew up; people such as Martin Luther King, Stevie Wonder, Greta Thunberg and Malala Yousafzai. We linked our research with our plans for the future and in the assembly we spoke, sang and danced our dreams for the future. We are little people, with BIG DREAMS.



5M's New River Walk

On Tuesday 10th October 5M carried out a survey of a section of the New River. As part of our geography topic on oceans, we were investigating water pollution. We surveyed three parts of the river section from Highfield Road to Farm Road looking for plastic pollution, large items thrown into the river and signs of wildlife. We discovered that the banks of the river and footpaths were quite free of litter, however there were many large items on the riverbed. Further along the path we saw that river maintenance workers had cleaned up this section of the river banks.

We also discovered that there are many crayfish living in the New River as well as ducks and coots.



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.

Oct 2023 ATTENDANCE

Form	%
RF	96.52
RJ	97.3
RL	97.96
1B	96.44
1M	96.57
1W	96.21
2BD	97.27
2M	96.76
2S	98.26
3J	97.49
3L	98.26
3P	97.26
4AC	94.65
4C	97.12
4GF	96.95
5C	98.67
5M	97.62
5P	96.79
6A	96.36
6C	96.25
6P	97.44
Total	97.07

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.**

November 2023	UPCOMING EVENTS AT HIGHFIELD
Tuesday 7 November	Year 5 Trip to the London Aquarium
	Class 4C Woodcroft Trip
Friday 10 November	Remembrance Day
	Class 4GF Assembly
Monday 13 November	Class 4GF Trip to the Natural History Museum
Tuesday 14 November	Prospective Parent's Tour 10am and 2pm
Friday 17 November	Class 4C Assembly
Tuesday 21 November	Prospective Parent's Tour 10am and 2pm
Friday 24 November	Year 3 Ancient Egyptian Day
	Class 4AC Assembly
Tuesday 28 November	Year 6 Aladdin Performance at Winchmore School
Thursday 30 November	Flu Nasal Spray for Reception, Years 1,2,3,4,5, and 6

