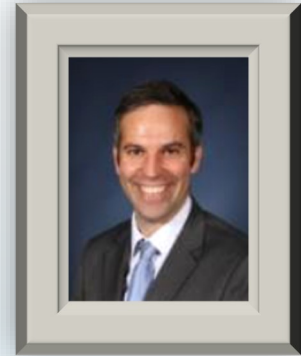




Highfield Primary School

NEWSLETTER December 2023



Message from Headteacher

As we end the term I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. The month of December has been filled with Christmas events. Last week our Reception children performed their Nativity plays. It was such a joy to see the children's excitement and enthusiasm and I know they have loved performing in front of their siblings and parents/carers. I know all the children have also been enjoying their Christmas parties and have even had a visit from Santa (thank you Friends of Highfield).

At the start of the month we had the Christmas light switch on, organised by the Friends of Highfield. As well as the lights being switched on, our choir performed Christmas carols and there were various stalls selling food, drinks and gifts. I am sure everyone who attended will agree it was a thoroughly enjoyable event. This event raised over £1,120 for the school!

On the 8th December we had our Christmas jumper day and the children performed Christmas songs to each other.

Our school choir have also been out in the local community. On Sunday 10th December they performed at Winchmore hill Baptist church. Thank you to all the children and families who attended and Ms Moody for organising the event with the church.

Finally thank you for the support that you have given the school over the last year. We know that by working together we achieve the best for our children. We will see you again in the New Year!



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

Headteacher Awards this month:

Week Ending: 08/12/2023

3L - Eva

3P - Adrian

3J - Leila

Week Ending: 15/12/2023

2BD - Evie

2M - Jimmy

2S - Naima



Attendance Class Awards this month:

Week Ending: 08/12/2023

EYFS/KS1: 2BD 98%

KS2: 4GF 99%

Week Ending: 15/12/2023

EYFS/KS1: 1B 100%

KS2: 5C 98%



Reception children Nativity performances

We would like to say a HUGE thank you to all the children in RF for their amazing performances during their Nativity. You all surpassed our expectations on the day. We are really proud of you all. It was also really special to see all our parents. Well done our little SUPER STARS. Ms Fusco & Ms Barnett.

A huge congratulations and well done to RJ for your amazing Nativity performance. You were all fantastic and we are so proud of you!

Thank you to all the families who came to watch RJ. We hope you enjoyed it as much as we did! Ms Johnson and Miss Tailor

A huge well done to RL for a beautiful Nativity performance, we are very proud of you! It was so lovely to see so many families come along to watch, thank you for all your support this term. Miss Leedham and Ms Xhakaj.



December Curriculum Spotlight

Geography

Year 1

Year 1 have enjoyed learning about maps and how to give directions using a compass. Year 1 explored a range of maps and then, as part of their field work, had the opportunity to create their own map of our school grounds including designing relevant symbols and a key.



Berry Class

In Berry Class, the children have been learning about the topic 'Our Environment'. They investigated different materials and decided which ones could be recycled and which ones couldn't. They made musical instruments out of recycled materials and explored how we can protect our oceans. To show their understanding, they created their own sea turtle using materials that endanger the sea creatures.




Year 5

Year 5 have been busy carrying out their field work for this year. They thought of their investigation question and then went to the New River to collect data at different points along the river. They have then compared this data when back at school and have been able to draw conclusions to allow them to answer their investigation question.



Music

Throughout this term, children across the school have been enjoying and creating music! With our topic Little People, Big Dreams, the children have been able to use music to explore different careers and how music can lead to a creative and musical future!

| <u>Choir</u> | <u>Year 4</u> |
|--|--|
| <p>This term the choir has been for children in year 1 and 2. They meet every Thursday at lunchtime to sing together. In the first half term they sang the whole school song 'When I grow up' and even performed it to all of KS1. This half term they've been preparing for Christmas with some carols! They sang at the Christmas light switch on and have even gone into the local community to sing at a local church!</p> | <p>This term, year 4 have been having recorder lessons with Enfield Music Service. They have been learning how to hold and play an instrument properly. They have been learning several songs by reading notes and singing together. They did a performance at the beginning of December for their parents and carers.</p> |
| <u>Artis</u> | |
| <p>We are very lucky at Highfield to have music specialists come in and teach different classes. Kaboom has been working with years 2 and 3 this term as well as leading a lunchtime orchestra. Children have had fun making sounds and using instruments to create music together.</p> | |
|  | |
| <u>Musical Achievements</u> | |
| <p>Congratulations to Zach in year 5 for passing his Grade 1 piano!</p> | |

Great Fire of Highfield—13th December

On this day Year 2 burned their houses that they had brought in. This showed us how quickly they would of burnt in the Great Fire of London. What would it have been like if they were fully sized and wooden? And if the weather had been hot?

Staff were prepared with buckets of water to put out the fire and children stood at a safe distance. What an interesting thing to get to watch!

Safiye "I was scared, I thought I didn't want another Great Fire of London!"

Ivy "I felt excited but then a little bit nervous. The smoke smelt like marshmallows."

Lachy "They were all on fire and there was so much black and white soot."



Rabbi Visit

Year 2 were visited by Rabbi Danny who leads a synagogue in the local area. The Rabbi explained to us the meaning of Hanukkah and why it's important. He also explained to us why different numbers are significant, e.g. 2 - there were 2 people at the beginning of the world, 5 - there were 5 Macabbee brothers. The children also got a chance to ask the Rabbi questions.



Design & Technology Workshop – Part 2

On Tuesday 5th December, 5P took part in the second workshop run by Little Investigators. The children learnt different ways to join paper together to create a 3D model of a landmark they saw on our local walk the week before. The children showed excellent perseverance as some of the techniques for folding were quite challenging – well done! 5M and 5C will be completing the second part of their workshop later this week.



Highfield's Christmas Jumper Day

On Friday 8th December Highfield raised £708.50 for Noah's Ark Children's Hospice. This local charity supports babies, children and young people with life threatening illnesses. The children in school voted to support this charity for the third year running, it is clearly very special to them.

The day was a special day all round. The children arrived in festive or bright coloured jumpers, they made a range of wonderful decorations and then they ended the day with a wonderful sing-a-long of festive songs and our song of the term 'When I grow up' from the Matilda musical.

A huge THANK YOU to all the families who donated money to this wonderful charity.



Gymnastics

On 29th November the girls gymnastics team took part in the intermediate Year 5 competition at Southbury Leisure Centre, where they had to perform a floor routine and a jump on the vault twice, to a set of different judges each time. The girls worked hard to memorise the floor routine and to perfect their vault jump. Big well done to Harriet, Armin, Shenae and Isla!!!!



On 30th November the Year 6 gymnastic team took part in an open event where they had to work together to create a routine and perform to judges as well as a straddle over or squat through the vault. Huge well done to Raphaëlle, Alexander, Sophia and Molly!!!



Reading & Writing Achievements for Autumn

Congratulations to the following children for their excellent effort and progress with their literacy skills. We are very proud of you all. Keep up the great work! Have a lovely holiday. Miss Johnson

| Class | Names |
|--------------|--------------|
| Nursery AM | Azra |
| Nursery PM | Ayan |
| RF | Yusuf |
| RJ | Sotiria |
| RL | Filip |
| 1B | Ralphie |
| 1M | Humeyra |
| 1W | Ece |
| 2BD | Leia |
| 2M | Hudson |
| 2S | Sumi |
| 3J | Noor |
| 3L | Olivier |
| 3P | Xander |
| 4AC | Melina |
| 4C | Leyla |
| 4GF | Flavia |
| 5C | Bella |
| 5M | Dylan |
| 5P | Zayn |
| 6A | Eljo |
| 6C | Demi |
| 6P | Molly |
| Berry | Nathan |

FUNDED BY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DfE)



Bubbles & Smiles

Invitation



Children + Young People invitation to
Multisport & Games by Bubbles & Smiles
(Anytime Childcare) from 2nd to 5th Jan 2024.



To find out more, please **scan the QR code** or
text your name and your borough to receive
a link on your phone to 07572 200628



*This Card is valid three times a year during school holidays,
so kindly keep it safe*

ENFIELD YOUTH DEVELOPMENT SERVICE

GET ACTIVE & TUCK IN

CRAIG PARK, PONDERS END, ALAN PULLINGER & CROYLAND YOUTH CENTRE

WINTER HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES & FOOD PROGRAMME

Enfield Council Youth Development Service working in partnership with Exodus & Creative Corner are providing fantastic free activities and hot meals during the winter break. There are 4 holiday camps running at:

Craig Park, 2 Lawrence Rd, Baxter Rd, Edmonton, N18 2HN

Ponders End Youth Centre, 141 South St, Enfield, EN3 4PX

Croyland Youth Centre, 1 Croyland Road, Edmonton, N9 7BA

Alan Pullinger, 1 John Bradshaw Road, New Southgate N14 6BN

The winter camps will be packed with a range of activities to choose from such as Drama, Music, Art & Craft, Sport and many more.

CRAIG PARK 11am-3pm (Thu 21 Dec & Fri 22 Dec)

PONDERS END 3.30pm-7.30pm (Thu 21 Dec & Fri 22 Dec)

**CROYLAND 3.30pm-7.30pm (Wed 27 Dec), 11am-3pm (Thu 28 Dec),
11am-3pm (Wed 3 Jan & Thu 4 Jan)**

ALAN PULLINGER 11am-3pm (Wed 27 Dec, Thu 28 Dec, Fri 29 Dec)

HOW TO ACCESS

If you are aged between 11-16 and you are currently receiving free school meals, a unique booking code will be sent by email to eligible parents on Fri 17 Nov. If you do not receive your voucher, please firstly contact your child's school or visit Enfield Council HAF webpage for more information about how the vouchers work.

[https://www.enfield.gov.uk/services/children-and-education/
holiday-activity-and-food-programmes](https://www.enfield.gov.uk/services/children-and-education/holiday-activity-and-food-programmes)

Interested?

Email youthenfield@enfield.gov.uk

www.youthenfield.taptub.co.uk

Programme is funded by Department of Education



Department
for Education



ENFIELD
Council





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.

Dec 2023 **ATTENDANCE**

| Form | % |
|--------------|--------------|
| 1B | 97.4% |
| 1M | 96.9% |
| 1W | 95.8% |
| 2BD | 95.7% |
| 2M | 94.7% |
| 2S | 94.9% |
| 3J | 93.0% |
| 3L | 95.5% |
| 3P | 94.4% |
| 4AC | 93.0% |
| 4C | 94.6% |
| 4GF | 97.4% |
| 5C | 96.7% |
| 5M | 96.5% |
| 5P | 96.5% |
| 6A | 95.6% |
| 6C | 95.5% |
| 6P | 94.0% |
| RF | 91.8% |
| RJ | 93.4% |
| RL | 96.2% |
| Total | 95.2% |

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.**

| January 2024 | UPCOMING EVENTS AT HIGHFIELD |
|-----------------------|---|
| Monday 8th January | First day back at school |
| Thursday 11th January | Year 4 drumming workshop |
| Friday 12th January | Year 5 Swimming sessions begin |
| | Year 6 Music/ Art Workshop |
| Tuesday 16th January | 1W Woodcroft visit |
| Friday 19th January | Maths workshop for KS1 parents in the hall 2.30pm |
| Tuesday 23rd January | 1B Woodcroft visit |
| Friday 26th January | Class 3J Assembly |
| Tuesday 30th January | 1M Woodcroft visit |

