

Newsletter - 10th March 2014

Dates for your Diaries

- Friday 14th March—
 - 3C class assembly
 - Nursery PM trip to Ash End House Farm
 - Closing date for Nursery applications
- Wednesday 19th March—Year 2 trip to Coventry Transport Museum
- Thursday 20th March—Year 5 trip to Leicester Space Centre
- Friday 21st March—
 - Reception trip to Think Tank
 - Sports Relief Mufti Day
- Wednesday 26th March—
 - Mother's Day Gift Sales
 - Parents' Evening
- Thursday 27th March -
 - Mother's Day Gift Sales
 - RH trip to local garden centre
 - Parents' Evening
- Friday 28th March—
 - Mother's Day assemblies for Nursery AM & PM
 - RP trip to local garden centre
- Friday 4th April—
 - 1V class assembly
 - Friends of Highfields School Disco
- Wednesday 9th April—Nursery & Reception Easter Bonnet Parade
- Thursday 10th April—Key Stage 1 Easter Bonnet Parade
- Friday 11th April—School Brass Band Assembly 9am
- Monday 14th April—Friday 25th April—EASTER HOLIDAYS
- Monday 28th April—Children return to school
- Monday 5th May—SCHOOL CLOSED for bank holiday
- Tuesday 20th May—Class group photographs
- Thursday 22nd May—SCHOOL CLOSED for voting
- Friday 23rd May—SCHOOL CLOSED for training day
- Monday 26th May—Friday 30th May—HALF TERM
- Monday 2nd June—Children return to school
- Friday 13th June—1H class assembly
- Saturday 14th June—Summer Fayre
- Friday 20th June—2G class assembly
- Friday 27th June—RP class assembly

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Sponsored Sports Event

On Wednesday 5th March we held a sponsored sports event, where children completed a fitness circuit with their class, teachers and members of the sports for schools team. The event was a great success, which the children thoroughly enjoyed. The children also met Alistair Patrick-Heselton, a Paralympic footballer who represented Team GB at London 2012, who completed the event with the children and led an assembly afterwards. Thank you and well done to all the children who should be very proud of themselves and thanks to all of the friends and family that sponsored the children to complete the event. Please can sponsorship money be sent into school by Wednesday 12th March 2014.

mission:nutrition



Fresh Catering, who provide our school meals, will be running a school meal challenge from Monday 24th March 2014. For the last 3 weeks of half term (week commencing 24th March, 31st March and 7th April), children will receive a sticker for every school meal they have. At the end of each week each child that has collected three or more stickers will receive a mission:nutrition wrist band. The school meal challenge will then continue for the first 3 weeks after the Easter holidays (week commencing 28th April, 5th May and 12th May) with children receiving a wristwatch if they collect at least three stickers each week. With 3 wristbands and a wristwatch to collect, I'm sure mission:nutrition will be popular. You can book your child's school dinner at the school office.

Easter Bonnets and Decorated Eggs



It is always a delight to see the decorated bonnets and eggs at Easter time! Please see below for the dates and times for all of our Easter events:

Monday 7th April - Key Stage 2 children (Years 3-6) bring in decorated eggs which will be judged on Wednesday 9th April.

Wednesday 9th April - Foundation Stage (Nursery and Reception) Easter Bonnets in school for judging in the morning. Easter Bonnet Parade will be at 2pm.

Thursday 10th April - Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2) Easter Bonnets in school for judging in the morning. Easter Bonnet Parade will be at 2pm.

New Curriculum

In September 2014 a new curriculum for primary schools in England comes into force. We are using this opportunity to review our provision to ensure children at Highfields receive an inspiring and motivating education. We wrote to you earlier this week to ask you to complete a questionnaire about what experiences you would like for your children. We would appreciate it if you could take the time to complete this and return to school by Monday 24th March.

Sainsbury's Active Vouchers

We are collecting Sainsbury's Active vouchers again this year. Last year we used the vouchers to buy two new netball posts which has enabled

us to offer netball and basketball after school clubs, a variety of cooking equipment for our new science and cookery room, and PE Resource kits for Reception and Nursery. As you can see, the vouchers really do make a difference to the school. Please hand your vouchers in at the school office.



School Website

If you have not yet had chance to visit our new website, which was launched earlier this year, please try and do so. There is lot's of useful information available and is constantly being updated with 'Latest News' items where you can read further information and see pictures of different school activities. There is also a useful calendar that provides you with dates of upcoming events. You can visit our website at www.highfields.sandwell.sch.uk. If you have any comments or feedback about our website, you can leave a comment in the online Guestbook or speak to the school office.

Free Headlice Treatment

There have been some incidents of headlice recently at school. Did you know that you can obtain treatment for headlice free of charge under the Minor Ailment Service from participating pharmacies? To do this, you will need to provide your child's NHS number and your child needs to be registered at a Sandwell GP. Boots in Blackheath and Church View Pharmacy in Old Hill participate in the service.

Our School Day

In our last newsletter we reminded you about the time school starts. Due to disruption to lessons, we are actively monitoring children who are persistently late. If a child is 5 minutes late every day, they lose the equivalent of 3 school days over a school year! Morning nursery begins at 8.40am and afternoon nursery begins at 12.30pm. School begins at 8.50am for the rest of the school.

Nursery Applications September 2014

Was your child born between 1st September 2010 and 31st August 2011? The closing date for Nursery applications is Friday 14th March. Application forms are obtainable from and returnable to the school office.

Shakespeare Week

Next week (week beginning 17th March) is Shakespeare week. To mark this event, we will be having a whole school assembly on Monday 17th where we will learn more about the playwright and his life. We will also be allowing the children to take part in a postcard competition run by the company Paperchase during the week. Various other events will happen in individual classes as the week continues.

Dudley Zoo Pass

Springfield Children's Centre is offering families the chance to visit Dudley Zoo at a discounted price. You can book the use of a pass, for which you need to leave a £10 deposit on collection. You will then receive £5 back when you return the pass. Booking is essential. Please contact the centre on 0121 559 9916.

