

HIGHFIELDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter— 12th February 2016



Dates for your Diaries

Friday 12th February—
- Break up for half term

Monday 22nd February— children return to school

Wednesday 24th February —
Parents' evening

Thursday 25th February —
Parents' evening

Friday 26th February—4K class assembly

Monday 29th February—Year 1 Phonics Workshop 9-10am

Tuesday 1st March—Mother's Day gift sales

Wednesday 2nd March—
- Mother's Day gift sales
- Y4 trip to Kingswood

Thursday 3rd March —
- World Book Day dress up
- Y2 trip to V&A museum

Friday 4th March—
- Y4 return from Kingswood
- Y2 dress up for World Book Day
- Book swap day
- Nursery Mother's Day assemblies

Friday 11th March—2H class assembly

Friday 18th March—
Sports Relief
RD class assembly
Reception—African Drummers PM

Tuesday 22nd March -
Nursery and Reception Easter bonnet parade 2pm

Wednesday 23rd March—
- KS1 Easter bonnets 2pm
- KS2 Decorated Eggs

Thursday 24th March—children break up for Easter

Monday 11th April—training day, school closed

Tuesday 12th April—training day—school closed

Wednesday 13th April—children return to school

Dear Parents/Guardians,

World Book Day

We will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 3rd March. We are having a theatre company perform 'the Greatest Fairytale ever told' in the morning and the theme of the day is fairytales. Children are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite fairytale character for a contribution of 50p. As year 2 are on a trip to London this day, they are invited to dress up on Friday 4th March instead.



Books & Beyond

As mentioned in your last newsletter, to coincide with World Book Day we will be re-launching 'Books and Beyond' on the 3rd March. There will be fewer stages and children will be collecting badges, leading to the awards ceremony at the end of the 4 month process, where children who have successfully participated will receive a certificate and book of their choice.

Reading Books

Can we kindly ask that reading books are returned by the children to the library when they have finished with them please, so that there is always a selection for other children to choose from.

Safer Internet Day

Tuesday 9th February was this year's safer internet day. Our whole school assembly focused on staying safe online, and teachers have recapped e-safety rules with children during ICT sessions this week. Please take this opportunity to discuss internet safety with your child, and make sure you know exactly what they are doing online. Most social media websites/apps are age restricted so please bare this in mind when allowing children to access them (legally, you should be 13 or over to access a facebook account). Apps such as Instagram, Whatsapp and ooVoo are popular amongst some of the older children, so please discuss safe usage with them. The safety of our children is paramount so please join us in celebrating internet safety this week. If you have any concerns about your child's use of the internet (tablets, phones, laptops, desktops etc) then please speak to your child's class teacher.

Attendance Reminder

A reminder that school starts at 8.50am and children should arrive in school PROMPTLY and be in class in time for the first bell. Lessons start immediately after registration and so if children are late, they often miss the teaching for their first lesson.

Nursery Applications September 2016

Was your child born between 1st September 2012 and 31st August 2013? The closing date for Nursery applications is Friday 18th March. Application forms can be obtained from, and are returnable to the school office.

Year 1 Phonics Workshop

There will be a phonics workshop for parents of year 1 children on Monday 29th February. Parents are invited into school from 9-10am to watch a phonics lesson and then speak with teachers.

Pupil Premium Funding

This is to remind you that our governing body have agreed to provide financial support to families whose children are in receipt of Free School Meals. This financial support will be funded from Pupil Premium funding which is additional government funding, for publicly funded schools in England, to raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils and close the gap between them and their peers. Eligible children will receive up to £20 per term that can be used towards the cost of trips or uniform. Unspent funds can be carried forward into a new term but will not be carried forward into a new academic year. Eligibility will be reviewed at the end of each term and for children who become eligible part way through a term, funding will start at the beginning of the following term. Funding will stop at the end of the term children are found to be no longer eligible. Parents who wish to access this funding should speak to the school office.

Active Vouchers

We are collecting Sainsbury's Active vouchers again this year. Last year we used the vouchers to buy lots of new PE equipment for all year groups, such as stopwatches, tennis balls, footballs, pop up goals, new PE mats, and a golf set which we have used to offer a new after school club. As you can see, the vouchers really do make a difference to the school. Please hand your vouchers in at the school office.



Training Days

Please be reminded that the following dates will be training days and school will be close to all children;

- Monday 11th April 2016
- Tuesday 12th April 2016
- Thursday 5th May 2016 (closed for voting)
- Friday 6th May 2016

Parking

Can parents please be considerate when parking, avoid double parking, parking on double yellow lines and leave sufficient room for pedestrians on footpaths.

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:

- **Tuesday 22nd March** - Foundation Stage (Nursery and Reception) Easter Bonnets in school for judging in the morning. Easter Bonnet Parade will be at 2pm.
- **Wednesday 23rd March** - Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2) Easter Bonnets in school for judging in the morning. Easter Bonnet Parade will be at 2pm.
- **Wednesday 23rd March** - Key Stage 2 children (Years 3 -6) bring in decorated eggs which will be judged during the day.

All Day Breakfast

Fresh Catering will be providing an all-day breakfast menu on Wednesday 9th March. This proved very popular last time, so make sure you book your child's meal with the school office or via the School Gateway.