

Newsletter - 14th February 2014

Dates for your Diaries

Monday 17th February—Friday 21st February—HALF TERM

Monday 24th February—Children return to school

Friday 28th February—
- 5P class assembly
- Year 3 trip to Think Tank

Thursday 6th March—World Book Day—Dress up as a book character

Friday 7th March—4JB class assembly

Monday 10th March—Nursery AM trip to Ash End House Farm

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—Parents' Evening

Thursday 27th March -
- Parents' Evening
- RH trip to local garden centre

Friday 28th March—
- Mother's Day assemblies for Nursery AM & PM
- RP trip to local garden centre

Friday 4th April—1V class assembly

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

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Sponsored Sports Event

On Wednesday 5th March we will be holding a sponsored sports event. A paralympic footballing athlete will be attending school to present a celebratory assembly. During the day children will take part in a sponsored sports event. Further information and sponsorship forms will be sent out the first week back after half term.

School Governor Vacancy

We are currently looking for people to join our governing body. Please turn over for further information.

Parking

 In a recent newsletter we informed you of the residents parking bay that is being enforced opposite the school gates. Following some concerns raised by parents and governors I would like to advise you that tickets can also be issued if part or all of a car is parked on a pavement due to it causing an obstruction. It is likely a ticket would be issued for this outside a school due to it compromising the safety of pupils. Tickets can also be issued when a car is parked on double yellow lines, on yellow zig zags directly outside school, blocking a driveway where there is a dropped curb. To avoid receiving a ticket please park carefully and considerately.

Attendance Awards

The winners of this half terms attendance prizes are;
EYFS & Key Stage 1—Samuel Birch and Ellie Smith
Key Stage 2—Katie Mills and Sophie Jones
All four children will choose their prize from a selection of books. Well done!

Year 2 SAT's

Year 2 SAT's will take place during May and June. Below are the dates and details of the tests that will take place. If you have a child in year 2 please try to ensure your child is in school on these dates.



- Friday 16th May—Short write
- Tuesday 20th May—Reading
- Wednesday 21st May—Reading
- Tuesday 10th June—Long write and spellings
- Thursday 12th June—Maths
- Friday 13th June—Maths

Safer Internet Day

On Tuesday 11th February it was Safer Internet Day, a national campaign to promote e-safety. The theme this year is 'Let's create a better internet together.' Children participated in activities in class to help raise awareness of the importance of keeping safe

online and promoting safe behaviour online. There is lots of useful information for both children and parents on the Think U Know website: <http://www.thinkuknow.com/>

School Lets

Due to a change in legislation and guidelines concerning the letting of school premises our letting policy is currently under review. Unfortunately, no lets will be granted until this review is complete. All existing bookings will be honoured and further information will follow once the policy review is complete. We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

Lost Property

There is a lot of clothing in our lost property box, which is located in the school office. If your child is missing any clothing please check our lost property. Items need to be retrieved by Friday 14th March as any unclaimed lost property will be sold at our next parents evening.

Behaviour Policy

As you know, we revised our Behaviour Policy in consultation with all stakeholders at the end of last academic year and began using it in September. As we are now half way through the year, I am interested to hear your thoughts...

Just to remind you that we use a 3 tier rewards system (Good To Be Green, House points and Golden Assembly). When necessary, we also use a progressive list of sanctions. If you would like to share with us whether you think the system is successful (the full policy is available on our new website) please collect a comments form from the office or let your child's teacher know and they can send one home in the book bag. We value your comments and opinions.

Treasure Island Lunch

To celebrate World Book Day, Fresh Catering will be providing a special Treasure Island themed lunch, which will include Pirates Pizza, Buccaneers Vegetarian Burger and Golden Nugget Savoury Rice. For dessert they will be offering Shiver Me Timbers Jelly and Ice Cream, Desert Island Water Melon and Caribbean Pineapple Cake. You can order a Treasure Island Lunch for the normal school dinner price of £2.00 from the school office.



Our School Day

 Can we please remind parents of the time school starts. It is important your child arrives on time as lessons begin straight away and lateness can also impact on your child's attendance figures. Morning nursery begins at 8.40am and afternoon nursery begins at 12.30pm. School begins at 8.50am for the rest of the school.

Have a safe and happy half term!

Dear parents and friends of Highfields School,

We are looking for people to join the governing body of Highfields School.

If you get on with people, would like to learn something new and give something back to your community, then being a school governor may be for you.

We are looking for people who are committed and interested in doing what is best for the children and community of Highfields School.

There are papers to read and meetings to attend. As part of the governing body, you are responsible for making sure the school provides good quality education. Together with the head teacher, you set the school aims and policies.

It might sound daunting at first but you will be given lots of support from current governors and Sandwell offer evening training courses, usually a couple of hours.

As the governing body we:-

- ◆ are accountable for the performance of the school
- ◆ plan for the school's future
- ◆ select the head teacher
- ◆ make decisions on the school's budget and staffing
- ◆ make sure the national curriculum is taught
- ◆ decide how the school can encourage pupils' spiritual, moral and cultural development
- ◆ make sure that the school provides for all its pupils, including those with additional needs.

Our governors come from a wide range of backgrounds all have something to offer, so if you would like to know more or talk to some of the governors about what we do then please contact Rachel Andrews the Office Manager at Highfields who will put you in contact with a school governor rachel.andrews@highfields.sandwell.sch.uk.

Alternatively, some governors will be available to speak to you at our next Parents' Evening on Wednesday 26th March and Thursday 27th March.

Brian Edwards

Chair of Governors

Highfields School