

Dates for your Diaries

- Friday 27th May—
 - Break up for half term
- Monday 6th June—children re-
turn to school
- Friday 10th June—
 - Book swap day
 - 3S class assembly
- Tuesday 14th June—Father's
Day Gift Sales
- Wednesday 15th June—Father's
Day Gift Sales
- Friday 17th June—2W class
assembly
- Thursday 23rd June—school
closed for voting
- Friday 24th June—
 - RS class assembly
 - Friends of Highfields Disco
- Monday 27th June -
 - Year 1 (Sept 16) parent transi-
tion meeting at 2.50pm
 - Year 3 & 4 sports day AM
 - Year 5 & 6 sports day PM
- Tuesday 28th June—
 - Year 3 (Sept 16) parent transi-
tion meeting at 2.50pm
- Wednesday 29th June—
 - Year 2 trip to Weston-super-
Mare
 - Nursery & Reception (Sept 16)
transition meeting at 6pm
- Friday 1st July—
 - Books & Beyond closing date
 - 1V class assembly
- Monday 4th July—Nursery trip to
Ash End Farm
- Wednesday 6th July—
 - Reception Sports Day AM
 - Year 1 & Year 2 Sports Day
PM
- Friday 8th July—
 - Summer Fayre
 - 5L class assembly
- Monday 11th—Friday 15th Ju-
ly—Scholastic Book Fayre all
week
- Monday 11th July—Nursery
Sports Day
- Tuesday 19th July—Year 6 end
of year production
- Friday 22nd July—children break
up

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Arts Week

The children have just enjoyed arts week last week, organised by Mrs Evans, where they had the opportunity to work with children from other classes. The children have produced some lovely pieces of work all in response to an award winning video clip called 'The Maker'.

Well Done Year 4

A huge well done to Year 4. Following their recent trip to the Botanical Gardens, we received a letter from them to congratulate the children on their behaviour and conduct and to say what a credit they were to school. We have uploaded a copy of the letter onto the school's website. The children always behave very well on visits and these form an important part of our curriculum offer and so it is always lovely for the children to be praised and acknowledged by the local community.

SATs

You will have no doubt read a lot in the press this year about all of the issues surrounding SATs; both for year 2 and year 6. By the time we break up for half term, all SATs will have finished. The children should be very proud of themselves as they have all approached them so positively and have tried their best, which is all anyone can ask. Thank you as well to all of the parents who have praised school in the way that the SATs have been carried out. Whilst it is inevitable that children (and parents!) are apprehensive, we try our best to prepare the children and carry out the tests in a way that causes them the least worry possible and really appreciate the positive feedback from parents.

Mrs Davison

Many of you will have seen that Mrs Davison is expecting (twins!) and so will be leaving for maternity leave at the end of the summer term in July. Sadly for Highfields, Miss Virdee will also be leaving us in July. However, it is for a lovely reason as she will be getting married and moving to Leeds. Whilst we are very sorry to be losing her, we all wish her every happiness for her future.

Holidays in Term Time

Many of you will have seen on the news the latest court case regarding term time holidays. Whilst all schools across the country await further guidance/information from the government, our own school attendance policy will continue to be implemented at Highfields. Our policy does not allow holidays to be taken in term time unless there are EXCEPTIONAL circumstances. A copy of this policy can be found on our school's website.

Brass Assembly

Well done and thank you to the children that performed at the brass assembly last week. The assembly was attended by lots of parents of children who play brass and was a wonderful opportunity for



the children to showcase their talent and the music they have learnt.

KS2 Easter Eggs

We would like to apologise for an error made on the last newsletter where the year 5 and year 6 runners up of KS2 Easter Egg competition were published as the winners. The winners of the competition for these year groups are detailed below. Congratulations to them and well done to everyone who took part, there were some really stunning creations this year.

- Year 5—Ethan Ward and Madelaine Priest
- Year 6—Tommy Sidaway and Cody Blanchard

Attendance Reminder

A reminder that school starts at;

- 8.40am for morning nursery
- 8.50am for reception to year 6
- 12.30pm for afternoon nursery

Children should arrive in school PROMPTLY.

Lessons start immediately after registration and so if children are late, they often miss the teaching for their first lesson which doesn't provide a smooth start to their school day.

Well done to the 296 children who have achieved 100% attendance for the first half of the Summer term!

Lunchtime Supervisor Vacancy

We are currently advertising for a Lunchtime Supervisor. If you are interested in applying for this position, please speak to the school office or visit www.wmjjobs.co.uk.

School Gateway

Please be aware that the School Gateway is checked at the start of the school day for messages and school dinner payments, as we need to notify the kitchen of school dinner numbers as early as possible. Please bear this in mind when ordering a school dinner for your child at short notice.

Sandwell Park Farm—Woolly Week



Next week, during half term, it is Woolly Week at Sandwell Park Farm. Everyday from 30th May to 3rd June there will be activities including sheep shearing, meet the farmer, chick handling, woolly crafts, farm trail and face painting. Normal admission charges apply.

Sports Day

Our first Sports Day this summer will be for KS2 and will be held on Monday 27th June. Year 3 and 4's sports day will take place in the morning and year 5 and 6's will be held in the afternoon. Reception and KS1's sports day will be held on Wednesday 6th July. Reception's will take place in the morning and year 1 and 2's will be held in the afternoon.

Nursery's sports day will take place on Monday 11th July in the morning for AM nursery and in the afternoon for PM nursery

Further information for all events will follow closer to the date.

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Transition Meetings

To help ensure a smooth transition for children starting in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 3 in September we will be holding meetings for parents of these children on the following dates;

- Monday 27th June at 2.50pm—for parents of children starting in Year 1 in September
- Tuesday 28th June at 2.50pm—for parents of children starting in Year 3 in September
- Wednesday 29th June 6pm—for parents of children starting in Nursery and Reception in September.

Nursery September 2016

We currently have a few places available for afternoon nursery in September 2016. If you or someone you know is interested in their child attending our nursery please speak to the school office as soon as possible.

Road Safety

School received a phone call from a member of the public this week, to say that they had had to perform an emergency stop to avoid hitting two pupils who ran across the road by the Gorsty Hill traffic lights. Whilst we will be reminding children about road safety in assembly, please speak to your children at home to reinforce the importance of crossing roads safely at designated pedestrian crossings or using Mrs Charles our lollipop lady.

Parent Governor Vacancies

Our Governing Body currently has two parent governor vacancies. Hopefully, you will have seen the letter we sent you earlier this week inviting you to stand for election as parent governor.

The role of governor can be demanding but very rewarding. Parent governors serve a four year term of office and under usual circumstances, can expect to spend between 10 and 20 days a year on governing duties. No special qualifications are needed. However a DBS check is a statutory requirement and must be applied for within 21 days of election/appointment. If you would like to stand for election please complete the enclosed nomination form and return it to the school no later than 4pm on Tuesday 7th June 2016.

Have an enjoyable half term!

Term Dates 2016/17

Autumn term 2016

- Training Day: Monday 5 September 2016
- Children return to school: Tuesday 6 September
- Half term holiday: Monday 24 October to Friday 28 October 2016
- Term ends: Friday 16 December 2016
- Christmas holiday: Monday 19 December 2016 to Monday 2 January 2017

Spring term 2017

- Term starts: Tuesday 3 January 2017
- Half term holiday: Monday 20 February to Friday 24 February 2017
- Term ends: Friday 7 April 2017
- Easter holiday: Monday 10 April to Friday 21 April 2017

Summer term 2017

- Term starts: Monday 24 April 2017
- Bank holiday: Monday 1 May 2017
- Half term holiday: Monday 29 May to Friday 2 June 2017
- Term ends: Tuesday 25 July 2017
- Summer holiday: From Wednesday 26 July 2017