

## IMPORTANT DATES

13.10.17 - Harvest Festival/World Food Day mufti

17.10.17 - Individual children's photographs

18.10.17 - Parents evening 4.00-6.30pm

18.10.17 - Parents afternoon/evening Nursery

19.10.17 - Parents Evening 4.00-6.30pm

19.10.17 - Parents afternoon/evening Nursery

20.10.17 - Parents afternoon/evening Nursery

20.10.17 - Y1 trip to Telford Wonderland

20.10.17 - Harvest Festival sale - School hall 2.30pm

OCTOBER HALF TERM  
23.10.17 - 27.10.17

3.11.17 - Year 3 trip to Creswell Crags

3.11.17 - Year 2 trip to Dudley Zoo

3.11.17 - Year 6 trip to Chester Zoo

### Maternity Leave

Today is Mrs Pardoe's last day before she starts her maternity leave and everyone at Highfields sends her love and best wishes for the arrival of her new little bundle. We will let you know if it's a boy or a girl as soon as we hear.

# NEWSLETTER - 6<sup>th</sup> October 2017



## Superstar workers!

I have seen a record amount of children this week for doing great work, the effort and enthusiasm the children are displaying in class is great and I really hope they keep it up. To match this, I have also seen an increasing amount of children who are doing some fantastic things at home. Please read on to see some of the great pictures we are having sent into school of the things some of our children have doing for home learning with their families. Keep it up we love seeing and hearing about the achievements of our children

Mrs Garratt



## Parking

I have had several complaints from neighbours this week regarding the parking around school both at the start and the end of the school day. Please can remind all parents that the children's safety is our number one priority and so we are trying to find ways to improve the parking around school. Our Governing Body have also discussed the matter this week and are in the process of contacting our local MP and the council to come to Highfields and see for themselves the issues we face on a daily basis. Until we can get a response can I urge you to please continue to be courteous to our neighbours and put the safety of our children first!

## Late collection

Can I please remind all parents of the times school finishes and we expect you to collect your children;

- 3.15pm - Reception
- 3.20pm - Years 1 - 6
- 3.30pm - Nursery

The impact on a child of not being picked up from school on time cannot be underestimated as they can feel an increasing level of anxiety and distress the longer that they are unsure of where their parents are. The impact on the school is also great as it requires two members of staff to supervise that child. This means that those staff will not be able to undertake their duties in preparation for children's learning the following day and also incurs an additional staffing cost to the school. From now on we will be writing out to parents to notify them of the number of late their child has every week. Last night alone we had **18 children** who were collected late after school. We have now adopted the Sandwell Authority policy for 'Late Admissions' and it will appear on our website in the next day or so.

## Golden Book - Well done to you all!

Since the last newsletter was published these children have received Golden Book certificates...



Nam	-	Lola Payton
Npm	-	Roco Jones
RW	-	Isabelle Hall
RS	-	Tristan James
ID	Abdullah Rashid	Umara Naveed
IW	Broley Holmes	Haleema Ahmed
2P	Isla Doran	Khayaam Ahmed
2H	Eva Turner	Olwyn Stockford
3T	Lexie Harrison	Callum Denning
3B	Chantelle Orme	Hamza Khan
4R	Charlie Scrivens	Ryan Hatton
4C	Nathan Smith	Farihah Naeem
5P	Reegan Jenkins	Sophie Northall
5K	-	Olivia Dudley
6C	Sabha Shafaqat	Marshall Blanchard
6P	Kat Jackson	Madison Holland
PE	Travis Parry	Sam Birch

## Congratulations both!!

A huge well done to **Adam Whitehouse (Class 6C)** who came to see me with his newly acquired trophy. Adam had taken part in an all-day swimming competition and had won a bronze medal for 100m backstroke. Adam swims for Oldbury Swimming Club and we are all very proud of him and his accomplishments!



I would also like to say a massive well done to **Lauren Patrice (Class 5P)** who is about to take part in a Feis (competition) this will lead her into a Prelieum (Championship). If Lauren places in the top three at this she will get a chance to dance at the World Championships! Her ultimate goal is to compete in the Under 14s age group competition against the 4 times world champion! We are right behind you Lauren and can't wait to hear about your journey to the becoming a World Champion!

## Absence Line Calls

We have recently been provided with updated local authority guidance regarding absence and attendance. In future if you are leaving a message that a child will not be in school on the school absence line we will need to know the reason e.g. chicken pox. Saying they are 'unwell or ill' will now be an unauthorised absence until we know what is wrong with the absent child.



# BLACK COUNTRY foodbank

## Harvest Festival Mufti

Just a reminder that children are invited to come to school in their own clothes on **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October** and to bring with them a dry food item (rice, tea bags, pasta etc.) in preparation for our Harvest Festival on **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October**. Following our Harvest Festival, we will be selling all of the produce/Harvest boxes in the school hall at 2.30pm. If you wish to bring a fresh donation can these please be brought into school on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October. All money raised (and any food not sold) will be sent to the Black Country Food Bank

## Old Pound Coins

A reminder that unfortunately school will not be able to accept the old pound coin as payment after **15<sup>th</sup> October 2017**.



## School Photographs

A reminder that the photographer will be in school on **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October**, taking photographs of individuals and families. Parents/guardians are more than welcome to bring younger, pre-school aged brothers/sisters into the hall to have family photos taken with their brothers or sisters in school from 8.10am. If all brothers and sisters attend Highfields we will ensure family photographs are taken during the school day.

## Safeguarding/Toilets

Please can I remind parents that our priority, as you know, is to keep all children and staff safe whilst they are at school. In order to help us do this can I please ask if parents could encourage their children to use the bathroom before coming to school. We are having people every day come in to the office to ask to use the toilet which means we are having to allow an increased amount of people into school. Safeguarding procedures mean that they cannot be left alone and so a member of staff is having to accompany them to the toilet and this is no longer feasible. We do not want to offend anyone but I have a duty to look after the children here and so we will no longer be allowed to let adults into the school to use the bathroom.

## House Point Winners

Since the last newsletter the house point winners have been

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Haden, 2<sup>nd</sup> - Rowley, 3<sup>rd</sup> - Kinver, 4<sup>th</sup> - Clent
- 1<sup>st</sup> - Kinver, 2<sup>nd</sup> - Rowley, 3<sup>rd</sup> - Haden, 4<sup>th</sup> - Clent
- 1<sup>st</sup> - Kinver, 2<sup>nd</sup> - Rowley, 3<sup>rd</sup> - Haden, 4<sup>th</sup> - Clent



Fantastic news...

Magical Maths is coming to Highfields Primary School!!

Magical maths is a super fun after school club designed to boost children's confidence and better engage them with maths.

The club runs for an hour a week after school week beginning **Mondays 30<sup>th</sup> October 2017** and will run for 6 weeks. Each week has a different theme and includes a dressed up character including Professor Poopenshtinken (maths genius), the Mathemagician, Stately Holmes (the maths detective) and the Olympic Mathletes!

Parents receive weekly email updates to see what their child has been learning (but you must give your email address to obtain this).

## Dates and Times of Clubs

KS1 (Years 1 & 2 only) – 3.25pm to 4.25pm **on Mondays**  
30<sup>th</sup> Oct, 6<sup>th</sup> Nov, 13<sup>th</sup> Nov, 20<sup>th</sup> Nov, 27<sup>th</sup> Nov and 4<sup>th</sup> Dec

KS2 (Years 3 to 6) – 3.25pm to 4.25pm **on Mondays**  
30<sup>th</sup> Oct, 6<sup>th</sup> Nov, 13<sup>th</sup> Nov, 20<sup>th</sup> Nov, 27<sup>th</sup> Nov and 4<sup>th</sup> Dec

**Please ensure you register your child in the correct Key Stage club.**

For more information and to sign up, visit

[www.magicalmathsclub.com](http://www.magicalmathsclub.com)

Or call

0121 392 7475

Cost is £37 for the 6 sessions. **Only 22 places** so sign up quick!

No quibble money back guarantee after the first week.

Please call and speak to Anita for more details. Terms and Conditions apply

## Friends of Highfields

FOH are always looking for parents or family members (over the age of 18) to attend meetings and to volunteer at discos, fayres and other events during the year. It is not necessary to be available for all events; we appreciate all contributions made. For more information about how to get involved, please call into the school office for a sign up form or look out for details of our next FOH meeting which is texted to all parents. Thankyou

## Attendance Awards

This week's whole school attendance was **95.4%**

Don't forget, the whole school target we have to achieve every week is 96.5% so this week we were **below** target!

The recent winning classes attendance was EYFS - PM Nursery - **96%**, KSI - ID, **98%** KS2 - 4R - **98.7%**

