



9th February 2024

Highfields Primary

newsletter



Head's Welcome

Well what a busy half term that was! I can not believe we are now already halfway through this academic year! When the children return after half term we continue to be busy with workshops, trips and residential and our end of term parents evenings so please look out for important dates. Please keep an eye on our Facebook page and school website (which is being updated) regularly as well. If you would like your child to appear in our newsletter, Facebook post or be used on the school website we will need you to have given permission. From everyone at Highfields we hope you have an amazing half term and we will see you back in school on Monday 19th February.

Mrs Garratt

Attendance

At Highfields we have high expectations when it comes to attendance and so our attendance target is 97% This week's whole school attendance was 92.3%. The highest attending classes this week were;

EYFS - RW - 95.2%

KSI - ICS - 96.4%

KS2 - 6R 97.2%



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Safer Internet Day 2024

Tuesday 6th February was 'Safer Internet Day', with celebrations and learning based around the theme 'Inspiring change? Making a difference, managing influence and navigating change online'. Safer Internet Day is the UK's biggest celebration of online safety. Each year they cover an online issue or theme that speaks to the things young people are seeing and experiencing online.

At Highfields, Mrs Plant led an assembly for the children and was helped by our Digital Leaders, Lilli and Ibrahim who had also made PowerPoints that we have shared at school.

For more information follow the following link

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2024>



Theme of
the Month
February *Respect*



During the month of February, we will be looking at the theme of respect. Possibly the most important theme of all, we are already a very 'respectful community', but we will be exploring this theme even more through the month of February. Respect is at the core of everything we do in school. It underpins learning through behaviour and one's attitude to the people and the world around them. We will be asking the children to think carefully about what giving and having respect means. At home, we hope you will continue the discussions to build on these thoughts.



SMSC
February

All month LGBT+ History Month
February 1st - Time to Talk Day
February 5th - 11th Children's Mental Health Week
February 6th - Safer Internet Day
February 14th - 20th - Random Acts of Kindness Week
February 21st - International Mother Language Day



Enrichment @ Highfields

Computing Club

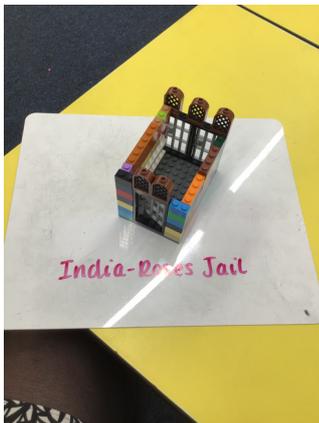
In Computing Club we have been using the Chromebooks. We have learned how to log on and are now practicing our typing skills.



Lego Club

In Lego Club the children have been following Lego instructions and picture prompts to make their creations.

They have also thought of their own ideas and Miss Westwood has been really impressed with what they have built!



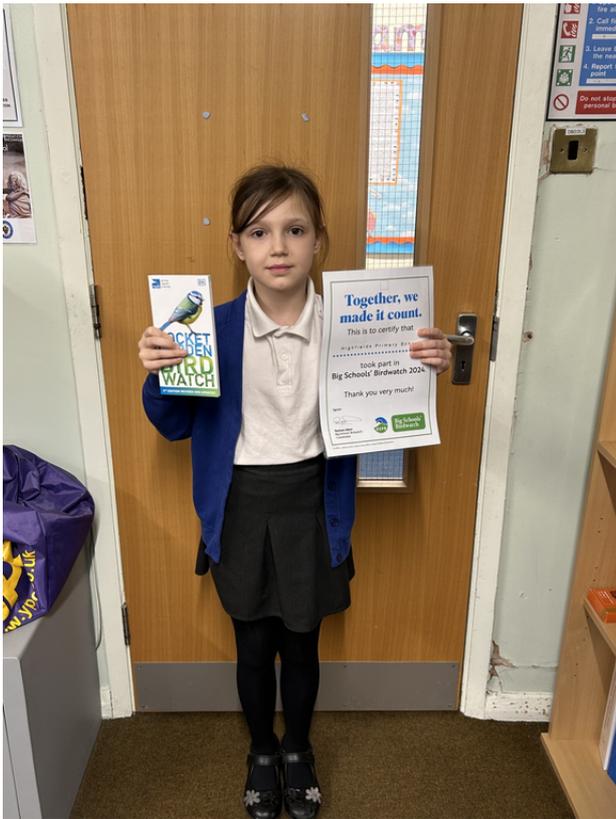
Highfields Football Teams

Over the last few weeks both our girl's and our boy's football teams have represented Highfields at Sandwell school football competitions which have taken place at the Albion Dome. The competitions have seen them compete against numerous children from a variety of schools. I want to commend our children on their incredible sportsmanship and dedication to the team. Thank you all and well done - you always do us proud!





RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch



Highfields Eco-Council were really pleased this week when we received our certificate for officially taking part in the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch.

Children who took part have until 18th February to submit their results and so far a huge 8, 846, 976 birds have been counted!

We will continue to keep feeding and looking for birds and will send home regular updates about the next thing Eco-Council will be doing!

Y4 Sparks Workshop

On 8th February '24, Y4 had a visit from a watch of firefighters from Oldbury Community Fire Station

The children had a fantastic afternoon and learnt so much through their Sparks workshops - the highlight of the visit though was definitely getting to see the fire engine up close - Toby even got to hold the hose!

Thank you to Oldbury Community Firefighters for coming into school and sharing such important messages with our children!





Picture News

Every fortnight the children at Highfields go to an assembly lead by Mr Savvides, he uses Picture News resources that are sent into school. Recently Picture News asked us if we would video interview a couple of children to ask them about Picture News, how we use it in our school and how it links to British Values. School Councillors, Amelie and Betsy responded on behalf of Highfields and were amazing! Picture News are going to share their video interview on their website but here is a still from the video and their interview transcript



What is Picture News?

Picture News updates children about things that are going on around the world. Its good because its friendly and its very easy to understand. It makes it in a way that you enjoy it.

How does it link to British Values?

At the end of the Picture News they try to link the story to a British Value like Democracy, Respect, Individual Liberty, Tolerance.

What do you like about Picture News?

I like the different things that they show like the Self Driving Cars, the football one about Jude Bellingham. I like that it's quite enjoyable and how it links to British Values.





Spring Term - Diary Dates

February

- 19th - 4G swimming
- 9th - Plas Gwynant parent meeting
- 9th - Break up for half term

12th - 16th - Half term holidays

- 19th - Children return to school
- 20th - KSI Magical Maths club begins
- 22nd - Y1 trip to Warwick Castle
- 23rd - 4G swimming
- 28th - Y3 trip to Bewdley Museum
- 29th - School Council trip to Parliament
- 29th - Y1 hearing tests

March

- 1st - 4G swimming
- 1st - Y5 Art workshops
- 1st - Y1 hearing tests
- 4th - Fairtrdae Fortnight begins
- 5th - Rocksteady concert
- 5th - 5 year old dental checks
- 6th - 3K Sheepwash Farm trip
- 6th - Y5 trip to Space Centre
- 7th - World Book Day (details to follow)
- 8th - 4G swimming
- 8th - Girls football team @ Albion Dome

SAT's Boosters Y6

English - Monday	Maths - Thursday
4th March	29th February
18th March	7th March
8th April	11th April
15th April	18th April
22nd April	25th April
29th April	9th May

PE Dates

In the Spring term your child's PE days may have changed. From January your child will now have PE on the following days and so can come to school in PE kit...

- Reception - Monday & Wednesday
- Year 1 - Monday & Wednesday
- Year 2 - Monday & Wednesday
- Year 3 - Tuesday & Thursday
- Year 4 - Tuesday & Friday
- Year 5 - Tuesday & Thursday
- Year 6 - Tuesday & Thursday



Golden Book Awards



Congratulations to the following children who have been awarded a 'Golden Book Certificate' since the previous newsletter



2nd February

RW - Amiyah
 RP - Harvey
 ISS - Samuel
 ICS - Mohsin
 2D - Sebastian
 2M - Eliza
 3C - Finley
 3K - Carys
 4G - Isabelle
 4L - Arlie
 5NB - Susan
 5LB -
 6R - Nathan
 6C - Amelia
 PE - Emmie (Y6)
 French - Ameera (4G)

9th February

RW - Emma
 RP - Harper
 ISS - James
 ICS - Ava
 2D - Albie
 2M - Ire
 3C - Thomas
 3K - Oliver
 4G - Ayyub
 4L - Poppy
 5NB - Emily
 5LB - Victor
 6R - Samuel
 6C - Subhan
 PE - Ava C (Y3)
 French - Kain (Y6)

NSPCC Number Day

Thank you to everyone who contributed to last week's Number Day - we are hugely grateful that Highfields raised **£239.81** - and the children (and staff) all had a great day dressed as a number!





Y2 - NT

Year 1 & 2's

Newsletter

In Year One the children have continued their learning about different monarchs. We have learnt lots of facts about both Queen Elizabeth I and Queen Elizabeth II. I think our favourite fact was that when Queen Elizabeth I got cross she would throw her shoes at people! We are about to start our learning on castles and are very much looking forward to our visit to Warwick Castle. If you have any further questions about this, please ask your child's class teacher.

In Year Two, we have been learning about leaflets and adverts. We have looked at a range of different leaflets and identified the features of a leaflet. This week, we have been busy creating our own leaflet about West Midlands Safari Park.

Reception Newsletter

We had a fantastic time celebrating NSPCC Number Day. The children sang number songs, participated in number activities and wore number clothes!

We are really looking forward to our Stay and Play on Tuesday 12th March and Wednesday 13th March. You will have the opportunity to play with your child in the classroom and even make a crazy creature with them!

Please ensure you have signed up for a session, places will be allocated on a first come first serve basis.



YR

Year 3 & 4's Newsletter

Year 3 have been working hard this week thinking about how we can stay safe online and completing some activities related to this.

They enjoyed creating healthy menus in science, thinking about which of the food groups need to be present to create a balanced diet. In maths, the focus has been on fractions and in English the children created some beautiful book reviews after finishing reading their class text 'James and the Giant Peach.'



Mythical creatures

Year 5 & 6's Newsletter

The children have really been enjoying creating a mythical creature out of wire mesh and modroc (which is very similar to the material they plaster a broken limb with). The wire is quite difficult to manipulate so creating an accurate shape is not an easy skill and one they have not used before. The children have worked really well and have created some excellent models which they will be painting after the half-term break.

The children in Year 5 have been really enjoying planning their Mars rover in our DT project. They will be creating their rovers in the next couple of weeks - ask your child about their design. We have also been creating some excellent music on glockenspiels and have been working on Dvorak's New World Symphony.

Year 4 had fun this week making 3d models of a river and labelling their model with its key features- some of them were very realistic! In English, the children have read the poem of 'The River' by Valerie Bloom and are now creating their own poem verses on a similar theme. They really enjoyed art this week where the class used clay to create their own water lily inspired by Van Gogh's work.



Y4 Waterlilies

Highfields Hall of Fame

This page will be used to celebrate the things your children do in their spare time that they would like to share with us all e.g earning gym certificates, football or swimming trophies etc. If you could send a photograph and a short explanation via email to highfields.enquiry@highfields.sandwell.sch.uk Mrs Garratt will publish them. If we have permission, we will also post them on our schools private Facebook page



Harry started martial arts 18 months ago at Elite Dragon martial arts school. Harry is only able to do 4 classes a month but has progressed really well, going from his white belt for beginners, to getting his 3rd belt, (white and green) back in December.
Want an incredible talent!
#myaspirations

James achieved his yellow belt in Martial Arts this week, he has done incredibly well as he only started attending classes in September last year. He's already looking forward to getting his next belt!
What an incredible achievement!
#myaspirations

