



23rd February 2024

Highfields Primary

newsletter



Head's Welcome

Welcome back to the second half of spring term here at Highfields. I hope you all had enjoyable half terms. We were straight back into our work on Monday and also welcomed new children to Highfields. This week we have introduced the children, who are very excited, to the new Activeall boards that you may have seen in the playgrounds. These boards will be used at break and lunchtimes and are designed to increase fitness levels, improve hand-eye coordination, boost confidence & self-esteem and as you can play on them with a friend/partner, they will also encourage communication & teamwork. Staff had a go on Wednesday night after school but I'm sure the children will be much better on them than we were!

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 94%. The highest attending classes this week were;

EYFS - RP - 91.1%

KSI - 2M - 98.3%

KS2 - 3C - 97.2%



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Books of the Month - February

Here are February's recommended books for the children to read. In Nursery, Reception, years 1 and 2, the book will be read to the children in class and then put in the 'book to share' for children to bring home to read. In years 3-6, copies will go into the library for children to select as their reading book as and when they wish.

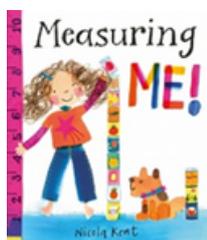
The books for February are:

EYFS: 'Measuring Me' by Nicola Kent

Years 1 and 2: 'The Smile Shop' by Satoshi Kitamura

Years 3 and 4: 'The Day my Dog Got Famous' by Jen Carney

Years 5 and 6: 'The Clockwork Conspiracy' by Sam Sedgman



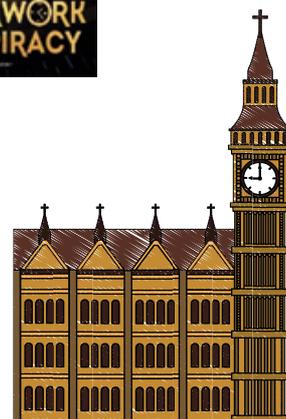
Theme of the Month - February

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.

School Council Update



School council members were very excited to meet this week and discuss the plans for their London Parliament Trip next week. The children listened attentively to the schedule for the day and asked lots of intelligent questions about their trip. The children will be equipped with a notebook to share what they they have learnt, what they have enjoyed and anything else we can use to help our school in the future. The children are enthusiastic about their day exploring Parliament and we are very excited to hear their innovative ideas on their return...



World Book Day 2024

World Book day will be celebrated this year on Thursday 7th March at Highfields and across the country. The theme this year is 'read your way' with a focus on reading for enjoyment and books and activities that the children enjoy. As a result of this, we are asking the children to come to school on the 7th of March dressed as either a character from a book that they have enjoyed reading or to come dressed in something that shows what they enjoy doing. Outfits could include gymnastics, guides, scouts or football outfits if that is what the children enjoy doing outside of school or a cat, witch, Harry Potter or superhero costume if they are characters from a book that the children enjoy. The choice is yours!

On the day, we will all join in with a special live lesson being done by the BBC to celebrate books and each class will spend time in the library. We will also be completing the largest book swap that we have ever done in school. All children are invited to bring a good quality book that they own and no longer want in from home (not a school reading book) and they will hand this in on the morning and receive a Book Swap token. Later in the day, all children with a token will be taken to choose a new, different book and exchange their token. This will mean that the children will then have an unseen title to bring home and enjoy in replacement of the book they brought to school.

On Monday 26th February an optional book quiz will be sent home by Mrs Adams for children to participate in if they wish. All completed need to be returned with a 50p contribution by Monday 4th March. These will then be marked in school and put into a draw to win prizes. The prizes will be handed out on World book day to the winning children.

We are looking forward to celebrating reading and if you have any questions or queries, please just let us know.

Eco Group Tree Update



The Eco Group application for some saplings to increase bio-diversity in our school garden was successful and we have received notification that they will be arriving shortly.

WOODLAND
TRUST

The Eco Group will post some photographs and keep you updated when they arrive and planted.





Spring Term - Diary Dates

February

- 19th - Children return to school
- 20th - KSI Magical Maths club begins
- 22nd - Y1 trip to Warwick Castle
- 23rd - 4G swimming
- 28th - Y4 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 - Fairtrade 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
- 8th - 4G swimming
- 8th - Girls football team @ Albion Dome
- 8th - Y1 assembly to parents
- 11th - Y6 residential to Plas Gwynant
- 12th - Reception Stay & Play
- 13th - Reception Stay & Play
- 13th - 3C trip to Sheepwash Farm
- 14th - Reception visit from Animal Man
- 15th - 4G swimming
- 15th - Y5 First Aid training
- 18th - Reception Easter Bonnet Parade (details to follow)
- 19th - KSI Easter Bonnet Parade

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

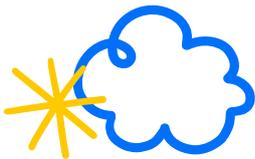


Congratulations to the following children who have been awarded a 'Golden Book Certificate' since the previous newsletter



23rd February

- RW - Fateh
- RP - Felicity
- ISS - Lilly
- ICS - Aaira
- 2D - Amelia
- 2M - Lilly
- 3C - Meisha
- 3K - Leo
- 4G - Alayah
- 4L - Arabella
- 5NB - Rudy
- 5LB - Kidus
- 6R - Jasmine
- 6C - Brandon
- PE - Asad (Y2)
- French - Otis (Y3)



Mrs Garratt's Tea Party



A huge well done to the following children who have joined me since the last newsletter for a tea party to celebrate the over and above things they have done at Highfields!



- Ellissia H - RW
- Islam I - RP
- Irena S - 2D
- Grayson C - ISS
- Lottie T - ICS
- Ayana U - 3K
- Edward C - 4L
- Harry B- 5NB
- Amelia C - 6C



Reception Newsletter

During our PSHE lessons, we have been learning how to keep ourselves healthy and the importance of restricting screen time. We talked about how screen time can make our eyes feel sore, make us feel tired, reduces our bodies being active and how it impacts our sleep. As a class, we thought of some ideas and activities to do which didn't use a screen. We are going to create a 'Screen-Free Activities' Jar with some of these ideas. This week your child will bring home a little slip of paper and we would appreciate if together, you could think of an activity to add to our jar. We will then share the contents of the jar on our website for you to use at home!



JR



Y1 - Callie &
Frankie

Year 1 & 2's Newsletter

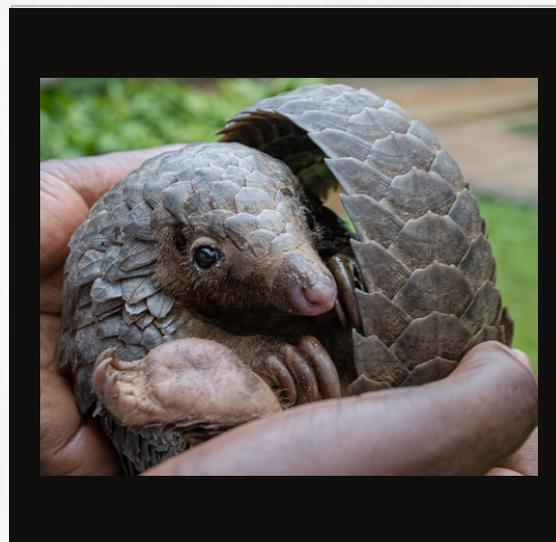
In Year One in English we are looking at the features of a non-fiction report. We have been looking at headings, subheadings and a glossary. We will be using some of these in our own writing. This week we have had an experience day on teddy bears. We very much enjoyed showing our bears to our friends and telling them all about them. We even read a story to our bears!

This week in Year Two we have started our new English unit based on the fable 'The Lion and the Mouse'. The children researched lions and mice and learnt lots of facts about them. In Maths, the children enjoyed measuring a variety of objects around the room using a ruler. In Religious Education, we have learnt about the Easter story and will be looking at how Christians celebrate Easter in our next lesson.

Year 3 & 4's Newsletter

Year 3 have been working hard to create a non chronological report about the pangolin (a scaly anteater) in English. In science, the children have been learning about the bones that make up the human skeleton. The children have really enjoyed taste testing pizzas today as part of their DT work. This will lead to the children designing and creating their own food product later in the term.

Year 4 have been working hard to write poems about a river using metaphors to describe its size and appearance. In science, the children have started their unit of work on states of matter and are learning about solids, liquids and gases. They have really enjoyed their music lessons, where the classes are learning to play 'The Saints go Marching in' on the glockenspiel.



Y3 Pangolins



Emmie & Isabella

Year 5 & 6's Newsletter

The children in Year 6 have really enjoyed the beginning of our English work based on Mount Everest. They have been asking lots of excellent questions and are really engaged with the topic. They have also been painting their models of mythical creatures made from wire and modroc. They are not easy to create so the end results are very impressive.

The model is by Emmie and Isabella.

In Year 5, we have been analysing Ordnance Survey maps and studying how contour lines show us the gradient of the land. We did this by drawing lines on potatoes - ask your child what they did and found out. We have also considered how gravity alters depending on which planet you are on, or even where there is no gravity at all.