



Highfields Primary

newsletter



18th October '24

Head's Welcome

It is so good to be able to return to work and write the newsletter again this week! Thank you to all of the staff and leadership team at Highfields who have been so supportive during my absence. To all of the parents and children, thank you for your kind words and well wishes too - it certainly has helped!

There has been so much going on since my last newsletter and I am so pleased to be able to say that we have almost finalised all of our 'Little Leader' groups and have selected the football teams that will represent the school this year! Children have been going out on trips and we have also had some amazing donations for Harvest. I cannot wait to catch up with all of the children and get back into the rest of this term here at Highfields.

Take care and enjoy!

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 94.1%. The highest attending classes this week were;

EYFS - RW 94.8%
KSI - 2M 99.3%
KS2 - 5R & 6P 98.7%




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Autumn Term - Diary Dates

October

- 22nd - Boys football match vs Ferndale
- 23rd - Panto performance in school
- 23rd - Parents Evening
- 24th - Parents Evening
- 24th - Children break up for half term
- 25th - Training day school closed to children

Half term - Monday 28th October - Friday
1st November

November

- 4th - children return to school
- 6th - Y3 Stone Age workshop
- 6th - IPP parent meetings
- 11th - Y6 SHAPE roadshow in school
- 11th - ICS parent reading workshop
- 13th - Y2 trip to Bethel Church
- 14th - Y5 trip to RAF Cosford
- 15th - Children in Need
- 15th - Highfields Helpers disco

December

- 3rd - Y2 Great Fire of London workshop
- 3rd - Flu vaccinations catch up session
- 6th - Christmas Fayre
- 10th - Rocksteady concert
- 11th - Christmas gift sales
- 13th - Christmas gift sales
- 20th - Children break up for Christmas

Please keep a lookout for more Christmas dates that will be published in our next newsletter.

PE Days 24/25

Just a reminder as your child's PE day may have changed next year. From September the PE days, where children can come to school in PE kits are;

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

Can I also remind all parents that we have a specific PE kit and this can be found on the website.

Please keep a look out for more Christmas dates that will be published in our next newsletter.





Barnardo's

School have been asked to share the following information with all of our parents/carers so please find attached a FREE Dads/male carer group...

at Rowley Family Hub
on 26th October
from 10.00-12.00pm

If you have not received a copy of the flyer opposite please let us know.

DADS AND MALE CARERS

FREE SATURDAY GROUP !!

Do you live in Sandwell?

Are you a dad or a male carer?

COME ALONG TO OUR DADS/MALE CARERS GROUP AT YOUR LOCAL FAMILY HUB

ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE:

- Arts and Craft
- Messy Play
- Baby activities
- Interactive activities for children aged 0 - 16
- Safe relaxing environment, to meet other Dads/Male carers

Free
Breakfast
Provided



WHEN?

Saturday 26th
October 2024
AT
10am-12pm

WHERE?

Rowley Family Hub
Dudley Road,
Rowley Regis,
B65 8JY.



FEEDBACK FROM DADS/MALE CARERS WHO HAVE ATTENDED DADS/MALE CARER GROUP:



For more information, Please contact the Fathers and Male Carers Engagement Worker: **Chris Myles** on: 07720 143821 or chris.myles@barnardos.org.uk

Sandwell
Family Hub

BARNARDOS
Changing children's
Changing lives.



Highfields Football Teams 2024/25

Representing our girls football team
24/25 are...

Gracie M, Thea R, Zahra A, Susan D,
Ruby H-F, Lilli M, Ava-Lilly T, Miracle E
and Abrar I

A big well done to our girls football team who played at home to St. Phillips this week, the girls were so confident and determined!

And another big well done to our boys team who played away at Tameside, you all played so well and we are really proud of you all.

Representing our boys football team
24/25 are...

Reggie B, Jayden R, Leo W, Charlie E,
Ayden B, Harry K, Logan S, Isa W and
Victor A



Celebrations & Festivals Around the World - October



As a school we know the importance of recognising the differences of others, regardless of their: race, cultural background, gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion, and disability. People being more accepting of others and their differences can contribute to a society where everyone strives for equality so our newsletters will now celebrate diversity with your children by showcasing some of the key celebrations and festivals from around the world, happening throughout the whole year!

Black History Month
Rosh Hashannah (2nd to 4th)
Yom Kippur (11th to 12th)
Sukkot (16th to 23rd)
Halloween (31st)



Theme of the Month - October



Forgiveness

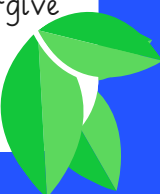
All month - Black History Month
All month - The Big Draw Festival
All month - International Walk to School
Month
October 2nd - World Habitat Day
October 4th - World Animal Day
October 6th - World Smile Day
October 10th - World Homeless Day
October 10th - World Mental Health Day
October 16th - World Food Day
October 17th - International Day for
Eradication of Poverty
October 19th - World Values Day
October 24th - United Nations Day

During the month of October, we will be looking at the value of 'Forgiveness'. We will be discussing when we may need to show forgiveness towards others and why this is so important. Children will begin to understand that forgiveness is to stop blaming someone for their mistakes, accepting peoples apologies and moving on. We will discuss the emotions you may feel during these situations, both negative and positive and how to deal with these emotions.

At home, we hope you will continue the discussions to build on these thoughts.

Activity Ideas

- Read stories about forgiveness.
- Discuss when they/you have had to forgive someone.



Book of the Month - October

Here are October's recommended books for the children to read. In Reception, years 1 and 2, the book will be placed in the 'book to share' box so that your child will be able to bring it home and share it with you at some point during the year. In years 3-6, copies will go into the library for children to select as their reading book as and when they wish. We will also let you know the book titles on the website so please keep an eye out. The books for October are:

EYFS: 'Coming to England' by Floella Benjamin

Years 1 and 2: 'I'm going to be a Princess' by Stephanie Taylor

Years 3 and 4: 'Ella Queen of Jazz' by Helen Hancocks

Years 5 and 6: 'Bright Stars of Black British History' by J.T. Williams



Black History Month 2024

Black History Month takes place every October in the UK. In the United States, it is celebrated in February. Through the month of October, Highfields will be celebrating this with special assemblies and lessons. In the UK, Black History Month is a time for reflection and positive changes for the future. During Black History Month, people can celebrate the outstanding contributions that Black and Mixed Heritage people have made to society across the globe, both today and historically.



Black History Month originated in the United States of America, but it's now a global event. Black History Month UK provides great opportunities to reflect on the key moments in history and today's society. It's important to celebrate the contributions of everyone to our communities and to support the multiculturalism and diversity that shapes them. It can highlight any inequalities that Black people are facing, and work towards shaping a better future for all.

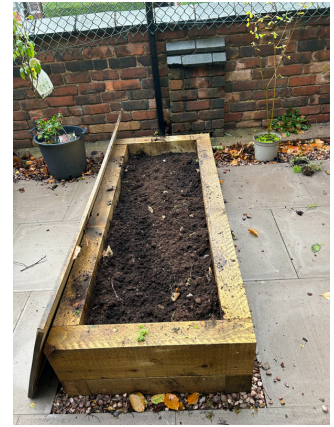


Highfields Garden Update

Mrs Adams has been working incredibly hard with some of the children in our new and improved garden area in the KS2 playground.

A few months ago we had the area redesigned and planters were installed for the children to use both as a gardening area but also as an outdoor classroom to enhance some of their learning experiences in areas such as science.

I wanted to share with you the transformation as we now have planters full of vegetables that we will be picking and using in school!



Poppy Sales

This afternoon we have had this year's Royal British Legion poppy box delivered to school. In the near future we will be selling various items to the children who wish to purchase them. We will let you know when the items go on sale but for now we have been sent...

Snap bands - £1.00

Paper poppies - any monetary donation

Poppy reflectors for zips - 50p

Fabric bracelets - £1.00



Eco Council - Half Term Challenge

This week our Eco-Council took part in the National Education Nature Park and Climate Action Award Hidden Nature Challenge exploring our school grounds and garden.

Autumn is a great time for children to get outside and explore the natural world as it changes. So, this half-term why not take a walk around a local wood or park. Pull on your wellies, grab a cosy scarf and head out to your local wood or park with your family. Can you spot any signs of autumn? Are the leaves changing colour and falling to the ground? Can you see fungi popping up out of the forest floor? Remember never to pick or eat any mushrooms or seeds that you might find.

At this time of year, the ground is full of natural materials to create some great sculptures with. Brightly coloured fallen leaves, twigs, seeds and conkers, so why don't you collect a few bits and make something crafty with them.



Photograph Competition

Take a photograph of any beautiful trees or any other fantastic signs of nature that you might see this week send it into school.

If you do create something crafty, please send a photograph into school on our enquiry line before Thursday 7th November 2024 with your child's name and class.

These will be used on our Eco Council display board and the most interesting photo will win a small prize.



Manna Pantry

As a school we are extremely proud to be able to support Manna Pantry again this year through our Harvest Festival sales. Today we received the following letter from the Bethel Church so thank you to everyone who provided items for the sale that helped us raise money for such an amazing project



Vicarage Road, Blackheath.

Email: bethelblackheath@outlook.com

Manna House CIO Charity Reg No:1188732

Highfields Primary School
Beeches Rd,
Rowley Regis
B65 0DA



72a, Vicarage Road, Blackheath

Email: mannahouse72a@gmail.com



4th October 2024

Dear children of Highfields Primary School,

I am writing on behalf of Bethel Church, Blackheath to say a huge thank you to you all for supporting our Manna House Pantry Project. We were delighted to receive your generous Harvest food donations. Well done to you all! You are amazing!

Manna House is currently helping around 120 families each week with their grocery shop, so a well-stocked Pantry will give them plenty of choice.

Looking after a home & a family is very expensive. Coming to the Pantry helps our local families to save money on their food bill. The money they save can then be used to pay for other bills such as the rent, gas and electricity instead.

Thank you for thinking of the needs of others and finding a way to help them.

Please say thank you to your parents/carers for sharing & then helping you to bring your Harvest food into school.

Best wishes to you all,

Anne Shelton

On behalf of Bethel Church



Little Leaders 2024-25

At Highfields we make sure everyone's voice is heard and we believe in giving our children the opportunity to help us make Highfields the best school it can be. It's for this reason that we have a variety of 'Little Leaders' who also help develop our school every year.

I am proud to be able to share the following names of our Little Leaders for 24-25

School Council

- Y1 - Curbaz & Amiyah
- Y2 - Luna & Olivia
- Y3 - Matilda & Reggie
- Y4 - Edith & Toby P
- Y5 - Ayianna & Sallome
- Y6 - Miracle & Zahra



Eco Council

- Y1 - Kiera B & Fateh S
- Y2 - Harley R & Rayan B
- Y3 - Summer C & Ivy S
- Y4 - Arthur L & Oliver H
- Y5 - William & Sheikh B
- Y6 - Lola P & Millie J

Sports Council

- Y1 - Oliver and Elsie
- Y2 - Iejab and Sebastian
- Y3 - Ireoluwa and Sylvia
- Y4 - Koray and Jack
- Y5 - Eesa and Henry
- Y6 - Ava and Ameerah


Reading Ambassadors

- Y2 - Mohsin, Precious, Laila T, Harry
- Y3 - Summer-Rose, Idrees M, Emily S, Miral A
- Y4 - Carys, Ankita, Henry, Jorie, Ishaq, Edith, Alfie, Ellyssia, Ana-Sofia, Pixie, Ava
- Y5 - Lily-Ruth, Sophia, Isabelle, Luca, Gracie, Sallome
- Y6 - Abrar, Kidus, Darcie, Fletcher, Isa, Anabelle, Emily, Ranveer, Harry, Deborah

Playground Pals

- Y5 - Mya, Jayden, Mohammed, Keyaan, Zoe, Matthew C, Poppy, Isla, Salahuddin, Ava
- Y6 - Betsy, Victor, Jennifer, Lilly, Ava, Isabel, Lilly-Grace, Prabhneet, Rudy, Luca

Digital Leaders

- Y5 - Ali, Archie & Mikey
 - Y6 - Jennifer, Idrees, Mayya, Victor, Alexandria & Zahra
- 



Golden Book Awards



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

11th October

Reception - Arabelle & Maisie

ISS - Ava

ICS - Olivia

2D - Husna

2M - Oliver

3B - Ajay

3L - Oscar

4G - Ava

4K - Toby

5C - Leo

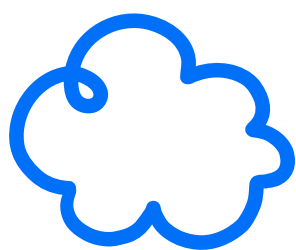
5R - Edward

6C - Thisaru

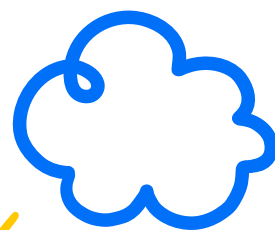
6P - Deborah

PE - Miracle (6P)

French - Harry K (6P)



Mrs
Garratt's Tea
Party



11th October

Layla M - 2D

Animae - 3L

Nikolas - 3B

Jorie - 4G

Amelia C - 5R

Sallome C - 5C





Y1 - Awa

Year 1 & 2's Newsletter

The children in Year One have been busy making their circus costume in the style of Alexander McQueen. They worked really hard ensuring that they used the colours and patterns in their design to make the costume.

Apologies to parents in ICS for having to cancel the reading workshop. We will reschedule this after half term. Thank you to the parents in ISS who came into school to read with their child. It was lovely to see the children reading with you.

In Year Two the children have continued their learning on the Great Fire of London looking at the the causes and consequences of the fire. In English, they have started to write a non-chronological report all about it. In Science, we have carried out an experiment about what plants need to grow and gathered our findings.

Reception Newsletter

This week in Reception, we have enjoyed welcoming our parents and guardians into class for our stay and play sessions.

Thank you to everyone who attended, we hope you enjoyed it!

Can we please ask that you ensure your child brings a coat to school with them. A waterproof coat would be ideal as the children like to play outdoors whatever the weather!

Thank you.

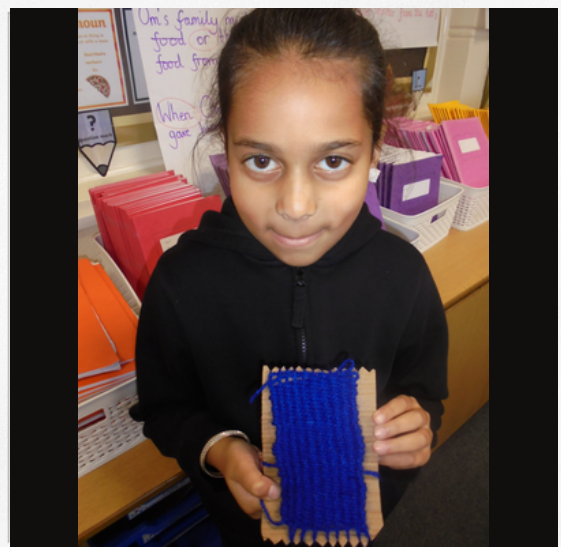


Reception

Year 3 & 4's Newsletter

Year 3 - In Year 3 over the last couple of weeks, the children have finished their weaving project in Art. They had to use resilience to complete their final piece while using the support of a loom and the under-over weaving technique. In History, the children read information, watched videos and created their own informative presentation about the Pre-historic creature: the woolly mammoth!

Year 4 - The children in Year 4 this week have completed their final perspective drawings of inside a Roman building. They had to use a horizon line, centre point and parallel lines effectively to create the desired effect. On Thursday this week, the children in Year 4 went on their trip to Lunt Fort. The children were able to handle Roman artefacts, march like a Roman and take part in a pretend Roman battle!



Y3 - Prisha

Year 5 & 6's Newsletter

Year 5 - In Year 5, the children have really been enjoying the art we have been carrying out. We are studying the work of Guy de Montlaur and we have been experimenting with creating primary and tertiary colours as well as looking at contrasting colours. In DT, we have been looking at the features of nightlights and designing our own nightlights. The children will be creating their own next week - ask them how their light turned out.

Year 6 - This week we have been focussing on producing persuasive leaflets in our English lessons. The children have designed their own zoos which they really enjoyed. They had great fun thinking about which animals will be in their zoo and have begun to construct their writing ideas. Next week, they will be writing their leaflets which they are looking forward to.

Y5 - Isla



Highfields Hall of Fame

This page is 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 would like your child to appear here, please could send a photograph and a short explanation via email to highfields.enquiry@highfields.sandwell.sch.uk so we can publish them.



Milena - YR

Recently, Milena has taken part in her first dance show, performing at the Crescent Theatre in Brindley Place! She performed in front of hundreds of people with her dance academy. Milena performed ballet, tap and acro and we are all beyond proud of her.

Well done Milena!

#myaspirations



Elsie - Y1

Over the past few weekends Elsie has had two competitions with her dance team 'Centre Stage'.

At the first competition, they came away with first place for her group dance and then on the second weekend she competed at an international competition called 'Starpower'.

She performed her Acro solo for the first time and came away with first place, plus a judges award! For her tap group routine they came away with, not only first place, but highest scoring under 11 group and were named under 11's regional winners. We are all very proud of her and her teams accomplishments!

Well done Elsie!

#myaspirations

