



Highfields Primary newsletter



14th November 2024

Head's Welcome

Welcome to this fortnight's newsletter.

As always, we have been incredibly busy with trips in Year's 2 and 5, swimming in Year's 4 and 6 and we are now fully in the swing of the Christmas productions in Reception and Key Stage 1 - make sure you look out for the dates so you can get tickets for the hottest shows in town! It is such a delight to hear the children practising their songs and words for the play and I am so pleased to be able to say we will be returning to St. Paul's church this year for our community carol service - this was such an amazing celebration that the whole school attends and I am so pleased it's back - it really is beginning to look and sound a lot like Christmas here!

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 93.5%. The highest attending classes this week were;

EYFS - RW - 82.1%

KSI - 2M - 98.3%

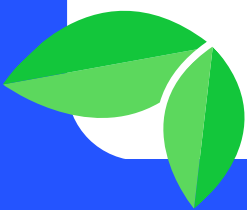
KS2 - 99.3%




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Autumn Term - Diary Dates

November

- 15th - Children in Need
- 15th - Highfields Helpers disco
- 21st - Reception vision screening
- 22nd - SEND coffee morning
- 29th - Mufti day for Christmas fayre (details to follow)

December

- 3rd - Y2 Great Fire of London workshop
- 3rd - Flu vaccinations catch up session
- 4th - Baggie Bird penalty shoot out
- 5th - Baggie bird penalty shoot out
- 5th - Reception Christmas production to parents at 2.30pm
- 6th - Christmas Fayre 2-4pm
- 10th - Rocksteady concert 2pm
- 11th - Boys football team tournament AM
- 11th - Christmas gift sales
- 12th - Y3 trip to Cresswell Craggs
- 13th - Christmas gift sales
- 13th - Christmas jumper and dinner day
- 13th - Y3 brass assembly
- 13th - Christmas film night
- 17th - Carol service at St Paul's Church
- 18th - KSI Christmas production to parents at 5.30pm
- 19th - Sandwell Family Hub bus
- 19th - Y6 last swimming session
- 20th - Christmas party day
- 20th - 4k last swimming day
- 20th - Children break up for Christmas

January 2025

- 6th - Children return to school
- 10th - 4G start swimming
- 16th - Young Voices concert

PE Days 24/25

Just a reminder that your child's PE day has changed for this half term; Until Christmas children should wear their PE kit to school on the following days;

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

Governors Update

I would like share the news that after 12 years of being part of the Highfields Governing Body, Mrs Flowers has resigned from her post of Chair. I am so grateful for all of the support Mrs Flowers has given both myself and the school during her time with us and wish her well. I am sure you will join me in welcoming Mr Wallace as our new Highfields Chair of Governors.

Children in Need 2024



We are excited to share with you that Sandwell's very own registered charity for young carers – Sandwell Young Carers, have benefitted from a spectacular design make over at its Centre in West Bromwich.

The Sandwell based charity has been identifying and supporting children and young people whose health, education and social lives have been affected as a result of caring for a dependent family member, in the borough for 30 years, recognised and supported by both the council and Sandwell Children's Trust.

The charity was chosen to be part of popular reality show Interior Design Masters. The special edition saw Interior Design Masters team up with BBC Children in Need for the first ever celebrity special, supporting young carers living in Sandwell.

The Interior Design Masters Children in Need Celebrity Special will be available to watch on BBC iPlayer during the 2024 Children in Need campaign

As a school we have currently raised £192.50 so thank you so much for your generous donations. If you still want to donate you can do this through the school gateway until midnight tonight!

West Bromwich Albion

We are very excited to announce that from the 9th of January 2025, West Bromwich Albion coaches will be coming in to train our girls' football team on each Thursday during spring term.

Mrs Ashfield-Saunt will continue training with the boys' team on the same night.



Celebrations & Festivals Around the World - November



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!

All Saints' Day (1st)
Diwali (1st)
Guy Fawkes Night (5th)
Remembrance Sunday (10th)
Armistice Day (11th)
Remembrance Day (11th)
St. Andrew's Day (30th)



SMSC calendar - November

November 1st - World Vegan Day
November 5th - Guy Fawkes Night
November 10th - 17th - Inter Faith Week
November 11th - Remembrance Day
November 12th - 19th - Inter Faith Week
November 11th - 15th - Anti-Bullying Week
November 13th - Kindness Day UK
November 14th - World Diabetes Day
November 15th - Children In Need
November 16th - International Day of
Tolerance
November 17th - 23rd - Road Safety Week
November 18th - 24th - UK Parliament
Week



Theme of the Month - November Kindness

During the month of November, we will be looking at the value of 'Kindness'. We will be celebrating kindness day. Throughout the month we will discuss the importance of being kind and different ways we can show kindness towards others. We will be carrying out acts of kindness throughout the month around school and within the classroom.

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

Activity Ideas:

Think of 5 acts of kindness you could do as
a family
Create a kindness poem
Collect photos to show kindness
Create a collage to represent kindness



Book of the Month - November

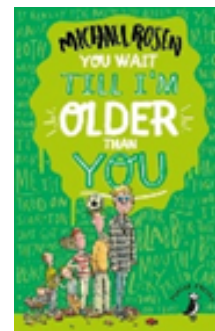
November's Book's of the Month that we will be sharing in school. This month, we have purchased Michael Rosen books as some children asked for us to have more of his work in school. In reception and years 1 and 2, the book will be placed in the 'book to share' box so that your child will be able to bring it home and share it with you at some point during the year. In years 3-6, copies will go into the school library for children to select as their reading book as and when they wish. The books for November are:

EYFS: 'Chocolate Cake' by Michael Rosen

Years 1 and 2: 'Michael Rosen's Book of Very Silly Poems' by Michael Rosen

Years 3 and 4: 'Quick, Let's Get out of Here' by Michael Rosen

Years 5 and 6: 'You Wait Till I'm Older Than You' by Michael Rosen



Sandwell Family Support Updates



Welcome to Sandwell Family Hubs Mobile Spoke

The family hub mobile spoke will be visiting Highfields Primary School on Thursday 21st November. It will be on playground from 2:30pm to 4:30pm. There will be a range of services including:

- Mobile Library
- Family Hub staff to provide advice and information about the services available.

Do pop in and say hello!



Parent Line

Sandwell and West Birmingham NHS Trust



If you are a Parent or Carer of a child in Sandwell aged 5-19 and would like some confidential advice and support, from a School Nurse

Text 07312 263756



Timetables Rockstars Updates!



The following children have all received their 'Gone Green' certificates for turning their heatmaps green which means they can recall all multiplication and division facts up to 12 x 12 in under 4 seconds:

Victor A, Ranveer B, Abrar Y, Kidus Y, Isa W, Idrees R, Rocco J, Deborah C, Luca C, Olly A, Boris W, Millie J, Susan D, Thisaru G, Ayden B, Harry B, Ameerah S, Logan M, Fletcher H, Charlie E, Isabelle T, Zoe M, Gracie M, Jasneet K, Muhammed A.

We also took part in England Rocks this week, competing against 566 schools across the country. Our top 3 classes were
4G in third
6C in second
6P in first

Our top 3 most valuable players were Thisaru G in third, Victor A in second and Isa W in first

Amazing work everyone - well done!

Santa Fun Run

Please see the poster for the forthcoming Sandwell Santa Run on Sunday 8th December at Sandwell Valley Country Park, West Bromwich, B71 4BG.

A great festive family event with 1k course for kids aged U10 and 5k course for older children and adults. All 5k runners will receive a Santa suit and a medal, while 1k runners will get a selection box and a certificate.

Runners/fun seekers can book their place [HERE](#)

A promotional poster for the Santa Fun Run. It features a blue background with snowflakes and a cartoon Santa Claus carrying a red sack. The text on the poster includes: 'SANTA FUN RUN' in large red and white letters, 'KIDS 1K RUN' and '5K FAMILY RUN' in blue, 'SUNDAY 8TH DECEMBER 2024' and 'SANDWELL VALLEY COUNTRY PARK' in white on a black background, 'RAISING FUNDS TO SUPPORT BETTER MENTAL HEALTH' in white, a QR code, 'REGISTER NOW!' in white, and '5K TICKET INCLUDES SANTA SUIT' in white. At the bottom, it says 'INFO@TOUGHENUGHTOCARE.ORG' and 'REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1187404'. There is also a logo for 'Tough Enough To Care' in the top right corner.

Eco Council - Trelleborg Donation



Over the last couple of years, we have been supported by a local company, Trelleborg, they provided school with our amazing character bins and last year the lights we all wore when the darker nights came. Well this year we want to say another huge thank you to them because last week, Christmas came early, as Trelleborg staff visited the site with surprise gifts. They had asked the Eco Council for a wish list of gardening equipment and instead of one or two items, they kindly bought everything on the list! We are so incredibly grateful for their generous donation of wheelbarrows, spades, forks, educational Eco books and much more! Thank you again Trelleborg, we are incredibly grateful and would like to invite you back to Highfields in the spring to sample some of the veggies we are growing in our planters!

Autumn Photograph Competition



William



Liam

A big thank you to everyone who took part in our Autumn Nature Challenge. We had some lovely photographs sent in of Autumn and some of the craft that had been made with items collected when out and about during half-term.

The winners are William W 5R and Liam C RP.

Advanced notice that Eco Council will launch another photo competition in 2025 – Signs of Spring.



Golden Book Awards



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

1st November

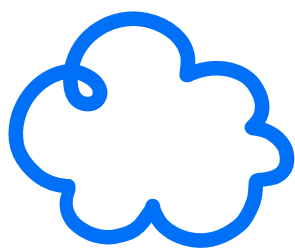
RP - Aariah
RW - Benjamin
ISS - Ivy
ICS - Hakeem
2D - Rae
2M - Arlie
3B - Ire
3L - Perla
4G - Talhah
4K - River
5C - Toby M
5R - Edward
6C - Anabelle
6P - Zakriyah
PE - Thea
French - Prabhneet

8th November

RP - Javon
RW - Aurelia
ICS - Bailey
SS - Freya
2D - Dilpreet
2M - Muhammed
3B - Harper
3L - Sylvia
4K - Oliver
4G - Carys
5C - Toby
5R - Seth
6c - Emily
6P - Idrees
French - Mukundi
PE - Affaan

15th November

RP - Aakifa
RW - Millie
ISS - Amiyah
ICS - Hermione
2D - Lilly C
2M - Maryam
3B - Jaxson
3L - Ira
4G - Pixie
4K - Olivia-Rose
5C - Isabelle
5R - Dawson
6C - Millie
6P - Betsy
PE - Eliza R
French - Amelia C



Mrs
Garratt's Tea
Party

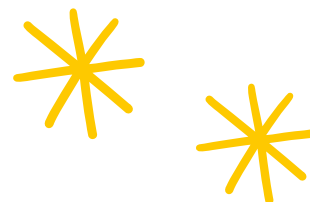


8th November

ISS - Amiyah M
ICS - Harvey S
2D - Grayson
2M - James S
3L - Idrees
3B - Noah C
4G - Ankita B
6C - Logan M

15th November

Laura B - ISS
Liliana B - ICS
Talhah - 4G
Emily T - 6P



Reception Newsletter

This half term we are continuing with our topic All About Me. We have been reading 'The Colour Monster' and have been learning all about our feelings. The children have made playdough colour monsters, labelled colour monsters and painted colour monsters!

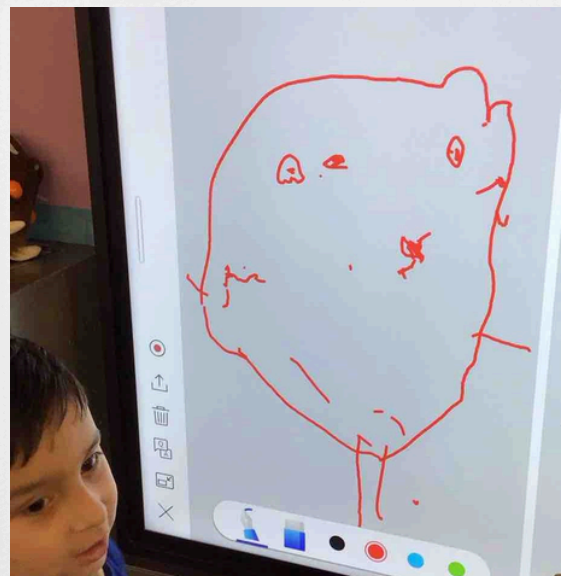
We have also started practicing our Christmas Nativity. Some children have a very important line to say in the play and everyone will be joining in with our singing! You are invited to our Nativity on Thursday 5th December at 2.30pm and tickets will be limited to 2 per family.

Year 1 & 2's Newsletter

Year One had a fantastic time when Stu from Circus Sensible came to visit. He was very funny. He taught the children lots of circus skills like juggling with scarves, how to use a hula hoop and to do tricks with a flower stick. Have a look at our class page to see more photos.

Year Two had a lovely visit to the Church on Wednesday. We learnt about the difference between a traditional and modern church. We also listened to a parable and some music. The children really enjoyed it. Check out our class page for more photos

Year One and Two are busy beginning to learn the songs for our Christmas play Boogie Woogie Nativity. Year Two are rehearsing their lines too. Please could you support them in learning their lines. If you have any questions about the play please ask your child's class teacher.



Reception

Year 3 & 4's Newsletter

Year 3 - Last week, the children in Year 3 were visited by a theatre company who delivered an excellent Stone Age workshop. The children were able to share all of their learning so far and learn new and interesting facts! They were also lucky enough to take part in archaeological digs and a human timeline!

Year 4 - In Year 4 this week, in Science, the children were able to construct a simple series electrical circuit, identifying and naming its basic parts. They had to work in groups to use the electric equipment to make the bulb light up. In RE the children discussed why some people may be considered good and bad.

Year 5 & 6's Newsletter

Year 6 had a visit from PC Treasure to complete anti-bullying activities. The children worked very well and created a class charter which is proudly displayed in the classrooms.

We had a fantastic trip to Cosford. The children had a fantastic time looking round the planes and even got to sit in the cockpit of one. We got to see many of the aircraft that featured in the Battle of Britain and many of the children were surprised by how large the planes were. In the schoolroom, we learnt about rationing and the effects of The Blitz. The children's behaviour was excellent and we all had a great day.



Y3



Highfields Hall of Fame

We wanted to celebrate and share with you the following photo's of our children who represented their Scouts, Brownies, Rainbows and Cadets with so much respect this Remembrance Day - we are beyond proud of you all!



REMEMBRANCE DAY
Let's We Forget





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



Adam

A huge well done to Adam who during the holidays took part in his third kick boxing competition. Adam attends CMA kick boxing and won a bronze medal in the competition!

Well done Adam
#myaspirations

A massive well done to Alice who was recently awarded her yellow belt for kick boxing! And not to be out kick boxed by his sister, Nicholas was also graded and passed his green belt!

Amazing work to you both
#myaspirations



Alice



Nicholas





Highfields Hall of Fame

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Henry

A huge well done to Henry - this weekend he took part in the Nottingham Open. He won both of his fights and earned himself the gold medal! Well done Henry
#myaspirations



Jenson

Another massive well done to Jenson who has recently been awarded his green stripe belt as Halesowen Martial Arts Centre - we are so proud of his accomplishments!
#myaspirations



Highfields Helpers Newsletter



Highfields Helpers PTA



HOW CAN YOU HELP?

We are always looking for volunteers to help out at events.

We are also always looking for other ideas for fundraising events so we can help Highfields.

If you would like to get involved please put your details into the suggestion box in the school office, scan the QR code or email Highfieldshelpers@highfields.sandwell.sch.uk

uk



WHAT HAPPENS TO THE MONEY RAISED?

All money raised goes back into the school.

Examples of things money raised by Highfields Helpers are:

- A gift for every child at Christmas.
- Year 6 leaver hoodies.
- A new projector screen for the school hall.



ABOUT US



Highfields Hegers is a parent run group to raise money for the school.

We raise money by holding events like:

- Christmas Fayre
- Summer Fayre
- Gift Sales (3 times a year)
- Movie nights
- Themed Disco's

We also run the Highfields Hut where your children can get a treat after school.

