



Highfields Primary

newsletter



14th March 2025

Head's Welcome

Welcome to another Highfields newsletter. The countdown to Easter is in full swing here! We have been on some amazing trips this week, I know Year 1 had the most amazing day at Warwick Castle and I have been asked almost every day how many days is it until Plas! Thank you to all of the parents who have attended school to see the children showcasing their learning aswell, your support is really important to us.

Can I please take this opportunity to remind parents that we are a nut free school, we have had a couple of incidents this week where children have been given nut containing products for snack and lunch that staff have had to remove. PLEASE can I ask that you do not send nuts, or nut containing products, into school with your child. Have a good weekend!

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 94.2%. The highest attending classes this week were;

EYFS - RW - 98.9%

KSI - 2D - 93.7%

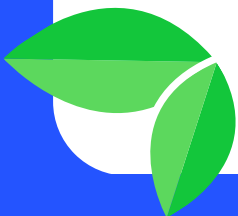
KS2 - 6C 98.3%



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Primary School page
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Spring Term - Diary Dates

March

14th - 9am - Y3 class assembly
14th - 4G swimming
18th - Y4 trip to Bewdley
19th - Y5 first aid training
21st - Comic Relief
21st - 9am - Y2 class assembly
21st - 4G swimming
21st - 1-3pm Y5 & 6 Mother's Day gift sales
21st - Disco
24th - 28th - Plas Gwynant residential
25th - Musicals event for 10 pupils
26th - Mother's Day gift sales
27th - 3L trip to Sheepwash Farm
28th - Mother's Day gift sales
28th - 4G swimming
28th - Children return from Plas Gwynant

April

1st - Rocksteady Concert at 2pm
1st - Boys football match vs Burnt Tree
3rd - 3B trip to Sheepwash Farm
3rd - Animal Man visiting Reception
3rd - Girls Football match vs Rounds Green
3rd - Drama Club Production at 5pm
4th - 4G swimming
7th - Y1 & Y2 Easter bonnet parade at 2.30pm
8th - Y2 trip to Safari Park

April continued

8th - Reception Easter bonnet parade at 2.30pm
8th - KS2 Easter egg designs due in
9th - Parents' Evening 4-6.30pm
9th - Boys football team tournament
10th - Parents' Evening 4-6.30pm
11th - 4G swimming
11th - Children break up for Easter
14th - 25th - Easter holidays
28th - Children return to school

New PE Days
PE Days 24 / 25

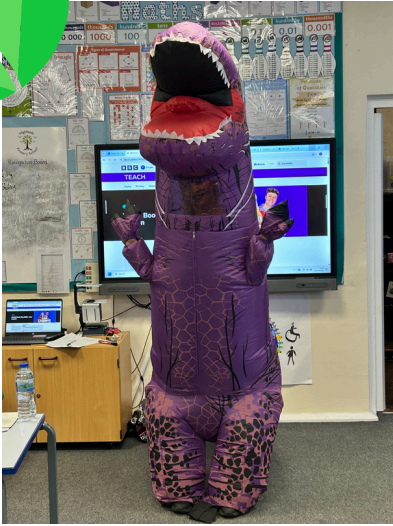
Just a reminder that your child's PE day has changed for the second half of the spring term;

Until Easter children should wear their PE kit to school on the following days;

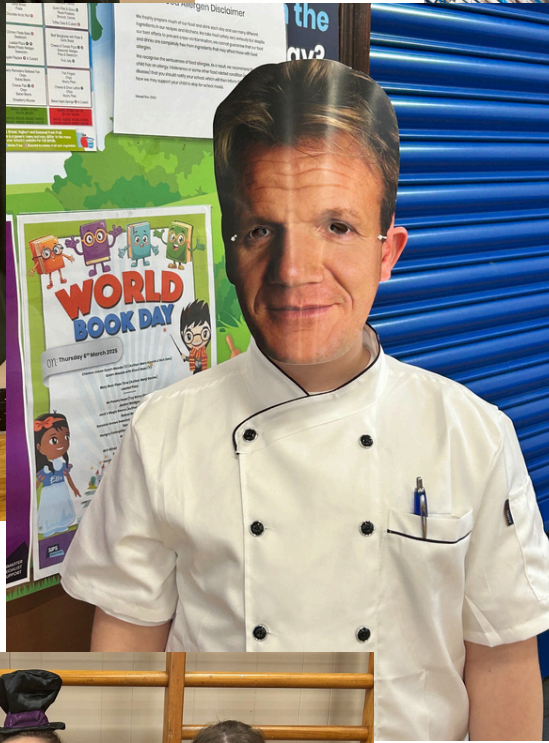
- Monday - Reception, Year 1 & Year 2
- Tuesday - Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 & Year 6
- Wednesday - Year 1 & Year 2
- Thursday - Reception, Year 3, Year 5 & Year 6
- Friday - Year 4

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

World Book Day 2025







Books of the Month - March

March's Book of the Month that we will be sharing 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.

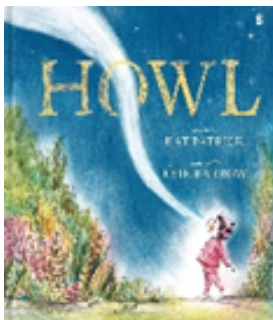
The books for March are:

EYFS: 'Howl' by Kat Patrick

Years 1 and 2: 'Seahorses are Sold Out' by K. Gehrman & C. Spengler

Years 3 and 4: 'Wildsmith: Into the Dark Forest' by Liz Flanagan

Years 5 and 6: 'Glassborn' by Peter Bunze



Theme of
the Month
- March



SMSC
March



Charity

During the month of March, we will be looking at the theme, charity. We will be asking the children to think carefully about what charity encompasses. Many different needs, ideas

and activities, from looking after children to climate change campaigns. all encourage an awareness of the world and those around us and ask us to volunteer our time.

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

March 3rd - World Wildlife Day

March 8th - International Women's Day

March 16th - Young Carers Action Day

March 21st - International Day for Elimination of Racial Discrimination

March 22nd - World Water Day





Celebrations and Festivals Around the World

March

- St. David's Day (1st)
- Shrove Tuesday/Pancake Day (4th)
- Lent (begins on 4th)
- Purim (13th to 14th)
- St. Patrick's Day (17th)
- Laylatul Qadr/Night of Power (26th)
- Mother's Day (30th)
- Ramadan (ends on 30th)
- Eid Al-Fitr (30th to 31st)



TT Rock Stars - Going Green!

Congratulations to the following children, who have 'gone green' on TT Rock Stars!

- | | |
|------------|-------------|
| Reggie W | Oliver H |
| George K | Olivia-Rose |
| Henry W | Tayla |
| Divine | Irena |
| Anna-Sofia | Muhammad I |
| Layla SW | Rayan |



Girls Football Team



On Wednesday 5th March, our girls football team attended the WBA Dome for the 'Biggest Girls Event' to celebrate Independent Women's Day. They took part in a friendly tournament with other local schools and then rotated through activities targeting different football skills with the Albion Foundation coaches. We had a great time!



Careers Week @ Highfields

On Monday 3rd March Highfields began National Careers Week with a whole school assembly from Mr Smart who works as a Premier League linesman. He shared with the pupils a wonderful slideshow of himself in action in the Premier League and explained the importance of education, making links between what he learned in school and his job. The excited children even had time to ask questions!

During the week, pupils had the opportunity to find out more about the different career paths that some of the school staff had taken as well as exploring their own skills and personal qualities that could help them in the future in the world of work. Each year group also had an employer encounter with professionals visiting to talk about their career paths and the skills they need to be successful.

In Reception, Rachel the firefighter explained all of the jobs that a firefighter does, not just fighting fires but helping people in car accidents and fitting smoke alarms in houses! She also explained the training she needed to do to become a firefighter. One of the tests is running for 11 minutes in her full kit! The children thought of some questions to ask her and enjoyed trying on her helmet which was very heavy.



In Year 1, Mr Smart answered more questions about his job as a linesman and linked this to the Highfields School Values of Ready Respectful and Safe. He allowed some children to try on his kit, blow his whistle and wave his flags. He explained the meaning behind whether the flag was waved to the left or the right and asked some children to model this. Mr Smart even demonstrated the vanishing spray foam which they use to show the Premier League players where to stand 10 yards away from a free kick taker.




Year Two had a visit from two paramedics. They had lots of fun exploring the different equipment that they use, learning about different types of emergencies and what to do if they need help or a family member needs help from the ambulance service.



Year 3 had a visit from Danielle who is hospital-based midwife. The children asked a variety of questions about her training, qualifications, people she worked with and what the job involved. Both classes were keen to ask about her experiences and whether the job was rewarding. They were interested in which school subjects would be beneficial to get into the nursing field. Some children have relatives that work in the same field and were eager to share what they knew already.

Year 4 also had a visit from Mr. Smart. He discussed his role as an assistant referee in the premier League with the children. Some were lucky enough to be chosen to wear his uniform and even have a go with the whistle and marking spray. He talked about the hard work and dedication that it takes to be able to pursue your dream career and was extremely inspirational. Towards the end, the children were able to ask some questions and got some great insights into the sort of experiences that an assistant referee might have on match day along with a few anecdotes about some famous players.



Year 5 were visited by Mike Adams who is the Head of the College of Health and Care Professions at Birmingham City University. He told them all about his experience as a nurse and the wide range of occupations that are found in the healthcare sector.

Year 6 had a visit from Marketing Executive, Rory, who talked about his role in marketing for the company 'Rohlig'. He explained what freight forwarding is and we discussed how it is needed by many different types of business across the globe. Then he talked about marketing and how to use colour theory to advertise certain products. Year 6 tried their hand at creating their own advert for a product they invented themselves using what they had learned. To complete the session, Rory demonstrated how to use AI to create a campaign for new trainers.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our visitors who did a fantastic job inspiring the children of Highfields and thank you to Mrs Comery and the staff who organised the visitors. If you would like to find out any more information about Careers Week 2025 please access the following links or QR codes



<https://nationalcareersweek.com/>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/z7kx47h>



Easter Egg Inspiration

A few parents have asked me this week about the upcoming KS2 (Y3-Y6) egg decorating competition looks like, you can literally let your child's imagination run wild with your design. It may be topic related or something they like doing at home. Here are some ideas for inspiration!





Golden Book Awards



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

7th March

RW - Imaani

RP - Brolee

ISS - Adrian

ICS - Layla

2M - Lola

2D - Carter

3L - Amelia

3B - David

4G - Yusuf

4K - River

5R - Sophia

5C - Gracie

6P - Isa

6C - Jack

French - Ava C

Physical Education - Albie

14th March

RW - Khaevon

RP - Noah

ISS - Samee

ICS - Felicity

2M - Iejab

2D - Freddie

3L - Sylvia S

3B - Ameera

4G - Harrison

4K - Meisha

5R - Wyatt

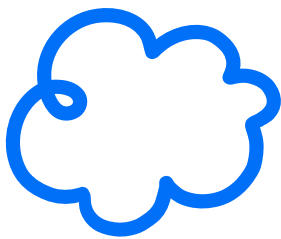
5C - Sallome

6P - Abrar

6C - Aiden

French - Leo

Physical Education - Luca



Mrs
Garratt's
Tea Party



7th March

RW - Henna

RP - Aakifa

ICS - Hermione

2D - Husna

3L - Jaxson

4K - Ana-Sofia

6P - Ava T

14th March

ISS - Freya

2M - Lottie

6P - Ruby W

6C - Boris



Reception

Newsletter

Reception are really enjoying our topic Crazy Creatures! This week we have been reading *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* and have even learnt a song about all the foods he eats. After Easter, we will be raising our own caterpillars and watching them transform into butterflies.

On Thursday 3rd April we are having a visit from the Animal Man and will have the opportunity to hold lots of different creatures! Please make sure you have returned your child's consent slip to school.

We would also love to take this opportunity to invite you to our class assembly on Friday 20th June at 9.00am in the school hall.



Y1

Year 1 & 2's

Newsletter

In Y1 we are continuing our learning on castles.

The children really enjoyed going to Warwick

Castle and actually seeing the features that they were learning about such as battlements, a portcullis, spiral staircase and arrow slits. Most

children said their favourite part of the day

was climbing to the top of the tower, even though it made their legs ache! We were very

proud of the children for their wonderful behaviour and their resilience to keep climbing

to the top of the tower even though they were

very tired. In Y2 we have written our own

story based on the fable 'The Lion and the Mouse.' We chose our own setting as well as characters to create this story. We were really

impressed with the quality of the children's

work. In Geography we have been looking at the

human and physical features of Birmingham,

the children enjoyed learning about the Think

Tank and Art Gallery in Birmingham. We

have started learning about fractions in Maths

and the children can identify a half of an

object.



Millie

Year 3 & 4's Newsletter

In Year 3 this week, the children have continued learning about non-chronological reports. Next week, they'll write their own non-chronological based on an animal. At the moment, they're researching about their chosen animal - its species, special skills, habitat and diet.

In addition to this, as part of their DT unit, the children have been designing a healthy pizza after they researched favourite toppings of the class. In Computing lessons, we are learning how to create branching databases, which has come in useful for our animal research.

We really hoped you all enjoyed our assembly this morning too!

In Year 4 this week, we have been very lucky to have received a visit from musicians from the CBSO. In collaboration with them, each class has been able to compose, perform and record a piece of music based around our water topic. In English, we have begun to explore the poem "The River" building towards writing our own poems in a similar style. Finally, we have been working on levers and mechanisms in DT and have explored creating different mechanisms that we will be able to use in our final product.



Year 5

Year 5 & 6's Newsletter

This week the children really enjoyed Geography. Firstly, we studied ordnance survey maps to identify the contour lines.

Then, we re-created contour lines by measuring and drawing lines on a potato. This enabled the children to see the contour of the potato and how they are represented in 2D form.

The children of Year 6 have been planning their Chinese meals which they will be cooking in the coming weeks. They are really enjoying this unit of work and I'm sure they would be keen to tell you what they are going to create. We have also finished our work on Everest this week and written some excellent non-chronological reports.

Highfields Hall of Fame

This part of the newsletter is for us to celebrate our children's achievements outside of school. If your child/children have done something you would like us to know about and to share on here (and our social media pages) please email a short description and a photograph to Highfields.Enquiry@highfields.sandwell.sch.uk with the subject #myaspirations



Matilda



Mrs Perks

I wanted to share this with you as we are so incredibly blown away by Matilda (and her Mum!) who have decided that they want to help a charity raise funds and have chosen the "Little Princess Trust". Matilda and her Mum have been growing their hair and are going to donate it to provide children with cancer, wigs. Matilda recently competed in the 'Bubble Rush' to raise funds for Acorns Children's Hospice where a family friend spent their final days. We are so blown away by this that we had to share it in the newsletter and on our social media pages. Halesowen College are doing the actual hair cutting but we will share the photographs before and after the event too - well done both!

If you would like to donate please speak to Mrs Perks on the playground for more details

#myaspirations



Highfields Hall of Fame



Mahtaab

A huge well done to Mahtaab who has been awarded a certificate of excellence from the Strike Sports coaching programme he recently attended - we are very proud of this accomplishment keep working hard!

#myaspirations





Highfields Governors

Newsletter

School governors work to plan the strategic direction of the school, oversee budgets, and support and challenge the headteacher. As part of the governing board, governors play a vital role in helping schools run efficiently and effectively to give children the best education possible. Schools with strong governing boards are better equipped to make important decisions that affect the education they provide for their pupils.

Who am I? - I'm Janette Hunter and I've been a Co-Opted Governor at Highfields since 2017. I'm married and have a grown-up son and daughter. I have two grandchildren who live with their parents in Singapore and go to school there. For relaxation I love reading, giving talks about history and I stitch lots of embroideries using different fabrics and threads.

My Background - I worked as a social worker for over 30 years in community settings, hospitals and schools. I provided support to help vulnerable adults and children with problems so they could live happier, more settled lives in strong, safe families. This included child protection work, mental health support, family reunification, fostering and adoption and post trauma and abuse counselling.

Why do I like being a Governor? - I feel strongly that every child deserves the best chance in life to develop their potential. Their time in school is very important because it can give them confidence and the knowledge and skills needed to succeed in the adult world. I enjoy working with other governors and together we help all the staff at Highfields provide the best possible learning opportunities for every pupil. We all work hard to make sure the learning takes place in an environment where Highfields values are respected. A safe, nourishing and enabling place.

Mrs
Hunter





Highfields Helpers

Upcoming Events

**Super Woman
Gift Sales**

Friday 21st March for
Years 5 and 6 only

Wednesday 26th March
and
Friday 28th March
For all other children

£2.50 per gift,
will come wrapped

**HIGHFIELDS
DISCO**

Friday 21st March

KS1 5-6.15
KS2 6.30-7.45

£3.00 per ticket
Drink and snack included
Available from the school office

Range of refreshments and accessories
available to purchase, £1 or less

Money Raised

**WE RAISED
a TOTAL OF**

£322.68

**For
Highfields Primary
School**

THANK YOU FOR
YOUR SUPPORT

**CASHPOT
FOR
SCHOOLS**

THAT'S
ASDA
PRICE

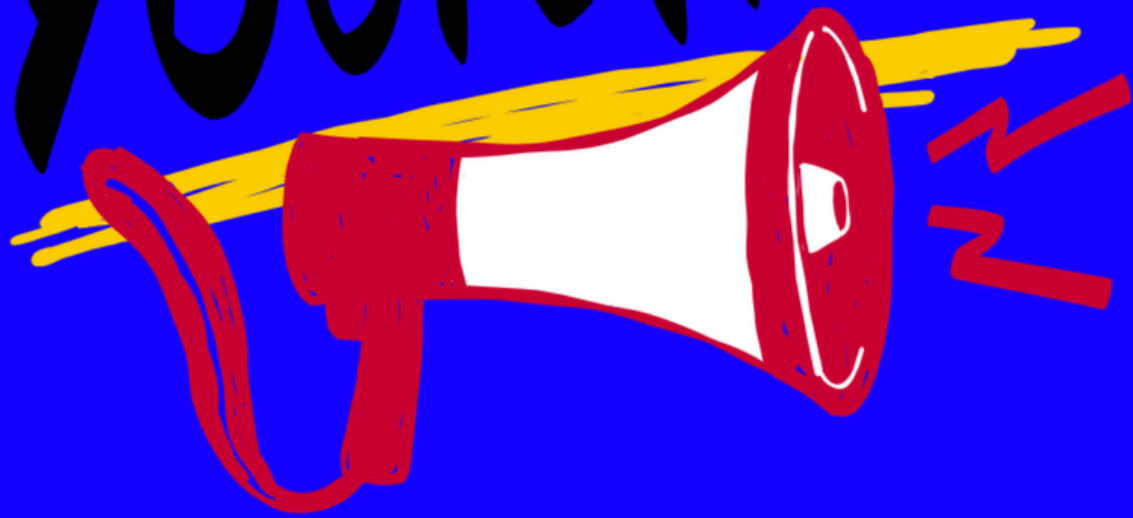
in partnership with
Parentkind

Thankyou to everyone
who signed up to Cashpot
for schools.

Help Needed

**Volunteers still
needed for KS2 disco.**

**WE NEED
YOUR HELP**



**Volunteers needed for the
school disco on Friday 21st**

March

KS1 5-6.15

KS2 6.30-7.45

Highfieldshelpers@highfields.sandwell.sch.uk



HIGHFIELDS DISCO

Friday 21st March

KS1 5-6.15

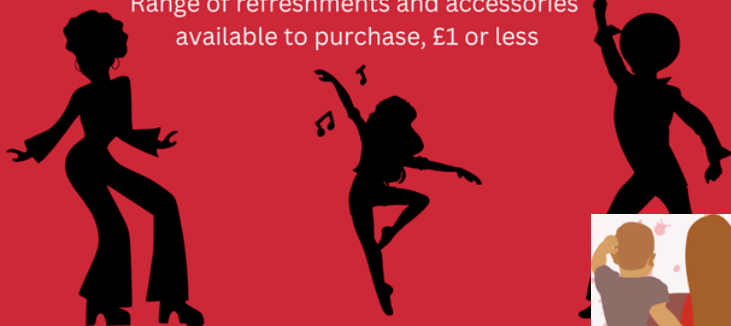
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