



# Highfields Primary newsletter



10th October 2025

## Head's Welcome

Welcome to this fortnight's newsletter!

It's been a joyful and busy time at school as we've welcomed several new children into our community, it's always a pleasure to see fresh faces settling in and making new friends. I've also had the opportunity to show some prospective parents around, sharing the vibrant and nurturing environment we're so proud of.

This week marked the beginning of our learning journey for Black History Month, which we introduced in assembly. Throughout October, we'll be exploring inspiring stories, achievements, and contributions of Black individuals past and present, helping our children develop a deeper understanding of history, identity, and equality.

I hope you all have a wonderful 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 96.2%. The highest attending classes this week were;

EYFS - RH 95.7%

KSI - 2B 98.6%

KS2 - 5R 96.1%




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# Autumn Term - Diary Dates

## October

- 13th - Y2 hearing retests
- 14<sup>th</sup> - Y2 trip to St Paul's Church
- 14<sup>th</sup> - Reception heights & weights and hands & teeth talk
- 14<sup>th</sup> - Y6 heights & weights
- 14<sup>th</sup> - Reception stay & play
- 14<sup>th</sup> - Y5 parent puberty talk
- 15<sup>th</sup> - Y2 PANTS talk
- 15th - Y5 puberty talk
- 15<sup>th</sup> - Y3 & 4 healthy eating talk
- 15<sup>th</sup> - Y6 emotional health talk
- 16th - Boys football match vs Springfield
- 16<sup>th</sup> - Reception stay & play
- 17th - Y1 circus day
- 17<sup>th</sup> - 4M swimming
- 20th - SPVU PINS parent meeting
- 21st - 23<sup>rd</sup> - Y3/4 bikeability
- 22<sup>nd</sup> - Parents Evening
- 23<sup>rd</sup> - Parents Evening
- 23<sup>rd</sup> - Y4 trip to Lunt Roman Fort
- 24th - 4M swimming
- 24th - Break up for half term

## TT Rock Stars - Gone Green

Well done to:

Reggie W, Sylvia S, Sebastian F, Ira C,  
Emily S, Eliza B

The first 'Rock Battle' of the year begins tonight and runs until the 15<sup>th</sup> of October - good luck everyone!

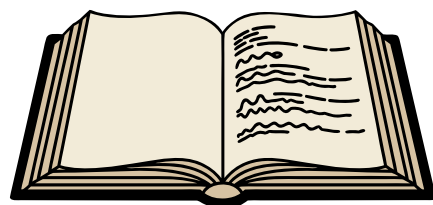
## Make-Up Reminders

We would like to remind parents and carers that make-up is not permitted in school. This includes lip gloss, perfume, and body sprays.

We have noticed an increase in children bringing these items into school and using them during learning time, which causes unnecessary disruption. To maintain a focused and respectful learning environment, we kindly ask that these items are left at home from now on, or staff will remove them and return them to parents at the end of the day.

## Reading Volunteers

School are currently recruiting for reading volunteers who will be asked to come into school on a weekly basis to hear readers in different classrooms. If you are a parent who has some spare time, loves reading and would like to be considered for this, please ask at the school office for a volunteer form. We cannot place parents in the same year group(s) as their children so please be aware of this before applying.





# Careers and Aspirations



This week we had a visitor during our Careers and Aspirations assembly. Kim came to talk to us about her job at Birmingham Women's and Children's Hospital. We learnt about Cardiology, how the heart works and even got to look at some pacemakers! We would appreciate if any parents would like to come into school to chat with the children about their career. If you would like to come in, to talk with a year group, or in a school assembly, we would love to have you. Please contact the school office at [Highfields.Enquiry@highfields.sandwell.sch.uk](mailto:Highfields.Enquiry@highfields.sandwell.sch.uk) if you would be interested.

Thank you for your support - Mrs Plant

## Black History Month



The theme for Black History Month UK 2025 is "Standing Firm in Power and Pride," a powerful tribute to the resilience, strength, and unwavering commitment to progress that defines the Black community across the globe. This year, the theme highlights the profound contributions made by Black people by they leaders, activists, or pioneers who have shaped history, while also looking towards a future of continued empowerment, unity, and growth.



# Little Leaders 2025-26

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. These are the first few groups we have this year. In the next newsletter we will also introduce you to our 'Digital Leaders', 'Sports Council' and 'Playground Pals'.

## School Council

- Y1 - Aakifa and Taron
- Y2 - Harper and Hermione
- Y3 - Layla and Callie
- Y4 - Millie and Amelia R
- Y5 - Harrison and Hugo
- Y6 - Mya and Mikey

## Eco Council

- Y1 - Ariyah and Robyn
- Y2 - Zara and Thomas
- Y3 - Grayson and Olivia
- Y4 - Miral and Ivy S
- Y5 - Cairo and Isobel
- Y6 - Arabella and Gracie


## Reading Ambassadors

- Y3 - Laila, Freddie and Matthew T
- Y4 - Miral, Emily and Rosie
- Y5 - Alfie, Jorie, Carys, Ava and Pixie
- Y6 - Sallome and Isabelle

## Free Swift Travel card



Free bus travel for parents this October half-term. Transport for West Midlands is offering parents free bus rides to help cut the cost of keeping children busy this half-term. Parents and carers can apply for a Swift travel card pre-loaded with free bus travel between Monday, October 27 and Sunday, November 2 as part of the region's ongoing campaign to get more people to try buses. Those who take up the free deal will also be offered a 25% discount on a further week's free travel. The offer is part of a £20 million passenger incentive programme, funded by Government through the Bus Service Improvement Plan, to encourage more people to use the bus. The offer is available for new and lapsed bus users travelling with a child. Applications will be open from Monday, October 6 through the TfWM website



# Books of the Month - October

Here are October'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.

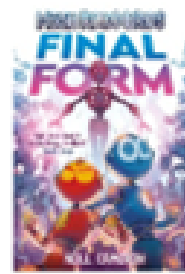
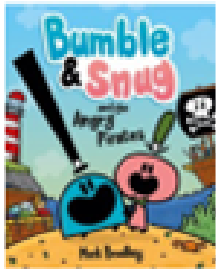
The books for October are:

EYFS: 'Bumble and Snug and the Angry Pirates' by Mark Bradley

Years 1 and 2: 'Croaky: Escape from Crow Castle' by Matty Long

Years 3 and 4: 'Badgers are go! Revenge of the Claw' by Susannah Lloyd

Years 5 and 6: 'Mega Robo Bros: Final Form' by Neill Cameron



## Theme of the Month - October

Forgiveness



During the month of October, we will be looking at the theme 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.

SMSC  
October



All month - Black History Month

All month - The Big Draw Festival

All month - International Walk to School Month

1st - 7<sup>th</sup> - National Vegetarian Week

3<sup>rd</sup> - World Smile Day

4<sup>th</sup> - World Animal Day

6<sup>th</sup> - World Habitat Day

10<sup>th</sup> - World Homeless Day

10<sup>th</sup> - World Mental Health Day

16<sup>th</sup> - World Food Day

16<sup>th</sup> - World Values Day

17<sup>th</sup> - International Day for Eradication of Poverty

24<sup>th</sup> - United Nations Day





# Golden Book Awards



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

*3rd October*

Reception - Irisa & Noah  
ICS - Aakifa  
ISS - Taron  
2B - Bailey  
2D - Lilliana  
3K - Ava  
3C - Christian  
4G - Saara  
4M - Sebastian  
5R - Ana-Sofia  
5A - Ayana  
6P - Lilly  
6C - Toby M  
French - Reggie (6C)  
PE - Henry (5A)

*10th October*

Reception - Ella & Abdullah  
ICS - Jackson  
ISS - Arjun  
2B - Adrian  
2D - Jan  
3K - Royalty  
3C - Zara  
4G - Harper  
4M - Miral  
5R - Xavier  
6P - Kalibra  
6C - Arabella  
French - Ameerah (6P)  
PE - Jack T (6P)



## Mrs Garratt's Tea Party



*26th  
September*

ICS - Sultan  
ISS - Aubany  
2B - Islam  
5R - Layla  
6C - Luca

*3rd October*

2B - Isla-Rose  
3C - Zara  
5R - Layla  
5A - Mahtaab  
6P - Zoe

*10th October*

ISS - Taron  
2D - Savannah  
3K - Harry T  
4G - Miral  
5R - Rosie  
6C - Layna





# Autumnal Antics at Sandwell Museums



## The Extraordinary Ordinary

An exhibition celebrating colour and creativity at Wednesbury Museum.

This exhibition showcases objects from our museum collection and photographs from Sandwell Archives which tell the story of extraordinary beautiful things made in what is now Sandwell such as stained glass, studio pottery, enamels and paintings and the ordinary people who made them. You can also see pieces from artists working today in the local community.

**Haden Hill House Museum & Old Hall, B64 7JU. 01384 569 444**

**Haden Old Hall Open Day:** Sunday 19 October 11am-2pm. Free Entry

**Dead of Night- A Don't Go into The Cellar performance:** Tuesday 21 Oct - 7pm. A man has a recurring dream that sees him encountering the same group of strangers in a remote house. Each of them relates a supernatural experience they have had, little realising what connection they have to the unexpected visitor. £14 via ticketsource

**Father of Faces - The Toy Maker:** Thursday 30 October, 6:30pm. "In the shadowed halls of Haden Hill, a reclusive toy maker once crafted dolls so lifelike they seemed to breathe—until children began to vanish. Now, decades later, strange noises echo through the Hall, and it's up to you to uncover the dark secret hidden among the dolls." Begin your evening with a chilling ghost story tour around Haden's Old Hall, then take matters into your own hands by searching the Hall yourself for clues about the Doll Maker's secret past. This event promises a thrilling experience—**definitely one for the grown-ups** who love a good mystery! Ages 14+ £9 per person via ticketsource

**Autumn Family fun at Haden Hill House Museum:** Thursday 30 October and Friday 31 October 11am-3pm. Come along for autumnal fun around the house, with autumn crafts trails and games. Free entry, a small fee for some activities. Not spooky just autumnal

**Halloween Fun:** Halloween Vs Autumn. Friday 31 October 11am-3pm. Spooky Family fun at Haden Old Hall with activities in the house and hall. Not for the Faint Hearted in the Old Hall! Autumn decorations in the house with children's entertainment, musical fun and spooky games, crafts and trails. Free entry, no need to book. Small charge for some activities

**Whispers in the Walls - the Haunting of Haden Hill Hall:** Friday 31 October 11am

Led by our professional storyteller, this fun and interactive spooky session will have you exploring the Old Hall, searching for clues and uncovering the playful secrets of the Playroom Spirits in the Old Hall. Bring your curiosity and imagination as you piece together their stories—perfect for those braver thrill seeking kids and grown-ups alike! Best suited for ages 7+ £4 via ticketsource

[www.sandwell.gov.uk/joininmuseums](http://www.sandwell.gov.uk/joininmuseums) for full details  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/sandwell-museums-and-arts](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/sandwell-museums-and-arts)

## Autumnal antics and spooky fun at Sandwell Museums

[sandwell.gov.uk/joininmuseums](http://sandwell.gov.uk/joininmuseums)  
[visitsandwell.com/sandwell-museums](http://visitsandwell.com/sandwell-museums)  
 social media @sandwellmuseums

## Oak House Museum - Oak Rd, B64 7JU—0121 553 0759

**Halloween Family Fun Day!** Tuesday 28 October 11.00-3.30pm. Fizz Pop science sessions: 11.00-12.00, 12.30-1.30 and 2.00-3.00pm. Ron Poppo will be also here for some mix and mingle magic, visit the house spookily dressed for Halloween enjoy crafts, trails and nature fun with Ampersand. Free Entry, no booking required to visit apart from Fizz Pop Science sessions and Ampersand Projects.

**We Forest Folk with Ampersand Projects:** Tuesday 28 and Wednesday 29 October, two bookable sessions per date, 10.30am - 12pm & 1pm - 2.30pm. This autumn, we invite families to discover the magic of nature. Join Ampersand Projects for *We Forest Folk*—a series of creative nature-based sessions designed especially for children and their families to play, explore, move, and create together.

In the inspiring grounds of Oak House, families can build dens, splash in the mud kitchen, and share stories and snacks. Each session offers a new adventure, with hands-on activities like willow weaving, wild clay sculpting, junk modelling and woodcraft projects. Sessions are open to all children ages 1- 11 years. **Pay What You Can** Tickets are available on a 'pay as you can' basis—if you're able to contribute, every penny goes directly into supporting creative outdoor opportunities for our community. Space is limited, so booking is essential - [www.weforestfolk.org](http://www.weforestfolk.org).

**Halloween Crafts.** Wednesday 29 October 11.00-3.00pm, spooky crafts and trails and visit the house decorated for the season. Small charge for crafts, just drop in. Free entry, no booking required.

**Fungi Foray:** Sunday 2 November 11.00-2.00pm. Join expert Lukas for an exciting opportunity to come and learn about mushrooms and toadstools and see how many different varieties we get at Oak House. Find our toadstool trail and craft activity. House and Tea Room open. Suitable for all ages. Free entry, no booking required.

**Wednesbury Museum. WS10 7DF. 0121 553 0759**

**Braids, Maps and Motion Event and Exhibition Launch:** Saturday 11 October 12.30pm. Join artist Antony McFarlane, Marcia Edwards artistic director of ME Dance, dancers from ME Dance and hair stylist Sadie Belleh for performances, demonstrations and discussion around this new exhibition. The exhibition features original photographs by Antony McFarlane exploring themes of perception and identity and photographs by Marcia Edwards highlighting hairstyles relating to the architecture and celebrating the Windrush and Black Country legacy.

**Braids, Maps and Motion Exhibition:** October – December. The exhibition features original photographs by Antony McFarlane exploring themes of perception and identity and photographs by Marcia Edwards of a site specific dance performance at Spaghetti Junction highlighting hairstyles relating to the architecture and celebrating the Windrush and Black Country legacy.

## Wednesbury Museum continued

**Spells and Witchcraft:** Wednesday 29 October 11am – 3pm. Join us for the season of Spells and Witchcraft. Follow our enchanted trail where you'll brew your very own spell, craft a powerful wand, and mix a bubbling potion to bring your magic to life. Suitable for 4+. £3.50 per person. No booking required, just drop in.

**Nice Cold, Ice Cold Science Show.** Thursday 30 October 1pm and 2pm. Evaporate, Melt and Sublimate - The cool science of Dry Ice! Get ready for some bubbling potions and spooky misty magic with Fizz Pop Science. Shows at 1pm and 2pm. £3.50 per person (under 2s free). Booking essential via ticketsource

**Horror Film Festival:** Saturday 1 November with a day of spooky films for all ages

Kids film *Caspar 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary* 1pm, Classic Film *Psycho* 3.30pm

Modern film *Smile 2* 7.30pm

In collaboration with Black Country Touring we are excited to present this horror film festival with something for all ages. Why not bring a picnic or snacks. Adults can bring drinks for the adult films at :3.30pm and 7:30pm showing adults only for these films. All tickets pay what you can from £2. Book at ticketsource

**Pottering about in Smethwick:** Thursday 13 November 11.30am. History talk about the story of William Howson Taylor and Ruskin Pottery. Free entry, no need to book

**Bromwich Hall Museum . B71 2EA. 0121 588 2985**

**Medieval paint workshop:** Saturday 18 October, 10am – 3pm. Join our medieval paint expert for a costumed talk and hands-on workshop. Make your own paints from historic pigments and take them home in beautiful shell holders. £10 per person, which includes one free hot drink. Suitable for over 18s, booking essential via Ticketsource.

**Curse of the Crimson Circle:** Are you and your family prepared to put your detective skills to the test and uncover the secrets of the Crimson Circle? Suitable for children 7 and above, children must be accompanied by an adult. Tickets cost £3.50 per child and 50p per accompanying adult. More information and booking via Ticketsource.

**Pumpkin Carving:** Tuesday 28 October, sessions at 10am, 11:30am and 1pm. Tickets cost £4.00 per pumpkin. Booking essential via Ticketsource. All ages welcome, children must be accompanied by an adult—includes a pumpkin

**Halloween Disco:** Wednesday 29 October, 6pm – 7.30pm. Wear your favourite costume and dance the night away to our spooktastic tunes! Enjoy the tuck shop and tombola. Tickets cost £2.00 per child and 50p per accompanying adult. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Suitable for children under 13. Booking essential via Ticketsource, no tickets available on the door.

To book tickets [www.ticketsource.co.uk/sandwell-museums-and-arts](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/sandwell-museums-and-arts)



# Reflexions - Spooky Crafts

Please see Sandwell Reflexions Spooky Crafts Event in October Half Term



  
Black Country Healthcare  
NHS Foundation Trust

28TH OCTOBER

Join us for a...

# SPOOKY CRAFTS

WORKSHOP

10:30am - 12:00pm

**ACTIVITIES WILL INCLUDE:**

WORRY WEBS/SPOOKY CALM  
DOWN JAR/MINDFUL COLOURING



Barnardos Smethwick Family Hub Centre - Training  
Room  
Corbett Street  
Smethwick  
B66 3PX

To sign up or for more information please email  
[bchft.reflexions@nhs.net](mailto:bchft.reflexions@nhs.net)

# Reception Newsletter

In Reception we have been reading 'The Little Red Hen' and 'The Tortoise and The Hare'. We enjoyed doing actions for the characters in The Little Red Hen and used a pestle and mortar to grind some wheat! In Maths we have been practising ordering objects from smallest to biggest and using these words to describe them.

Next week it is our first Stay and Play of the year. Please sign up on the School Gateway for 1 session. We have got some exciting Traditional Tales crafts for you to come and do with your child and of course play with all of our exciting toys. Reminder - it is only 1 adult allowed to attend and we cannot accommodate younger siblings.



Year 2

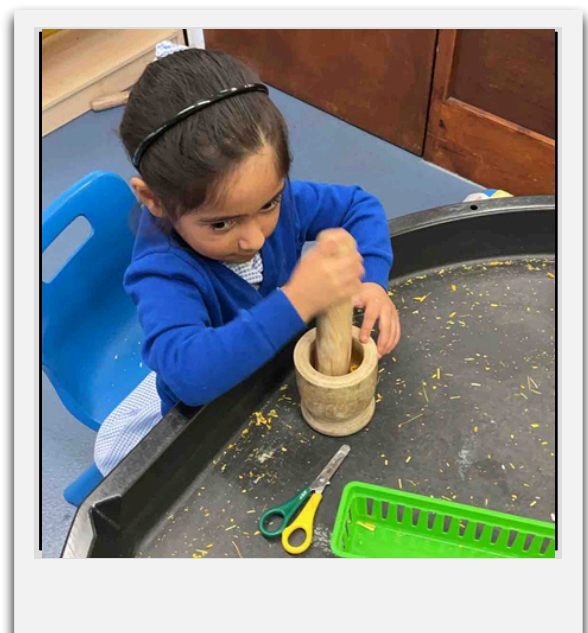
## Year 1 & 2's Newsletter

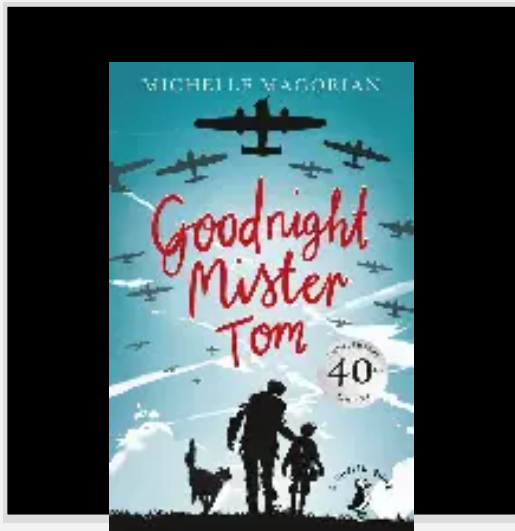
In Year One in our Art lessons, we have been learning about the designer Alexander McQueen. We looked at some of his designs and then designed our own circus costume in the same style. We are looking forward to our visit from Circus Sensible next week where we learn lots of circus skills and have lots of fun!

In Science we have been learning how to classify animals into mammals, birds, fish, amphibians and reptiles.

Year Two - in line with our RE curriculum the children had a wonderful visit from Pastor Nick this week, they learnt features of a church, what people do in church and learnt a song.

In History the children have continued to learn about The Great Fire of London, the consequences and causes. In DT we have continued to explore ideas for our Tudor house and designed our roof and door.





Goodnight Mr Tom

## Year 5 & 6's Newsletter

In Year 5 the children have really been enjoying learning about key elements of the Second World War. This week, we have been studying the Battle of Dunkirk and the children wrote some fantastic letters imagining that they were one of the soldiers on the beach awaiting evacuation. We have also finished our studies of Goodnight Mr Tom. The children engaged with the book very well and wrote some excellent stories based on one of the chapters. Please look out for them in your child's book on parent's evening.

The children in Year 6 have really been enjoying our Art lessons this term. We have been analysing the work of Van Gogh. The children practised painting in the style of the great painter and have been planning their own masterpieces in the style of van Gogh. They will be producing their finished works in the next couple of weeks - I am sure they will be very impressive!

## Year 3 & 4's Newsletter

In Year 3 the children have had a busy and exciting week! In English, they have been writing imaginative letters from the Stone Age and will be starting a new book, Littlenose, this week. During PE, the class has been taking part in problem-solving and team-building activities, developing their cooperation and communication skills. In music, the children were very proud to learn a new note on the trumpet. Meanwhile, in History, they created their own Stone Age menus using foods that would have been available at the time and compared them with modern menus featuring their favourite foods.

In Year 4 the children have been working hard across all their subjects. In Geography, they filmed their own documentaries about volcanoes, showcasing what they've learned.

In English, they started a new book, Romulus and Remus, and used dictionaries to explore new vocabulary. During History, they investigated a range of sources to uncover clues about a Roman site and discovered it was a Roman bathhouse! In Science, they explored how to change the pitch and volume of sound and even made their own panpipes.

# 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](mailto:Highfields.Enquiry@highfields.sandwell.sch.uk) with the subject #myaspirations



Nikolas recently represented Kidderminster Harriers U9s in matches against Derby County Academy and Manchester United. He had a fantastic day and was described as a stand-out player. It was a wonderful experience for him and we are really proud of his progress. Excitingly, he is also due to play his favoured team, Manchester City next week.

#myaspirations

Well done to Nicholas for earning a bronze medal at the Northampton Kickboxing Open Event! His hard work and determination truly paid off. A fantastic achievement - congratulations! #myaspirations



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Reggie

Reggie would like to share that he came 2nd in his club's tennis competition. It was his first singles competition and he played really well throughout! We are so proud of your accomplishments - well done Reggie!  
#myaspirations

A huge congratulations to Elsie for winning multiple trophies at her recent dance competition! What a fantastic achievement - your hard work and talent truly shone through. We're all so proud of you!  
#myaspirations



Elsie



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We are incredibly proud of Olivia, who competed in a dance competition last Sunday and achieved outstanding results! She won first place in both of her solo sections, as well as first place in four troupe dances. One of her troupe performances was awarded the highest score of the entire competition—a perfect score! This is a remarkable achievement. We wish her the very best of luck for her upcoming dance competition and show over the next two weeks.

#myaspirations

