



# Highfields Primary

## newsletter



12th December 2025

## Head's Welcome

This is our final newsletter of 2025, and what a wonderful way to end the year! The Reception play was absolutely amazing, and every single child in Reception, Year 1, and Year 2 has blown us away with how incredible they have been. Their hard work, confidence, and enthusiasm have truly made this festive season special. A huge thank you to all of our staff for their dedication, creativity, and support in making this term such a success. And an equally big thank you to our parents and families for your continued support throughout the year it truly makes a difference. We wish all of our families a Happy Christmas, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 5th January. Merry Christmas! 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 94.8%. The highest attending classes this week were;

EYFS - RH - 92%  
KSI - ISS - 97.4%  
KS2 - 6P - 98%



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# Books of the Month – December

Please find below December'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.

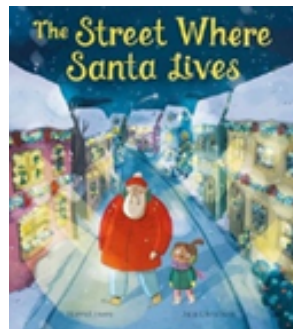
The books for December are:

EYFS: 'How to Catch Santa Claus' by Alice Walstead

Years 1 and 2: 'The Street Where Santa Lives' by Harriet Howe

Years 3 and 4: 'Sprouts' by Sibeal Pounder

Years 5 and 6: 'The Other Father Christmas' by Serena Holly



## Theme of the Month - December

Honesty



During the month of December, we will be looking at the theme of 'honesty'. We will be asking the children to think carefully about what it means to be honest. As with other themes we want them to think about the choices they make; when do we find it difficult to be honest and tell the truth? How do they feel when someone lies to them? What stories do they choose to tell to others? How can actions as well as words be honest or dishonest?

SMSC

December



- December 2nd - International Day for Abolition of Slavery
- December 2nd – 8<sup>th</sup> - National Grief Awareness Week
- December 3<sup>rd</sup> - International Day of People with Disabilities
- December 10<sup>th</sup> - Human Rights Day
- December 11<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Jumper Day
- December 18th - International Migrants Day





# Spring Term - Diary Dates

## January

- 5th January - children return to school
- 9th January - 4G swimming
- 12th January - Young Voices
- 15th January - Reception 2026 application deadline
- 16th January - 4G swimming
- 23rd January - 4G swimming
- 30th January - 4G swimming

## February

- 3rd February - Reception Stay & Play
- 5th February - Reception Stay & Play
- 6th February - Numbers Day
- 6th February - 4G swimming
- 10th February - Y5 trip to Space Centre
- 12th February - children break up half term
- 13th February - training day - school closed to children
- 16th - 20th February - half term holiday
- 23rd - children return to school

## PE Days from 5th January



After the Christmas holiday your child's PE day may have changed. Here are the new days you will need to send your child to school in their PE kits...

- MONDAY - Reception, Year 1 and 2
- TUESDAY - Reception, Year 1 and 2
- WEDNESDAY - Year 3, 4, 5 and 6
- THURSDAY - Year 3, 5 and 6
- FRIDAY - Year 4



# Choices Family Programme

Choices Family Programme (flyer and poster attached)

Sandwell Council Public Health is excited to launch a brand-new Family Activity Programme!

If you have children aged 5-12 who attend a Sandwell primary school, this is the perfect opportunity to make memories, have fun, and live healthier together—all for FREE! Join us for a wide range of fun, interactive activities that you can enjoy as a family! It's all about spending time together, learning new things, and creating memories while developing habits for a happier life. Parents and carers are invited to join in too, so everyone in the family can take part!

Simply book your spot today via this link: <https://bookwhen.com/choices>.



## Choices

**Making family memories!**  
**For families in Sandwell with children aged 5 - 12.**

**Physical Activity**  


**Emotional Health and Wellbeing**  


**Food and Nutrition**  


**Growing Your Own**  


**Quality fun family time together whilst discovering new activities.**

**Bring your family together and book onto one of our activities using the website or QR code:**

**Choices\_Sandwell@sandwell.gov.uk**  
**[www.bookwhen.com/choices](http://www.bookwhen.com/choices)**  
**0121 569 5100**



**Sandwell**  
Metropolitan Borough Council

**HEALTHY SANDWELL**  
We find the support you need



# Golden Book Awards



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

## 5th December

RP - Ryan  
RH - Zidane  
ICS - Shayan  
ISS - Emmeline  
2B - Olivia  
2D - Harvey  
3K - Layla  
3C - Amelia Ko  
4G - Ahmad  
4M - Asad  
5R - Toby  
5A - Ishaq  
6P - Eesa  
6C - Edward  
French - Victoria (3C)  
PE - Layla (5R)

## 12th December

RP - Phoebe  
RH - Brody  
ICS - Ryan  
ISS - Lily-Mae  
2B - Kiera  
2D - David  
3K - Corey  
3C - Rayan  
4G - Adam  
4M - Freddie  
5R - Hugo  
5A - Charlie  
6P - Mya  
6C - Ava-Grace  
French -  
PE - Zita (ISS)



## Mrs Garratt's Tea Party



## 5th December

ICS - Imaani  
3K - Frankie  
5A - Elysia  
6P - Lilly B

## 12th December

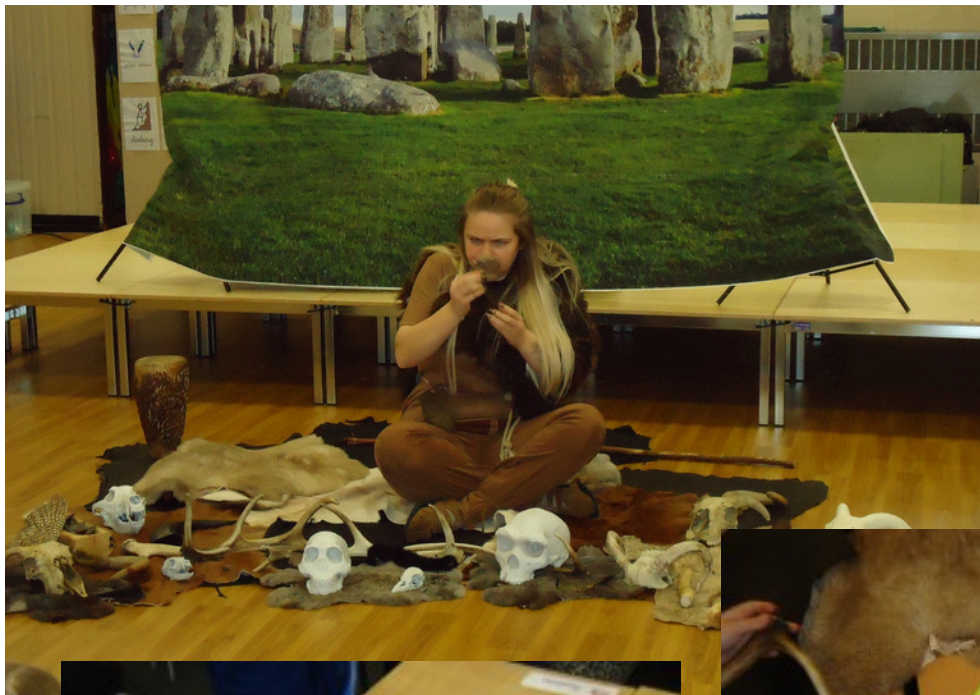
ISS - Milena  
2D - Hermione  
2B - Frankie  
3C - Laila T  
5A - Talhah  
6P - Sallome  
6C - Lewis





# Y3 Stone Age Workshop

This week, Year 3 stepped back in time and experienced an incredible Stone Age workshop! The children were fully immersed in the world of early humans, exploring how they lived, hunted, and created tools. They learned so much about life thousands of years ago – from making fire and understanding survival skills to discovering fascinating facts about Stone Age art and culture. The hands-on activities really brought history to life, and the excitement in the classroom was fantastic to see! A huge thank you to everyone who helped make this workshop such a memorable experience. Year 3 are now true Stone Age experts!





# Eco Council

As the year draws to a close, we want to take a moment to reflect on everything that our Eco Council have accomplished this Autumn Term.

The school garden has some winter vegetables growing very well and work has started on our bug hotel. Mr Malek our site manager has installed additional insect and bird boxes around the school site.

Eco Council have adopted Owl as our mascot for the year created by one of our pupils Jensen.

We wanted to thank everyone who has supported our Autumn Tree and Craft competitions we had so many beautiful photographs of trees from our local area sent in it was difficult to choose winners. We are planning further family competition for 2026.

Eco Council proudly created an Eco-friendly themed Tree of Hope for St Pauls Christmas Tree Festival.

We are also very proud to announce that Eco Council have achieved the Woodland Trust Bronze Award.





Oliver

## Year 1 & 2's Newsletter

In Year 1 in Geography we have continued our work on aerial views and have compared photographs of the same location taken from the front and from the air. We worked really hard to make our own aerial view map of both our classroom and playground.

In Year Two we have worked hard to complete our work on the Great Fire of London. In DT we used our designs to make our own Tudor house, choosing different materials to represent the beams, window frames and doors.

All of the children in Key Stage One have worked incredibly hard practising the Nativity play ready to perform to you next week. We look forward to seeing you and hope you will enjoy it.

## Reception Newsletter

We would like to say a huge well done to all of Reception for performing in their Nativity! They sang beautifully, said their lines as loud as they could and definitely had the cute factor!

Thank you to all of the parents that came along to watch and for all of your support this Autumn term.

We hope you have a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year!





## Year 5 & 6's Newsletter

This week in Year 5 we have concluded our studies of the Second World War by learning about the Holocaust. Clearly, this is a very serious subject matter. However, the children engaged with our learning with great maturity and asked a wide range of sensible questions. We are also concluding our Art and the children will be creating chalk and charcoal pictures of the Blitz based on the work of Henry Moore. Look out for your child's finished work coming home next week.

In Year 6, we have been finishing our scientific studies of the classification of animals. The children really enjoyed learning how genetic traits are passed from parents to offspring and loved looking at how selective breeding of dogs can lead to new species. We have also completed our learning of the Vikings. This week, the children analysed sources to consider how the Saxons viewed the Vikings.

## Year 3 & 4's Newsletter

The children in Year Three had so much fun at their Stone Age workshop. The children were able to experience key skills needed during the stone age. These included archery, spear making and cave painting. The children thoroughly enjoyed their day!

(Please see the Y3 article)

### In Year 4

In Year Four, the children have had an exciting and productive week across all their subjects. In D.T., they designed their own tunic, drawing inspiration from historical clothing and adding their own creative touches. In Science, they carried out an experiment using conductors and insulators, exploring how electricity travels and which materials allow it to flow. During Computing, the class recorded a podcast with their peers, practising speaking skills, collaboration and basic audio editing. In English, the children reimagined *Escape from Pompeii* by changing the main character and creating their own alternative ending.

# 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



Ria

Ria recently started playing rugby for Old Halesonians Under 9's Pirates and in today's game (Sunday 7th) her second ever game, against Worcester, she was awarded player of the match.

A massive well done Ria!

#myaspirations

Alice achieved her orange belt in kickboxing at Halesowen Martial Arts Centre. This girl can! What a great achievement!

#myaspirations



Ria

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Nicholas

Keeping it in the family this week - Nicholas was awarded his purple belt at Halesowen Martial Arts Centre - a huge well done, Nicholas!  
#myaspirations

It has definitely been the week for martial arts! Here is Broden with his brown belt!! What an amazing achievement - well done Broden!  
#myaspirations



Broden