



Highfields Primary newsletter



15th May 2026

Head's Welcome

Our amazing Year 6 children have shown just how incredible they are this week as they completed their SATs tests. Throughout the week, they demonstrated determination, resilience and a wonderfully positive attitude, approaching every challenge with maturity and confidence. We are all incredibly proud of the hard work and effort they have put in, not just during SATs week, but throughout the whole year leading up to it. The children supported one another brilliantly and represented our school beautifully. They should all feel extremely proud of themselves for the perseverance and commitment they have shown.

Now, with SATs behind them, Year 6 can look forward to an exciting and memorable final term at primary school.

Well done, Year 6 — you have all been absolute superstars!

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 91.3%. The highest attending classes this week were;

EYFS - RH 94.4%

KSI - ICS & ISS 96.6%

KS2 - 5A 95.7%




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Summer Term - Diary Dates

May

11th-22nd May - Plas Gwynant residential
22nd May - break up for half term
25-29th May - half term holiday

June

1st June - children return to school
1st June - Y5 Saxon workshop
2nd June - Art gallery
4th June - Baggie Bird shoot out
5th June - Y3 assembly to parents at 9am
10th-12th June - Y4 Bell Heath residential
17th June - Superhero gift sales
18th June - Y1 trip to Essington Farm
18th - Reception road safety workshop
19th June - Reception assembly to parents at 9am
19th June - Superhero gift sales
23rd June - September 2026 Reception parent mtg at 2.30pm

PE Days

Here are the days you will need to send your child to school in their PE kits for the first half of the summer term -
Monday - Reception, Year 1 and 2
Tuesday - Year 3, 4, 5 and 6
Wednesday - Year 3, 4 and 5
Thursday - Reception, Year 1, 2 and 6

Text Reminder

As you are all probably aware, for several years, we have used School Gateway as our main communication platform. When we send a message to parents or staff, it is delivered either as an SMS directly to a mobile phone or, for staff and parents who have the School Gateway app installed, as a message via the app. There is a cost to school when messages are sent via SMS; however, it is free for us to send messages through the School Gateway app.

Due to a significant increase in the cost of sending SMS messages, we have reviewed both the number of messages we send and how they are delivered. We do not want to reduce the number of messages we send, as we know parents rely on them for reminders about school events and important information, such as PE days. To help minimise costs, from **Monday 1st June 2026**, messages will be sent only via the School Gateway app to both staff and parents.

This means that all staff and parents who wish to receive messages will need to have the School Gateway app installed on their mobile phone. Over 87% of parents already have the app and will not need to make any changes. If you do not yet have the app, please download it from your app store and log in using the email address and mobile number that the school currently holds for you. If you need any assistance with logging into the School Gateway app, please speak to the office

Art Gallery



On Tuesday 2nd June 2026 we will be holding an 'Art Gallery' in school from 2.45-3.45pm. Parents are invited to collect their child from 2.45pm and experience their child's art curriculum with them. If you have more than one child in school you are welcome to visit more than one art activity.

Further information about the activities that will be available on the day are below;

Hall - Art Exhibition

Choir performance 2.50-3pm

Drama club performance 3-3.10pm

RW - Junk modelling

ISS Pointillism painting

2D Line drawings

3K Clay pottery

4L Water colour painting

5LB Charcoal and chalk drawings

6R Pop art printing

Refreshments will be available during the event from the kitchen in the hall.

On the day, please collect your child from the relevant classroom door shown below at 2.45pm and enter the exhibition through the main school entrance. If your child is in choir or dance club, you are invited to watch their performance (times above) and then collect them from the relevant classroom door, you are then welcome to take part in other art activities with them.

Please note, there will be no afterschool clubs running on this day, so all children should be collected by 3.20pm.

Year Group Collection Point

Reception - External Reception classroom doors

Year 1 - External Seedlings classroom door

Year 2 - Y2 conservatory door

Year 3 - 3C classroom door

Year 4 - 4G classroom door

Year 5 - 5R classroom door

Year 6 - 6C classroom door

We really hope that you are able to attend our Art Gallery and look forward to seeing the wonderful creations made by your children.

Books of the Month - May



Please see below, May'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 May are:

EYFS: 'The Chase' by Jenny Bloomfield

Years 1 and 2: 'Sorry Sammy' by Scott Rothman

Years 3 and 4: 'Jake in the Middle' by Michael Catchpool

Years 5 and 6: 'Entangled' by Emma Rea



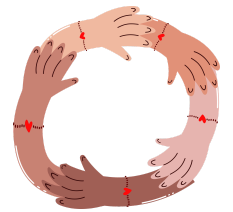
Theme of the Month - May

Democracy

During the month of May, we will be looking at the theme, Democracy. The whole school focused on the importance of voting nationally and in school using the School Council to agree decisions for how to make our school better. See if you can find out from your children what we've been talking about in school around this important theme.



SMSC May



All Month - Local and Community History Month

May 4th - 10th - Deaf Awareness Week

May 9th - World Fair Trade Day

May 11th - 17th - Mental Health Awareness Week

May 12th - International Nurses' Day

May 15th - International Day of Families

May 15th - Endangered Species Day

May 18th - 22nd - Walk to School Week

May 20th - World Bee Day

May 21st - World Day for Cultural Diversity

May 28th - World Hunger Day



Golden Book Awards

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

15th May

RP - Charmaine

RH - Ali

ICS - Reece

ISS - Chaw

2B - Jorgie

2D - Michelle

3K - Rania

3C - Lilly C

4G - Lola-Mai

4M - Rosie

5R - Isabelle W

5A - Malakai

6P - Keyaan

6C - Tanisha

French - Corey (3K)

PE - Sebastian (4M)



Mrs Garratt's Tea Party



As there was no tea party on the last day of the spring term, we are joining two groups together for a mammoth tea party today! (Hope there's enough cakes!)

A huge well done to this weeks nominees...

15th May

2B - Laura

2D - Sara

4M - Amelia R

5R - Charlotte

5A - Cloe





Year 1 & 2's Newsletter

In Year One we have completed our work on the story of Handa's Surprise. The children retold the story using adjectives to describe the animals, the fruit and the setting of the story.

In DT we have continued to prepare different fruits in preparation for making our own fruit salad and worked carefully to chop a banana. In Art we have continued to look at the work of the artist Arcimboldo. We created a portrait using fruit and vegetables and then created one using collage which we will use as a plan to draw a portrait.

Year Two have had a busy few weeks. In Art the children have designed and created their sand sculptures linked to our topic 'buckets and spades'. In Science we have continued our learning on the properties of materials and we are so impressed with the children's knowledge and understanding of key scientific vocabulary. In Computing the children have been getting very creative making their own musical patterns on Chrome Music Lab, we have explored changing the tempo and pitch of the sounds.

Reception Newsletter

Reception had great fun when their adults from home visited this week for Stay and Play. We built wooden photo frames of vehicles to support our transport topic. The children created some very impressive designs!

If you couldn't make stay and play, don't worry, your child will bring a kit home for you to make together.

Please can we remind parents to order children's lunches so they are choosing a meal you know they will eat, there are still a small number of children not ordering at home.

Motus Commercials are visiting Reception this week with a tractor. They will teach us about the features and its purpose and we will be able to get inside and have a look around!





Year 3 & 4's Newsletter

Year 5 & 6's Newsletter

In Year 5 we have been focussing on the story of Beowulf and Grendel. The children have written brilliant stories based on the legend of Beowulf and Grendel.

They included lots of excellent (and sometimes a bit gory) detail and did a fantastic job. In Science, we have been carrying out investigations to assess the properties of materials. This week the children really enjoyed investigating which materials conducted electricity.

In Year 6 SATs have dominated the week. The children have been brilliant all week. It has been great to see so many of them for breakfast each day and they have carried their sensible attitude through the week. They have given every test their best effort and as a school that is all we can ask for. They can all be rightfully proud of their efforts.

This week in Year 3, the children continued their exciting research into Ancient Greece in English and are now preparing to create their own fact files using the information they have gathered. In Maths, we focused on time, practising reading analogue and digital clocks and solving a range of time problems. In Science, the children carried out an investigation into opaque, translucent and transparent materials, exploring how light travels through different objects. In History, the class became historical detectives, using clues and evidence to investigate what a famous landmark once was and discovering that it had originally been a theatre.

This week in Year 4, the children planned and designed their own tiles in Art inspired by the style of John Dyer, carefully thinking about colour and pattern choices. In History, they explored Mayan hieroglyphics and discovered what different symbols and markings mean. In Maths, we focused on money, comparing amounts in pounds and pence and solving a variety of word problems. In English, the children began an exciting new topic on debates, learning all about deforestation and preparing to take part in a whole-class debate next week.

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



Ria

Ria has recently attended the Old Halesonians presentation evening. She plays for their Under 9's Pirates team and was proud that she had been awarded this years 'Most Improved Player'. Well done Ria what a fantastic accomplishment!

#myaspiration

A massive well done also goes to Amelia who has been awarded a first place in a recent dance competition. Amelia was dancing a street solo and represents CNC Dance. Well done Amelia what an amazing talent! We are all very proud of you

#myaspiration



Amelia



