



Message from Mrs Walford:

What a fabulous week it's been! Spirit of the Wild was a roaring success at the juniors - a HUGE thank you to the HSFF for sponsoring such a memorable day. The children could not believe their eyes at some of the animals - to have a real eagle in school was just incredible.

This week, Highfield staff engaged in training focused on supporting children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities and promoting mental health awareness. The session highlighted inclusive strategies and wellbeing approaches to help every child thrive.

A huge thank you to the parents who came along to the parent forum on Tuesday, and thank you to the parent reps for passing on messages. We had a highly productive meeting and Harriet's mum is kindly circulating the minutes.

Thank you for all your support and have a lovely weekend.

Next week's collective worship:

Forgiving Injustices



Term: Autumn 1
Date: 10/10/2025

Update number: 5



Letters for parent's evening are being sent on Monday. Please look out for this on Parent Mail.

Upcoming dates for this half term:

Monday 13th October - Year 5/6 rivers trip
TBC

Wednesday 15th October - School photos being taken

Monday 27th October - Friday 31st October - Half term (school closed all week)

Please check our website for dates beyond this half term:

<https://www.highfieldceprimaryschool.co.uk/calendar/?calid=1&pid=8&viewid=1>

Weekly bulletin board:

KIDS HOLIDAY CAMPS 27th - 31st OCTOBER
TEAM SPIRIT PROUD TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE
Join us this half term for some action packed days of enjoyable activities! MULTI-SPORTS, FOOTBALL, TEAM XTREME AND OUR HARRY POTTER SPECIAL. SO MUCH FUN TO BE HAD - DON'T MISS OUT BOOK TODAY!
Full list of courses and dates on next page.

WALKTOBER 2025
Let's get moving this Walktober!
Get moving for our wellbeing, our community and our planet.

Next week at Re:Minds...
13th - 17th October 2025

ADHD Advice Clinic
Monday 13th October 10am
Book a private 30 minute virtual Zoom appointment to speak with a clinician about any issues related to ADHD.
Appointments will be with Laura Havel, Lead ADHD Nurse from CAMHS.

NEW SUPPORT GROUP Weston
10am Monday 13th October
This is a new support group for children who struggle with understanding other people's feelings and how to manage their own. It's a safe space to talk about the ups and downs of life and to get support and advice from other children.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators DEALING WITH TRAUMATIC & CHALLENGING EVENTS

- A PREDICTABLE ENVIRONMENT
- USE LANGUAGE THAT MATCHES THEIR AGE
- TRAUMA AND THE BODY
- AVOID RE-TELLING OR RELIVING TRAUMA
- AVOID DISMISSING OR MINIMISING FEELINGS
- UNDERSTAND HOW THEY'RE FEELING
- BE AWARE OF YOUR OWN RESPONSES
- SEEK PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT
- MAINTAIN CONNECTION
- BE PATIENT - HEALING TAKES TIME

28th October
Football courses - A course dedicated to all things football... skills, shooting, nutmegs, goals, matches, tournaments, competitions and challenges! The perfect course for every football mad superstar! Suitable for all ages and abilities.

29th October
Team Xtreme is a course for children with lots of energy, imagination and a sense of adventure. Children will take part in a range of activities that will put both mind and body to the test! Nerf guns, archery, capture the flag, dodgeball and more!

30th October
Harry Potter World - Come and join us on a trip to the wizarding world. Broomstick lessons, wand selection, quidditch matches and more magical activities. Wigardium leviosa!

Please email info@reminds.org.uk to book your space at the clinic. No need to book to attend the support group - just drop in!

NHS Solent

Please can we remind parents that no nuts of any type are allowed in school, this includes spreads like Nutella.

Thank you



HOME NEWS AND EVENTS CALENDAR

Calendar

Month	Year	View	Print
October 2025		View	Print
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
			10
11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22
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Reading is an **essential** skill, which allows us to access many areas of everyday life, and a skill that many take for granted. For children, being able to read competently and confidently not only enables them to discover new information during their school lives, but also opens them up to a world of new ideas, stories and opportunities. Being able to read well is important for all children, whatever their background, and every child deserves the chance to become a reader.

Reading for pleasure

We place reading at the centre of our curriculum and promote a love of books with the aim for all children to see reading as something they enjoy. Promoting a love for reading sets children up as readers for life, with all the accompanying benefits that follow. Reading for pleasure helps us to enhance opportunities to learn about a multitude of things that may not be covered by a school curriculum.

Studies show that reading for pleasure makes a big difference to children's educational performance. Likewise, evidence suggests that children who read for enjoyment every day not only perform better in reading tests than those who do not, but also develop a broader vocabulary, increased general knowledge and a better understanding of other cultures. In fact, reading for pleasure is more likely to determine whether a child does well at school than their social or economic background.



Our Reading expectations for **ALL** year groups

Pupils should read at home every day (or at least five times a week)

- We expect **all** children to record home-reading in their reading diaries. For infants, this should be written in by the parents, and for juniors, the comments should be signed by parents at least twice a week.
- If pupils read at least five times then they will be awarded a reading point and this can contribute towards the class reading points treat.

We value the contributions that parents and carers make to their child's reading at home. **Parents are the most important educators in a child's life** – even more important than their teachers – and it is never too early (or late) to start reading together. Parents and our teaching team working closely together ensure the very best outcomes for our pupils.



Infant Department updates and celebrations



Ash celebrations:



Annabel – For working super hard in Literacy, creating lovely work, and using what she knows to make her work even better. Well Done Annabel!

Zoe – For her effort in lessons, neatness in her books, respectfulness, and courage in singing during Music. Well done, Zoe!

Maple celebrations:



Henry has been working really hard in maths this week, specifically noticing the relation between addition and subtractions in 10s and 1s. He was able to give examples and explain his working. Henry tries his best in everything he does, he is focused, respectful and kind. We're lucky to have you, Henry!

Iris is an absolute joy to have in Maple class. She works hard, she is always on task and ready to learn, she is kind to her friends and teachers and wants to help others in any way she can. What a star you are, Iris!

Important information for Infant parents:

A reminder to all parents that Wednesday 15th October is picture day! Children will be having their individual school photos taken on this day.

What's been happening in the department this week:

Well done to **Beech Base** who have earned their class treat this week. The children have voted for a pj party with teddies and hot chocolate!

Year R have a new pathway where they can access videos to help them with the sounds they have been learning. Please follow the link below or scan the QR code to access these at home.

<http://schools.ruthmiskin.com/resources/vc-pathways/255262/n50OvpxO5KO1osh>



Beech celebrations:

Filip has been working really hard in his literacy this week and has really impressed us with his focus and resilience. He really has been challenging himself and we are so proud. Well done Filip!



Oscar R is such a kind and caring member of Beech Base. He is always following the golden goals and is always ready to learn and be a good friend to everyone around him. What a star you are Oscar!

Junior Department updates and celebrations



Important information for Junior parents:

Year 5/6 parents: Please do not forget that it is the rivers trip on Monday 13th October. Children will need to come into school with a coat and layers as they will be outside for the whole morning.

Parent workshop: *How to support your children at home* is on Tuesday 21st October in **Asia** class.

What's been happening in the department this week

Year 3/4: This week, Year 3/4 began an exciting new writing journey inspired by the powerful picture book *Varmints*. The story explores themes of hope, loss, nature, destruction, and peace, with powerful illustrations. Children will use the book to inspire setting descriptions, drawing on rich language to bring their writing to life. We're excited to see where their imaginations take them!

Year 5/6: It has been another fantastic week in year 5/6 with children now fully immersed in their autumn topic. In literacy, the children have begun writing their adverts based upon the *Odyssey*, and the teachers have been so impressed with the children's confidence to write, using a great range of vocabulary. In geography, we have been preparing for our rivers trip next week. The children have been looking at the different parts of a river and how their features are similar and different.. Next week, they will use their fieldwork findings to create some independent projects on what they learnt!



George for demonstrating the school value of 'Peace' and 'Respect'. Every day, George diligently gets on with his learning, follows instructions and works tirelessly! I couldn't ask for more! What a fantastic start to Year 5.

Priya has such a calm and serene presence in the class, demonstrating our 'Peace' value. As well, she is always following our Golden Goals of being 'Ready' and 'Respectful'. What a fantastic role model to others! Well done!



Dua for having the courage to fully participate in all lessons. Dua is a really active member of the class, her hand always in the air to answer a question and share her thoughts and good learning. A pleasure to have in class!

Hazel for always offering to help out, whatever job is needed in the classroom. Hazel goes out of her way to make adults' lives easier, and is the embodiment of our Golden Goal of being kind.



Hero is a brilliant role model to all children on how to be respectful to peers and adults. She is always incredibly polite and makes others feel valued with her patience, kindness and thoughtfulness. Keep being a superstar Hero!

I am always so impressed with the bank of knowledge **Joseph** has on a huge variety of subjects. It is always fantastic to see how enthusiastic he is and willing to engage and share his knowledge! This has been particularly evident through his participation in history lessons.



Well done to **Jude** for showing incredible respect this week! His kindness, leadership, and support for others make him a true role model and a shining example for everyone at school! I have been so impressed with his desire to include everyone within the class and make them feel welcome and supported.

What another wonderful week it has been for **Marcy**! She has shown amazing dedication to your learning this week all week and should feel so proud of all she has achieved. Her determination to always do her best and show such a positive attitude towards every challenge has been truly inspiring!



Josh W for a wonderful start to year 4 showing all of our school values. Josh has been so courageous in how he has worked hard in his maths, literacy and guided reading. So respectful in the kindness he has shown to his peers and teachers with great listening. And so peaceful in how much positivity and joy he brings into our classroom. Well done Josh!

Audrey O for an incredible beginning to her year 3 journey representing our school values in all that she does. Audrey is so respectful in how she listens and the focus she applies to every learning task. Her courage in the way she challenges herself in every lesson from literacy to maths. And finally she is so peaceful in how she supports and helps others. A truly wonderful example. Well done Audrey!



Leen has been very courageous in her learning this week, particularly in maths. We have been doing lots of tricky rounding to hundreds and thousands and Leen has done her best to listen carefully and follow modelled examples. When the time came for her to have a go at her own examples, Leen kept trying and trying again until she understood rounding really well. Well done, Leen!

Nathan has been amazingly respectful this week, he has listened carefully to adults during lesson inputs and then he has worked beautifully at his place. as a result, Nathan made great progress in maths this week with rounding numbers to the nearest 1000. Amazing effort, Nathan!

North America celebrations:

South America celebrations:

Australasia celebrations:

Asia celebrations:

Europe celebrations:

Africa celebrations: