

Highfield CE Primary School Half-Termly Update

A message from Mrs Walford and Mrs Bond

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of a very busy and successful half term, we wanted to take a moment to celebrate all the wonderful things that have been happening at Highfield School.

It's been a term full of highlights – from the fantastic residential trip to Avon Tyrrell, to the exciting Spirit of the Wild workshops, and the fun dress-up days enjoyed by our Infant children. Our new Year R pupils have had a brilliant start to their Highfield journey and have settled in beautifully.

We've also been so proud to see our pupils taking part in so many enriching activities – including the Skills Swap Evening organised by our very own Children's Mayor of Southampton! Across the school, there has been an incredible amount of super learning, and our sports teams have continued to impress with a number of winning performances.

We are extremely proud of the children's behaviour this term and want to thank you parents for your continued support. The children have been showing our school values of Peace, Courage and Respect every day – both in and out of the classroom.

It has also been lovely to see such strong collaboration between school and home. A big thank you to Miss Collins and Mr Lewis for leading the recent Junior meeting, and to Miss Ellis and Miss Bignell for running the Infant workshops – they have been very well received and a great success.

We are especially proud of how hard our pupils have been working on their reading at home. Your encouragement and support make a huge difference, and it's wonderful to see the progress children are making as a result.

Thank you once again for being such an important part of our school community. We wish you all a lovely and restful half term, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back soon for another exciting term ahead.



Term: **End of Autumn Term 1**
Date: **24.10.2025**



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Highfield CE Primary School, Hawthorn Rd,
Southampton, SO17 1PX

School Development Priorities 2025 2026



What is the School Development Plan?

The SDP is a strategic plan for improvement. It should bring together, in a clear and simple way, the school's priorities, the main measures it will take to raise standards, the resources dedicated to these, and the key outcomes and targets it intends to achieve. This year, these are our main headlines.



1. To establish a culture of metacognition, self-regulation and personal responsibility.



2. To strengthen the leadership team's capacity and support staff development.



3. To enhance adaptations that improve outcomes for all children.



4. To improve phonics outcomes for our children and ensure fidelity to the Read Write Inc. (RWI) program.




5. To deepen pupils' spiritual growth and embed Christian values.




Southampton Healthy High5

The Healthy High 5 Award is a program in Southampton schools that encourages pupil health and wellbeing through five key areas: **physical activity**, **access to water**, **healthy meals**, **mindfulness**, and **nurturing nature**. At Highfield, we are currently working towards the Gold standard by consistently implementing and improving in these five elements throughout the year.

The five "stars" of the award

 · Physical Activity: Encouraging 10 minutes of extra activity each school day.



 · Access to Water: Ensuring children have constant and easy access to water.

· Healthy Lunch, Breakfast, and After-School Clubs: Making sure all meals are nutritionally balanced and meet school food standards.



· Mindfulness Minute: Practicing being aware of the present moment through activities that focus on senses like touch, taste, and smell.



· Nurturing Nature: Growing plants and foods in school to provide a learning opportunity, especially relevant for science and emotional health.



At Highfield, we are working towards embedding all of these 5 areas into our day-to-day as we value the importance they have on children's physical and mental wellbeing. To help children stay focused and energised throughout the school day, please ensure your child brings a water bottle to school each day so they can stay hydrated. We also encourage all children to bring a healthy snack for break time to help fuel them until lunch. After half term, teachers will be reminding children to choose healthy options such as fruit, vegetable sticks, cereal bars, or crisp alternatives. Please note that chocolate, crisps, and sweets should not be eaten as break time snacks.

Thank you for your support in promoting healthy habits and wellbeing across our school community!

Healthy snack ideas: <https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/food-facts/healthier-snacks/>
<https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes/>

IN SCHOOL THIS TERM

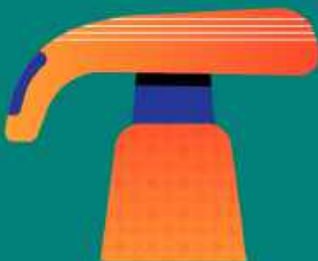
W/C 15th September

KS1 WOW Day



Vaulting!

Asia Class showed fantastic courage as they practised vaulting both over and onto a range of equipment. Building on their first lesson—where they explored what vaulting is and connected it to their previous learning on jumping—they applied these skills to tackle new apparatus with confidence. The children demonstrated not only courage, but also teamwork and resilience as they supported one another, cheered each other on, and challenged themselves to go further each time! They then went on to put these skills into a short routine with a group.



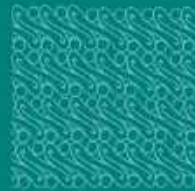
IN SCHOOL THIS TERM

W/C 22nd September

Batik art



The year 5s have loved learning all about Batik art this half term! After completing their independent research, the children experimented with the art form for the first time, using hot wax and dye. They then reflected on the process, evaluating what went well and how they could refine their technique for a final piece. Through determination, focus, and thoughtful reflection, they produced some truly impressive final designs! The children all loved taking their Batik art home to hang on their walls!



Bikability



The year 5s have shown wonderful resilience, courage and skill when taking to the roads this week for their bikeability sessions!



IN SCHOOL THIS TERM

W/C 29th September

Last half term, our Year 5 children took part in a friendly football match against another local school. It was a fantastic afternoon of sport, with great teamwork, determination, and plenty of smiles on display! The team showed excellent passing, strong defending, and some brilliant goals, making us all proud - there were some great links back to our PE football topic too! Even more importantly, they encouraged each other throughout the game and represented our school with superb sportsmanship. Well done to everyone who took part — we're already looking forward to the next match!



Year 5 football



Trojans hockey!



Our after school hockey club has been a real success this term, with children showing fantastic commitment and enthusiasm! Each week, they developed their stick skills, passing accuracy, and teamwork — and it was clear to see the progress they made! Confidence grew with every session, and the children began to put their skills together in some fast-paced and exciting games. Well done to everyone who took part — you should be very proud of your brilliant effort! A big thank you to Trojans hockey club for putting on these fantastic sessions!

IN SCHOOL THIS TERM

W/C 29th September

Table Tennis



A HUGE well done to the children in year 5/6 that took part in the table tennis competition this half term. Both teams played with great skill, determination, and teamwork throughout the event. One of our teams finished in 5th place, while the other secured an impressive 2nd place! As a result, they have now qualified to represent Southampton in the County Finals — a wonderful achievement that reflects all of their hard work and commitment. We are incredibly proud of them and know they will show courage in the finals next month!



Year 5/6 PE

In PE this term, year 5/6 classes have been focusing on football skills. The children have been learning how to dribble, pass, and shoot with increasing confidence, as well as developing their understanding of teamwork and fair play. It has been fantastic to see everyone getting involved, trying their best, and encouraging each other. The sessions have been full of energy, enthusiasm, and plenty of goals!



IN SCHOOL THIS TERM

W/C 13th October

KS1



Mrs Shorey visited us for our science topic of 'humans as animals' and talked about babies! We had lots of questions for her on growing up and changes that human's go through.



Cross Country

A HUGE well done to all the children that have taken part in cross-country this half term! Despite the muddy conditions and new course, the children have demonstrated courage, resilience and teamwork to represent the school incredibly well!



IN SCHOOL THIS TERM

W/C 13th October



KS1 DT



It was wonderful this week to practice a bridge grip and claw grip in DT. We learned about healthy foods, the different food groups and even tried some! We then designed and made a healthy rice or cous cous salad. They were delicious! Well done KS1.



Year 4 Football



A HUGE well done to all of the year 4s that took part in the friendly football match this week! They showcased courage, determination and resilience to work as a team to win the match! There were some fantastic goals, great assists and wonderful saves!



MHST- Junior Wellbeing Workshop

The Junior Department enjoyed an educational workshop delivered by MHST which was focused on helping us all learn about ways to look after our mental health. This included how by having better sleep, a good diet, exercising regularly and having good self-care we can boost our mental health and feel happy!





Upcoming dates for Autumn 2



Monday 3rd November - First day back after half term

Monday 3rd November - Year 5/6 football at St. Mark's

Friday 7th November - School Nurse appointments, book via the office

Monday 10th November - Parents' Evening, 1.30 - 7.30pm at the juniors

Tuesday 11th November - Photo retakes for absentees and family photos, 3.30pm - 4.30pm at the juniors

Thursday 13th November - Year 5/6 boy's football @St Marks

Monday 17th November - Road safety week

Wednesday 19th November - Flu vaccines

Thursday 20 November - Year 5/6 boy's football @St Marks

Friday 21 November - Infant Stay and Share

Monday 24th November - Table tennis country finals @Basingstoke

Monday 24th November - Year 5/6 girl's football @St Marks

Friday 28 November - Junior Stay and Share

Saturday 19th November - HSFF Christmas Fayre

Monday 1st December - Year 5/6 indoor athletics tournament @Woodlands

Tuesday 2nd December - Parent Forum ONLINE 4.30-5.30pm - meet.google.com/gjx-hzdh-ywu

Wednesday 3rd December - Year 3/4 netball/ handball festival @Solent university

Thursday 4th December - Year 5/6 boy's football @St Marks

Friday 5th December - School Nurse appointments, book via the office

Friday 5th December - Year R Nativity

Wednesday 10th December - Year 3/4 basketball festival @Cantell

Thursday 11th December - KS2 Carol Service

Thursday 11th December - Christmas jumper day

Friday 12th December - KS1 Christmas Service- Nativity

Friday 12th December - HSFF Christmas parent social

Friday 19th December - last day of term. Finish one hour early

Monday 5th January - First day back to school after the Christmas break

KIDS HOLIDAY CAMPS

TEAM SPIRIT
PROUD TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

27TH - 31ST
OCTOBER



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.



Visit
our site



Highfield CE Primary School (Junior Site) - Hawthorn Road, SO17 1PX
Short day option - 8:45am - 3:15pm / Long day option - 8:45am - 5:15pm
Multi-day discounts and sibling discounts available

For more information, contact us:
admin@teamspirit4sport.co.uk
023 80 658 636

Limited spaces - BOOK TODAY!
<https://team-spirit-4-sport.pembex.org/>

27TH and 31ST October

Multi-sports and activity courses - A range of your favourite sports, including dodgeball, benchball, hockey, tennis, cricket and much more, will be available to take part in along with arts, crafts, Legotastic and lots of other fun and games!!!

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!

After Half Term at Re:Minds...

3rd - 7th November 2025

SEND Legal Advice Clinic

Wednesday 5th November
12.30pm

We are linking with Shentons Solicitors to offer three SEND legal advice clinics to our Re:Minds families who require advice around education, tribunals, appeals etc.

Please email info@reminds.org.uk to book a slot, or follow the link on the event



Shirley Support Group Friday 7th November 10am

Join us for a friendly cuppa with others who truly 'get it'

Meet fellow parents/carers, chat about the ups & downs of neurodiversity and mental health in our children, share experiences, pick up top tips and get support & advice from the Re:Minds team

No need to book, just drop in! There's no cost to attend and you'll be warmly welcomed!

You can also access the book & sensory library while you're here

This is an adults only group unless otherwise stated

Find us at:

St James Road Methodist Church, SO15 5HE
Upstairs in Room 7



Access is from the rear of the church via the car park
Please let us know if you need to use the lift



Please email info@reminds.org.uk to book your space at the clinic.
You do not need to book to attend support groups - just come along!



with thanks to





WICKETZ

St Mary's

**FREE SOFTBALL CRICKET
FOR BOYS AND GIRLS AGED 8-19**

Tuesday	Wednesday
Under 10 • 5-6pm	Under 13 • 6-7pm
Girls Only • 6-7pm	Under 17 • 7-8pm

TERM TIME ONLY
MOUNT PLEASANT JUNIOR SCHOOL, SO14 0WZ

To register and for more information, please contact Dani Ransley:
danielle.ransley@utilitabowl.com | 07880724768



ANTI-BULLYING WEEK 2025

POWER FOR GOOD
#ANTIBULLYINGWEEK

Monday 10th to Friday 14th November

ODD SOCKS DAY 2025
Monday 10th November

#OddSocksDay #PowerForGood

Odd Socks Day: Monday 10th November

This Year, Anti-Bullying Week runs from Monday 10th to Friday 14th November with the theme "Power for Good".

The week begins with Odd Socks Day on Monday 10th, everyone is encouraged to wear odd socks to celebrate what makes us all unique. It's a fun and simple way to remind everyone that being different is



something to be proud of!



Southampton Arts and Humanities Festival

6th – 15th November 2025

Online and in-person activities and events.



Visit
www.southamptonartshumfest.co.uk
@ #UoSArtsHumFest




EXPLORE HUMAN EXPERIENCE

Arts and Humanities Day

Saturday 8th November 2025

- 10:30 – 16:30
- Southampton Cultural Quarter

Free activities, workshops, exhibitions and talks.



Book your tickets
www.southamptonartshumfest.co.uk
@ #UoSArtsHumFest



North America celebrations:

Safaa for showing all three of our CORE VALUES this half term! At times, she has had to show tremendous courage towards her learning, has consistently demonstrated respect in class and is always ready to learn! Well done!

Dawud for having a really positive start to Year 5! Dawud has demonstrated excellent levels of respect in class in the way he responds to feedback. In addition, he is always ready to learn and shows excellent focus in lessons. Excellent stuff!

Maple celebrations:

Noah consistently displays our school values of Peace and Respect. He is always calm and focussed in class, ready to tackle new learning. Noah is a very respectful member of our class, always showing beautiful manners and being kind to his friends and teachers. Noah, you are so hard working (even continuing your writing at home!) and we are lucky to have you!

Jack always approaches new learning with determination and focus. He worked incredibly hard in his writing last week, making sure he included all of his success criteria and producing some amazing writing. He pushed himself in DT this week and was pleased with his achievements. Well done Jack!

South America celebrations:

Zeyno for all the work she's put into organising our first Skills Swap event, which brought members of the local community and the mayor of Southampton to our school! Zeyno has helped choose children to share their talents at the event, designed posters and worked really hard to make sure everything went smoothly.

Well done to **Naiya** for a fantastic first half term at Highfield. This was her first school experience in this country, and even though it's been quite different to what she's been used to, she settled down quickly, has tried her best and made great progress with her English. Well done Naiya!

Asia celebrations:

Well done **Eleanor** for a wonderful week and fantastic first half term! She has demonstrated all of our core values and I have been so impressed with her courage this week to challenge herself with her learning! Eleanor brings so much peace to our classroom with her joyous personality and caring nature to others. Well done Eleanor!

What another wonderful week it's been for **Elijah**! He has really impressed me with his determination to always do his best and be a role model to others across the class and school. He is a joy to have within the classroom and his readiness to learn has been fantastic to see! Well done Elijah!

Australasia celebrations:

Adam has been incredible this week, I have been so impressed! He has been working so hard in every single area of his learning whilst having a brilliant attitude. I have been especially proud of the responsibility he has taken for his own learning.

Alisa is always showing the school value of peace. She has the kindest heart and she always wants to help others. She values all her peers and they value how supportive and kind she is to them.

Europe celebrations:

Kimaaya P for a wonderful start to year 4 being a role model to our class and school in how to show the school values. This week I have really noticed the courage that Kimaaya has shown in her literacy to include lots of features and make a fantastic setting description, the peace she has shown in maths to remain calm, persevere and help others and the respect she shows her friends and her teachers always. Well done Kimaaya!

Max W for a brilliant beginning to year 3 showing all of the school values again this week. He has been the most courageous writer this week, making sure his setting description was as brilliant as possible. The peace he has shown in supporting others with their learning and his thoughtful approach to his own learning and finally the respect he shows in how he always listens, is always prepared to help everyone. Well done Max!

Ash celebrations:

Jessica – For settling in so well at your new school and being such a kind friend! It's wonderful to see your confidence growing every day. We love hearing your brilliant answers in maths!

Robert – For trying so hard in Literacy and writing such lovely sentences about the Wolf Den! You didn't give up and should feel really proud of yourself!

Africa celebrations:

Jasmin has been showing our school value of courage this week, she did an amazing job of following her plan in literacy and as a result she wrote a lovely setting description that included lots of taught skills like prepositional adverbials and expanded noun phrases. Well done, Jasmin!

Elise has show our school values of peace, courage and respect this week. she always follows our golden goals and listens carefully to adults. This week she was courageous in her learning and wrote an amazing setting description for both a peaceful meadow and an industrial city. Well done, Elise!

Beech celebrations:

Surena has worked so hard this week! He has been an absolute star and had made so many good choices. It has been wonderful to see him really trying his best in all his learning and play. We are so proud of him!

Max D always puts 100% effort into everything he does! He always pushes himself to do his best. He has worked so hard on his maths and always follows our golden goals.