

Message from Mrs Walford:

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year and welcome back! We hope you all had a restful and enjoyable break. It has been wonderful to see the children back in school, and they have settled back into routines incredibly well.

We would like to say how much the children enjoyed the pantomime on Monday – it was a great success and lots of fun for everyone. A big thank you to the HSFF for organising the event and for providing the popcorn, which was very much appreciated.

Cat Day in Year 3/4 was great fun, and the children thoroughly enjoyed taking part. They are also very excited to begin their new literacy unit, exploring their new class text - Varjak Paw.

As the weather remains cold, please remember to ensure your child comes to school with a warm coat, as well as gloves and hats where possible.

Termly report cards were sent home today, and we hope you find them useful. If you have any questions or would like to discuss your child's progress further, please do not hesitate to get in touch with your child's class teacher. Some parents have been invited in for an additional parent's evening - please do not worry if you have been invited. The meetings are to discuss the progress of your child and how to support at home.

A reminder that the next parent forum is on Tuesday 27th January from 3.30 - 4.30pm at the juniors. All parents are welcome to attend to discuss concerns, celebrate successes and share ideas. If you can not attend in person, please share your views on the Google form: <https://forms.gle/ZXFzGk4Ky8RiJGac6> or pass on your thoughts to a class rep.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and we look forward to the term ahead.

Weekly bulletin board:

Coming up at Re:Minds 

9th - 19th January 2026



Members from our 26-28 service Mental Health Collective will be at each group to offer free support and guidance for anyone who is looking after a young person in this age group.

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!



Next week's collective worship: Kindness



Term: Spring 1

Date: 09/01/2026

Update number: 1



HSFF

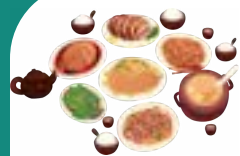
Robin Hood Pantomime

The children loved watching the Robin Hood Pantomime on the first day of term. Our huge thanks to the M&M Theatrical Productions, it was wonderful to hear the children's laughter and see the delight on their faces!

If you haven't already, please consider a voluntary £5 contribution to help us continue with the tradition next year. Many thanks for the generous donations so far.

LINK TO DONATE:

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/hsff/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=110051>



Represent your country at our International Food & Culture Fayre on Feb 7!



Our award-winning International Food and Culture Fayre is back for 2026!!
Would you like to represent your country and share its wonderful food, drink and culture with the school? We would love to have as many countries represented as possible to celebrate Highfield School's diverse community.

If you would like to host a stand at the fayre, please sign up using this Google Form where you will also find more information:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd9KOfztgmNvYuh4yJuSWNFfeK5L1jagcBTvD8dLvhmnuB5BA/viewform>

KEY DETAILS:

When: Saturday 7th Feb 2026, 3pm - 5.30pm

Where: Highfield Junior School Hall

What: We will provide information boards for each country, a flag and a map. After that it's over to you to showcase your culture in whatever way you feel best: bring national food and drink to share, show cultural items, clothes, art and books - be as creative as you like! And be ready to talk to children and parents about your culture.

More information on the Google Form (link above).

We can't wait to see you there!

From the HSFF Team.



Upcoming Dates:

Friday 30th January - School Disco

Saturday 7th February - International Fayre (Junior Site)

Saturday 14th March (Musical Afternoon Tea).

Infant Department updates and celebrations



Important information for Infant parents:

We look forward to our outdoor learning day on Monday. Please remember warm clothes, gloves and hats!

Can we also remind parents to ensure reading diaries are in school every day and that children are reading at least 5 times a week at home.

Thank you to the HSFF for a wonderful panto! The children had a fantastic time and thoroughly enjoyed their popcorn. Please take a look at our class blogs to read more about what the children have been up to in class - <https://www.highfieldceprimarieschool.co.uk/blog/?pid=9&nid=4>

Beech celebrations:



All of Beech Base have been fantastic this week - well done!



Maple celebrations:

I would like to celebrate the whole of Maple class this week. I have absolutely loved my first week with them. They have shown so much reciprocity and respect, and have helped me so much in learning all our routines. I feel very lucky to get to be there teacher and I am really looking forward to the next 2 terms with them!



Ash celebrations:

Anh Minh for not giving up and managing well with changes at school. He has been trying hard in lessons and shows a positive attitude to his learning. He is doing a fantastic job.

Olivier for being a kind and positive role model to others. He follows our school values, listens carefully, and always tries his best with his work in lessons. He sets a brilliant example for the children around him.



Oak celebrations:

Penielle has settled into beautifully this week and has been showing our golden goals and making lots of friends. Well done Penielle for a fantastic first week at Highfield - We know you are going to love it here!

We would love to celebrate **Jude** for being such a superstar. He has been trying hard with all of his learning and showed excellent teamwork in PE. Well done Jude.



Willow celebrations:

Noah has had a fantastic start back to School; he has been showing all of our Golden Goals and he has really impressed me with his superb writing! Keep up the amazing work, Noah!



Grace has been such a kind, caring and helpful member of Willow Base. She has been working so hard with all of her learning and her reading this week was absolutely beautiful. You're a star, Grace!

Junior Department updates and celebrations



Important information for Junior parents:

As we start the new year, please remember to have your child use the various education platforms that they have access to. As per our home learning policy, children in years 3,4 and 5 should be playing TTRS and working on their tables at home. This is such an important fluency which helps children access a variety of topics as they move up through the school.

Your child will also have a Doodle Learning login which is a great way for your child to work upon specific areas that they need!



What's been happening in the department this week:

Year 3/4: It was a fantastic start to the new term with our *Varjak Paw* Wow Day! It was wonderful to see so many of the children dressed in their cat costumes, really bringing the book to life. The day kicked off with a fun scavenger hunt, where the children made predictions about the story, and they also practiced their martial arts skills, just like Varjak. For the rest of the week, the focus shifted to persuasive writing, where the students explored its key features.

Year 5/6: It has been a wonderful start to the new term and great to have the children back into class and enjoying their new topics! They have been incredibly engaged with our new survivor unit in literacy and enjoyed reading a range of stories. They started the week by immersing themselves within 'survival' and then went on to look closer at the key information found within each story. They will later go on to choose their favourite to write an independent newspaper about, which they are already very excited for!



Igor for making a really positive effort to work more independently in Literacy, showing growing confidence in tackling tasks on his own and persevering when things feel challenging. He has also shown a genuine enthusiasm for our new Survivors topic this week, which reflects our school value of respect for learning.



Lara for excellent work in Maths this week, particularly when tackling some challenging multiplication questions with accuracy and focus. I've also been really impressed by her commitment to Mandarin club in Year 5 - it can definitely be quite challenging, and she's shown real courage in keeping on going!



Alfie has come back to school with a great attitude and ready to learn! It has been particularly lovely to hear the conversations he has been having with adults as he has been very polite and respectful! Keep it up Alfie!

Eléonore has shown the school value of peace this week, and every week this school year! She is always focused and calm and just a delight to have in the classroom. Thank you for being so sensible, respectful and kind!



Well done **Naz** for a fantastic start to the new term! She has come into school each with a positive mindset, determination to try her best and courage to involve herself in all lessons. She has particularly shone in our guided reading and literacy lessons!

Well done **Annie** for a wonderful start to the new year! She has really looked to challenge herself this week and shown excellent courage and resilience to always do her best! She has really stood out for her positive mindset in maths and literacy. Well done Annie!



Zidaan for showing such courage in his learning this week and since starting Year 4. We are so impressed by how hard Zidaan has been working with brilliant independent maths, wonderful art and trying really hard with his literacy and guided reading. Zidaan has also reminded us of what a peaceful person he is. Zidaan is always so respectful and kind everyone. Well done Zidaan!

Freddy for a week where he has once again shown our school values. In his literacy and guided reading, we have seen the courage to keep going even when we have found the work challenging. In art, we have seen peace in how Freddy focused to paint his cow painting and this peace has also been seen outside of Freddy's learning. Always happy to help and support others. Well done Freddy!



Amelie for incredible metacognition skills displayed in her learning! She is able to be ready and willing to learn, to understand how to find solutions when she is stuck and to help others when they are struggling! A magnificent member of the class!

Chae for her brilliant work ethic! She is ALWAYS ready to learn, shows in her work her fantastic understanding and always tries to challenge herself at all times! She shows excellent respect in class and follows the Golden Goals brilliantly!



Noah always shows our school value of courage and I'd like to celebrate him for that this week. It doesn't matter what we are learning about, or how tricky Noah might find an activity, he will always try his best and keep going until he gets it right. As a result, Noah has been making steady progress this year and he is growing in confidence every day! Amazing effort, Noah!

Albie is always peaceful, whether it's while interacting with his friends or adults around the school or during learning time. He always listens carefully and follows his golden goals. As a result, Albie has been an absolute pleasure to teach and is a great role model for our class. He has kept this up for all of Year 3 so far and so I really wanted to recognise his efforts this week with a golden leaf. Well done Albie!

South America celebrations:

Australasia celebrations:

Asia celebrations:

Europe celebrations:

North America celebrations:

Africa celebrations: