



Message from Mrs Walford:

Dear Parents,

We have had a lovely week at Highfield, with lots of outdoor learning taking place across the school, despite the weather! The children have really enjoyed making the most of the fresh air and using our outdoor spaces to support their learning.

Our infant children had a fantastic time visiting the little common this week, where they explored the local environment, observed nature and took part in natural art work. It was wonderful to see their curiosity and enthusiasm as they discovered the world around them.

A reminder to please complete the parent survey if you have not already done so. Here is the link again: <https://forms.gle/XNHxpnMZHgRwJBX48>

Your feedback is incredibly important to us, as it helps us to understand what we are doing well and where we can continue to improve. Hearing from as many families as possible ensures that all voices and viewpoints are represented and helps us make informed decisions for the benefit of the whole school community. So far we only have 39 responses which is only around 11% of our parents. If parent reps/ parents could please share the link on WhatsApp, it would be highly appreciated.

We would also like to remind parents of the importance of regular reading at home, along with engagement on Doodle Learning and Times Tables Rock Stars. As a school, we are very mindful of workload and do not send home a large amount of traditional homework compared to some other schools. However, we do expect children to regularly use these platforms.

Reading regularly supports vocabulary development, comprehension and a lifelong love of learning. Doodle Learning helps to reinforce key English and maths skills in a fun and personalised way, while Times Tables Rock Stars builds fluency and confidence with multiplication, which is essential for progress across the maths curriculum. Regular, short practice on these platforms makes a significant difference to children's learning in school.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Term: Spring 1

Date: 16/01/2026

Update number: 2



Weekly bulletin board:

SOUTHAMPTON SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FESTIVAL
6th - 15th March 2026
Free events and activities.
[SAVE THE DATE](#)

SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING DAY
SATURDAY 14th March 2026
Highfield Campus and Boldrewood Innovation Campus, Southampton
Free activities, workshops, talks, lab tours and live shows suitable for all ages.
[SAVE THE DATE](#)

Please follow the link below for the City catering Parent/Carer Newsletter:

[City Catering Parent/Carer Newsletter](#)

Next week's collective worship:

Wisdom



HSFF

Upcoming Dates:

Friday 30th January - School Disco

Saturday 7th February - International Fayre (Junior Site)

Saturday 14th March (Musical Afternoon Tea).



**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.

Infant Department updates and celebrations



What's been happening in the dept this week:

We have had a wonderful week in the Infant Department, with a very successful outdoor learning day. The children thoroughly enjoyed learning outside, exploring their surroundings and taking part in practical, hands-on activities. It was lovely to see their enthusiasm and engagement as they made the most of being outdoors.

As the weather is becoming more changeable, please can we remind parents to ensure that children come to school with a coat every day. This will allow us to continue outdoor learning and playtimes comfortably, even during wetter weather.

We would also love to welcome more parent readers into school to help listen to children read. This support makes a huge difference to children's confidence, fluency and enjoyment of reading, and it is always a highlight of their week.

If you are able to help and would be interested in becoming a parent reader, please email Mrs Walford at info@highfieldschool.co.uk for more information.

Beech celebrations:



Rosie B has been working SO hard on her writing. Everytime she has been writing this week she has been pushing herself to do beautiful joined up writing and it looks fantastic! What amazing effort Rosie! Your hard work is so impressive!

Freddie B has been a reading whizz this week! He is doing a fantastic job of remembering all of his sounds and blending them together to read some really tricky words! He is a phonics star! Well done Freddie!

Willow celebrations:



Ila has impressed me with her fantastic writing this week- her 'I can see' sentences were beautifully neat and well thought through. Amazing work, Ila!

Emr has had a fantastic attitude to learning and he has really impressed us with his focus and superb reading. Keep up the great work, Emr!

Ash celebrations:



Maryam – For always being kind and willing to help others before yourself. You try your very best in every lesson and never give up. You are a joy to have in our class and always make us smile.

Ted – For working really hard during DT lessons. You listened carefully, followed the instructions well, and kept going even when things were tricky. You didn't give up and tried your very best. Well done! 🌟

Oak celebrations:



Freddie has been a superstar in phonics this week! He has worked so hard on learning his 'special friend sounds' and even using his skills to hold and write given sentences! Well done, Freddie!



Olivia is such a resilient and hard-working learner and she always puts her best efforts into every ounce of her learning! Keep up the great work, Olivia!

Maple celebrations:



Leo has been very reflective this week. He has made a huge improvement in his handwriting and has performed many acts of kindness. Well done.

Freddy is always so respectful to his friends and all grown morning school. He is always ready to help and to say a kind and encouraging word. We are proud of you



Junior Department updates and celebrations

Important information for Junior parents:

Thank you for your continued support in reading with your children at home, we have seen a great improvement in children engaging with reading and achieving their reading points each week!

Please ensure your child has at least 5 entries in their reading diary and an adult at home has signed it twice.

What's been happening in the department this week:

Year 3/4: The children in year 3/4 this week have enjoyed exploring their creative side as they were introduced to their artist of the term - Steven Brown. They used only primary colours to try to recreate his famous Mc Coo painting. It has been so fantastic to see so many of their artistic talents shine through. We can't wait to see how they have developed their painting skills even further by the end of the unit!

Year 5/6:

Year 5/6 have been working extremely hard this week and we are really pleased with their positive attitude to learning. Dance Live preparations are going very well - the children are showing great enthusiasm and teamwork, and we are excited to see everything coming together.

For Year 6 parents, please keep an eye out for Autumn practice SATs papers, which will be coming home shortly. We regularly complete past papers in school, so if you are practising at home with your child, please avoid using previous years' SATs papers found online, as these are often the same ones we use in class.

If you would like to support your child by practising SATs skills at home, the following websites are very useful:

BBC Bitesize - excellent for clear explanations and short practice activities

SATs Companion - great for targeted practice (if you have access)

Oak National Academy - helpful videos and lessons linked to SATs content

CGP online resources - clear practice questions and revision support



Eliza has been really working hard to apply herself to her learning and ensure she is doing the best possible job she can. This has led her to be really successful and produce some excellent pieces of learning! Keep being a superstar Eliza!



This week, **Ethan** has noticeably made an impact in our class discussions. He has shown the school value of courage by sharing his thoughts and ideas, and this has encouraged others to engage further. Well done, Ethan



Josiah W for showing excellent respect and peace during our school trip to the mosque. He was highly attentive throughout, asked thoughtful and relevant questions, and represented the school brilliantly by following the Golden Goals of being respectful at all times.

Elijah OC for consistently demonstrating courage in learning by eagerly contributing to class discussions and confidently sharing his ideas. He shows a strong understanding of lessons and regularly makes links to previous learning, particularly in Literacy.



Elnin for great focus and effort in his learning this year. He is motivated and ready to learn. He is really focused for Year 6 and is giving his very best in everything he does. I'm so proud of him! Keep it up!

Preston's year has been such a positive one so far. His effort and focus has been really good, both in Literacy and Maths. He has also shown great respect for others and supported a new member of class to settle in. He has also been keen to help others with their learning! Great stuff Preston!



Eddie is always courageous in his learning, particularly in maths. He puts so much effort into practicing the skills we need to be good mathematicians and he is always willing to have a go at more challenging activities to really test his understanding! Amazing effort, Eddie, Well done!

Hamzah is always respectful to adults and his peers and this shines through during learning time. He listens well during lessons and tries his best to apply what he has learned to his work. Hamzah thinks deeply about questions he is asked, particularly in subjects like RE, in which he has lots of amazing ideas. Well done, Hamzah!



What another wonderful week it has been for **Veera!** She has really stood out for her determination and courage in maths to solve some tricky maths problems and it has been fantastic to see her recognising this amazing progress! Well done Veera!

Well done **Emma** for another fantastic week! She has demonstrated all of our school values around the school and really stood out for her amazing reading skills! I was so impressed with the level of detail and depth to her answers which highlight what an incredible reader she is!



Millie S for a great start to our new term showing our school value of courage, peace and respect. I have really noticed Millie's courage in her maths and her literacy in how she approaches her learning with so much focus, always trying to make her learning as accurate and as brilliant as possible. Her peace could be seen in how she led her group in science, helping everyone and putting others before herself, and the respect she shows to everyone in Europe. A role model to everyone! Well done Millie.

Myla N for a lovely start to our new term where she has been so courageous in her literacy, putting her hand up on the carpet, putting forward ideas in our shared write, and coming up with lovely sentences. She has shown respect in art where she wrote really lovely thoughts about our focus artist, and in science she demonstrated peace in how she worked well with others. Myla has also been so respectful and peaceful in how she has helped to make our classroom so lovely and tidy. Well done Myla!

Australasia celebrations:

South America celebrations:

North America celebrations:

Africa celebrations:

Asia celebrations:

Europe celebrations: