

Dear Parents and Carers,

Message from Mrs Walford:

It has been a lovely first week back after half term, and it has been wonderful to see the children return refreshed, happy, and ready to learn. There has been lots going on across the school already. Our KS1 children enjoyed a super trip to Portswood library, which helped to inspire their love of reading and books. We were also fortunate to welcome a fascinating Great Fire of London talk, which really brought history to life for the children. In the juniors, pupils have thoroughly enjoyed the launch of their new literacy units, and there has been a real buzz of excitement in classrooms as they begin exploring new texts and ideas.

This week, all the teachers attended Aspire Trust subject meetings alongside colleagues from across the Aspire Trust. These meetings allow subject leaders to come together to share good practice, discuss new ideas, and ensure that we are continuing to provide the very best education for our pupils. This collaboration is incredibly valuable and helps strengthen teaching and learning across all our schools.

Key members of staff are also continuing their trauma-informed practice training. This important training helps staff to better understand how children's experiences can affect their emotions, behaviour, and learning. It supports us in creating a calm, safe, and nurturing environment where every child feels understood and supported. By developing these approaches, we can respond more effectively to children's needs and help them to thrive both academically and emotionally. Next week, Year 3 and 4 pupils will be taking part in an anxiety workshop delivered by the Mental Health in Schools Team (MHST). This workshop will provide children with practical strategies to understand and manage worries and build resilience.

We also say goodbye for now to Mr and Mrs Lewis, who begin their maternity leave ahead of the arrival of their baby. We look forward to welcoming Mr Lewis back after Easter and Mrs Lewis in the new year. We send them lots of luck and love as they prepare to welcome their new arrival.

A reminder that World Book Day takes place next Thursday 5th March. Children are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite book character, and we look forward to celebrating our shared love of reading together.

Finally, the school nurse will be in school next week. If you would like to book an appointment, please contact the school office.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and have a lovely weekend..

Social Media Update



Thank you to all parents who have already completed the social media consent form. We now have a school facebook and instagram page where we will be sharing regular updates. Please follow us! The Instagram account name is **highfieldceprimary** and our Facebook name is **Highfield CE Primary School**. Both accounts have our school logo as the profile picture.



Term: Spring 2

Date: 27/02/2026

Update number: 1



Next week's collective worship:

Sometimes it's okay to be sad.



This week, we revealed the Great Athlete visiting the junior school in just a couple of weeks in our school assembly!

Don't forget to sponsor your child for their sponsored fitness circuit – you can sponsor online by following the QR code and searching for the school name.



Have you heard?
Team GB Gymnast KELLY SIMM
is coming to our school

Scan to sponsor
Search our school

Get the children moving in a fun fitness circuit
Witness the strength, talent & resilience of a top gymnast
Raise money for new sports equipment

Discover something extraordinary at Science and Engineering Day this March!

Southampton University's annual Science and Engineering Festival (SOTSEF) returns this March, offering an exciting chance to explore the world of STEAM—Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics. Running alongside British Science Week, the festival's flagship event, Science and Engineering Day, takes place on Saturday 14 March.

This free, family-friendly day invites visitors to enjoy more than 140 activities, including inspiring talks, interactive shows, hands-on workshops, and behind-the-scenes laboratory tours across the state-of-the-art Highfield and Boldrewood campuses. No previous knowledge is needed—just curiosity!

Free tickets are available via the festival website: www.sotsef.co.uk



University of Southampton

DISCOVER THE AMAZING

SOUTHAMPTON SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FESTIVAL
6th - 15th March 2026

SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING DAY
Saturday 14th March 2026

Book your tickets
www.sotsef.co.uk

#SOTSEF

Weekly bulletin board: Class Assemblies

All Junior assemblies will be in the Junior hall at 9.00am

All Infant assemblies will be in the Church Centre

Friday 13th March - **NORTH AMERICA Class** Assembly

Friday 20th March - **SOUTH AMERICA Class** Assembly

Friday 27th March - **ASIA Class** Assembly

Friday 24th April - **AUSTRALASIA Class** Assembly

Friday 1st May - **EUROPE Class** Assembly

Friday 8th May - **AFRICA Class** Assembly

Thursday 21st May at 2.45pm - BEECH Class Assembly.

Tuesday 9th June at 2.45pm - MAPLE Class Assembly

Friday 19th June at 2.45pm - ASH Class Assembly

Friday 10th July at 2.45pm - **WILLOW Class** Assembly

Friday 17th July at 2.45pm - **OAK Class** Assembly



SPECIAL OFFER FROM MYCLOTHING

Save 10% on School Uniform

Just use code MYCQ110 at checkout to enjoy 10% off your next order*

*This offer excludes bundles, events hoodies and clearance items. Valid until 31.03.2026
www.myclothing.com

Please take a note of these dates as there have been some changes.

Infant Department updates and Brilliant Butterflies



Important information for Infant parents:

Next Thursday is World Book Day. The children can come to school dressed as their favourite book character to join in with the fun! If you have a copy of the book that your child's costume is from, please can they bring it to school labelled to share with the class.

KS1- On Wednesday 4th March, all classes will be able to visit the library. The library are hosting a special World Book Day session for the school. If you are free to help on that afternoon, please talk to your child's class teacher for timings.

What's been happening in the dept this week:

The Great Fire of London!

To help us learn more about our new topic in History, the children in KS1 had a special visitor from Southampton SeaCity museum come to talk to them! He brought lots of amazing things with him to share with the children and they loved learning all about that fateful night in 1666!



Oak butterflies:



Blair has been an absolute superstar in phonics this week. She listens so carefully and shows our golden goal respect at all times. Thank you Blair for being such a fantastic learner
- We love having you with us in Oak base.



We would love to celebrate **Jay** for his wonderful creativity. During choosing time, he makes some beautiful collages and artwork that impress us on a daily basis. Well done Jay
- You are a very talented artist!

Willow butterflies:



Kaiden has had a fantastic first week back at School. He has been working really hard on his activities and he has been joining the class a lot more. It has been so lovely to see him grow in confidence and hear his voice more! Keep up the great work, Kaiden!

Eliza has been such a star; she has been working so hard with her learning and is always putting in her best effort. She has also been showing the School value of Respect by showing so much kindness towards her friends and teachers too! Amazing work, Eliza!

Maple butterflies:



Zhin is always so reflective in her learning and has shown this quality brilliant in all of her literacy this week as we have been practising lots of skills. She is also always so kind and respectful to everyone around her. We are so proud of you Zhin!

Jono always has a fantastic attitude to his learning. He has been really enthusiastic about his learning about The Great Fire of London and could already recall loads of amazing facts.
Well done Jono!

Ash butterflies:



Sofia C – For being brave in your learning and always trying your best. We were amazed by your neat handwriting and your brilliant thinking in History when you looked at the 1666 map of the City of London. You noticed it looked like a small town back then, very different from the busy city it is today! We are so proud of you!

Maryam – For working so hard in Literacy yesterday, taking on feedback and improving your sentences with fronted adverbials. You always try your very best and are kind and thoughtful to everyone around you. Your hard work and positive attitude make our classroom a wonderful place. Well done!

Beech butterflies:



Mustafa – For always being a hard working and conscientious member of Beech Base. Mustafa always works his hardest and is a really kind and caring member of the class. We are so lucky to have him in Beech Base and he should be so proud of this super learning attitude.

Otis – Has been working really hard this week in all his learning. He has come back from half term ready to learn all about our new topics and has shown so much enthusiasm. Well done Otis!

Junior Department updates and Brilliant Butterflies



Important information for Junior parents:

We're looking forward to celebrating **World Book Day next Thursday, 5th March**, and it would be lovely if your child would like to come dressed as their favourite book character!

What's been happening in the department this week:

Year 3/4: It has been a pleasure to welcome back the children this week and as always we have been really impressed with their attitude to learning! It was particularly fantastic to see their enthusiasm in geography this week. Their new topic is exploring maps of Europe and they worked really hard to try and locate as many of the countries in Europe as possible. Some children managed to locate all 45 of them!

Year 5/6: It's been a lovely first week back for years 5 and 6. The children had a great time starting their new PE unit - hockey! They also had a great time at their visit to Highfield church for their new RE unit. The children are learning about sacrament within the Church of England.

In English lessons, pupils are reading the book 'Holes' by Louis Sachar. They will be writing their own adverts based on themes from the text.



I am so incredibly proud of **Arlo** and the effort he has put into improving the parts of his learning that he finds challenging. He has shown such courage and resilience, and his perseverance has resulted in wonderful progress. You truly are a superstar, Arlo!

This week **Alexander** has continued to demonstrate the wealth of knowledge he has. In every lesson, I am always impressed with his retention of previous learning and how effectively he can apply it to new learning. Alex is always engaged and ready to learn on the carpet, and during these times he really shines!



Wilf has shown fantastic commitment to his learning, working incredibly hard with impressive focus and determination.

He approaches every challenge calmly and thoughtfully, showing a real willingness and desire to do well, and as a result, he is making wonderful progress. What stands out most is the peaceful, composed way he works, concentrating quietly, and contributing positively to the classroom. Wilf's steady effort and inner calm help him succeed, and create a peaceful, supportive space where everyone can learn and thrive. He should feel very proud of all he is achieving.

Beth has shown fantastic determination in her learning, meeting each new challenge with confidence and a strong willingness to test herself and push beyond her comfort zone. She never avoids tricky tasks; instead, she embraces them with positivity and a clear desire to improve. Her courage shines through in the way she keeps going, when learning feels demanding, showing resilience and belief in herself. This brave approach is helping her make excellent progress, and she should be incredibly proud of the strength and determination she shows every day.



Olivia T for another wonderful week showing all of our school values. This includes courage in her literacy where she wrote a brilliant setting description before half term. Respect in our Science, RE and geography lessons where she worked hard to complete the tasks with lovely presentation and thought and peace around our classrooms in how she interacts with her peers and engages with her learning. She continues to be a wonderful role model. Well done Livvy!

Joshua W for a brilliant first week back. Joshy has been so courageous in his maths in how he has listened to input, asked questions when he isn't sure and then gone away and completed all of his learning tasks, and in literacy, in how he has made lovely sentences about the rainforest. Joshy has shown respect in how he has listened to teachers, and peace in how he has helped his friends out on the playground. Well done Joshy!



Arthur is always a courageous learner. Whether in literacy - where he creates brilliant ideas for his narratives - or in science, where he applies an impressive range of vocabulary, Arthur consistently gives his best and is brave enough to take on new challenges. I always enjoy reading his work because I know he has put real effort into creating something thoughtful and high quality. Well done, Arthur!

Stephanie Always tries so hard with her presentation and makes her learning the best it can be. She tries her best, even when she is a little unsure of the activity and she is always keen for feedback so that she can improve what she has created. Well done, Stephanie for embodying our school values of courage and respect and for being such a lovely member of our class!



A huge well done to the whole of **Asia class** for such a fantastic first week and for all you have achieved so far this year. It has been a joy to watch your confidence and independence grow, and you should feel truly proud of everything you have accomplished. I will miss you while I am away, but I know you will continue to flourish, support one another and make wonderful progress this half term. I look forward to hearing about all you achieve when I return in the summer term!



Zaaram - For showing excellent focus in his Geography mapwork this week and approaching the task with care and determination. He also demonstrated real enthusiasm and courage during our visit to church, showing genuine interest in learning about communion and confidently answering questions and reading aloud in front of the year group.

Alex Li - For her consistently positive attitude towards school and for always trying her very best in everything she does. She has produced some fantastic pieces of writing recently, including a vivid and persuasive advert for Avon Tyrrell Summer Camps, showing real courage in her ideas and attention to detail.

Australasia butterflies:

North America butterflies:

Europe butterflies:

Africa butterflies:

Asia butterflies:

South America butterflies: