



Message from Mrs Walford:

It's been a wonderful start to the new term at Highfield. The Highfield School of Ballet has been in school this week delivering workshops to every class, and the children have absolutely loved it. Ballet brings together a whole range of skills — balance, coordination, strength, musicality, focus, and expressive movement — and it's been fantastic to see pupils giving it their all.

A gentle reminder that Parents' Evening bookings are now open. If you haven't yet secured a slot, please do so as soon as you can so teachers can prepare accordingly.

Next Friday is the Dance Live Final, and we're incredibly proud of our junior dancers who will be representing Highfield. We're all behind you — good luck, team! We know you will be absolutely brilliant. A HUGE thank you to Vanessa, Ellie, Mrs James and all the parent volunteers for enabling this fabulous event to take place.

For our Year 6 families, the SATS countdown is officially on: three weeks to go! We know this can feel like a big moment, but we want pupils to feel confident and ready rather than pressured. A little regular revision each evening — even 15–20 minutes — can really help them feel secure in what they know and calm on the day.

Wishing all our families a lovely weekend and we will see you all on Monday.

SEND Update from Mrs Bond

Our SEND Coffee Morning was a real success, and we were absolutely delighted with how many of you were able to attend. It was wonderful to see parents connecting with one another, sharing experiences, and talking with staff in such a relaxed and supportive space. Thank you to everyone who came along and contributed to such a positive atmosphere.

Next week, some staff will be taking part in training on 'Total Communication in Mainstream Schools'. This approach focuses on using every possible method of communication to support pupils — not just spoken language. It includes signs, symbols, gesture, facial expression, visuals, objects of reference, and technology. The aim is to make communication accessible for all learners, helping them understand, express themselves, and feel confident in the classroom.

We're really looking forward to developing these strategies further and continuing to strengthen the support we offer across the school.

Term: Summer 1

Date: 17/04/2026

Update number: 1



Next week's collective worship:
British Values





Weekly Notice Board



Important Dates for the Next Academic Year 2026/2027

2 x weeks off for October half term 2026 - this includes 3 x INSET days and 2 additional days (**W/C 19th October 2026 - Friday 30th October 2026**).

Therefore we will finish 2 days later at the end of the Summer term - finishing on **Friday 23rd July 2027** rather than Wednesday 21st July 2027).

The remaining 2 INSET days for the 2026/2027 school year are:

**Tuesday 1st September 2026 &
Friday 28th May 2027** (the Friday before May half term)

Upcoming Dates

From Wednesday 22nd April - School Book Fair in at the junior hall

Thursday 23rd April, 9.15am - **Australasia** Class Assembly in the junior hall

Friday 24th April - Year 4 & some Year 6 Swimming starts

Friday 24th April - Dance Live Final

Monday 27th April, 1.30pm - 7.30pm - Full Parents' Evening (Not Ash class)

Friday 1st May - Book Swap in school

Friday 1st May, 9.15am - **Europe** Class Assembly in the junior hall

Friday 1st May, 9.30am - 1.30am - School nurse in (Appointments to be booked via the school office)

Monday 4th May - Bank holiday (school closed)

We are now taking referrals for our next programme:

ACES Recovery Toolkit

for Adults, Children and Young People

A 10-week programme for Mothers/carers who have experienced unhealthy relationships.

•Covering impact of trauma, building resilience, attachment and parenting, support networks, managing stress, child development, emotions and healthy relationships.

•A separate 8-week programme for their children (10-16 years) delivered by a trained practitioner.

•Covering keeping safe, managing stress and emotions, support networks, coping strategies, self-esteem, self-care and setting goals.

Where: 30 Brookvale Road, SO17 1QR

Dates: 20th May 2026 - 22nd July 2026

(excluding school holidays)

Time: Every Wednesday, 10am - 12pm

Drinks and snacks provided

Referrals can be made via Yellow Door

Or email info@yellowdoor.org.uk or call 02380

636312



Early Years Programme

An 8-week programme for mothers/caregivers who have experienced unhealthy relationships.

Plus

Separate Therapeutic Play sessions for mothers and their children (3-5 years) delivered by a qualified Child Therapist.

Covering:

•The effects of domestic and sexual abuse on women as mothers and on children and young people

•Effective communication skills with children and young people

•Working with challenging behaviour

•Protective behaviours and strategies for keeping mothers, children and young people safe

Where: 30 Brookvale Road, SO17 1QR

Caregiver group: Thursday 4th June – 23rd July 2026

Time: 10am-12pm

Children's & Caregiver group: Tuesday 2nd June – 21st July 2026

Time: 10am – 11am

Referrals can be made via Yellow Door website: www.yellowdoor.org.uk

Email: info@yellowdoor.org.uk or call: 02380 636312



Infant Department updates and Brilliant Butterflies



Important information for Infant parents:

Ash have their trip to the library next week!



What's been happening in the dept this week:

The children have settled back brilliantly, ready for the summer term.

The children have been enjoying their new text 'the Dark' and produced some fantastic writing to be very proud of.

Please can all children remember that their Doodle accounts are active and it is a great resource to reinforce literacy and maths skills.



Oak butterflies:

We are so proud of **Leo's** accomplishments this week. He has produced some beautiful artwork independently and the progress he has made with his reading is fantastic. Well done Leo, keep up the amazing effort!



Emily is such a kind, caring and helpful member of the class. She shows our golden goals and school values consistently and is a wonderful role model to others. We are so lucky to have you in our class Emily!



Willow butterflies:

What a first week back **Ayat** has had! I have been so unbelievably impressed with her fantastic learning. She has shown such courage in tackling new learning and she has been so proud of all she has achieved. Keep up the super work, Ayat!

Rebecca is such a respectful member of Willow Base as she is always looking out for her friends and teachers. This week, she has done some FANTASTIC maths work and I am so so proud of her. You're a star, Rebecca!



Maple butterflies:

Luke has had a fantastic start to the term. He has been so focused on his learning and challenging himself brilliantly. It's been lovely to see his enthusiasm, and he did an especially brilliant job in Geography, researching with his group about Southampton and Mumbai and showing great respect to his peers as he did so. Well done Luke.

It's always a pleasure to see **Iris** quietly and resolutely applying herself to her learning every day. She brings such a lovely sense of peace and kindness to our class community and we are so glad to have her in Maple. You are always such a shining star Iris, well done!



Ash butterflies:

Daniel: For working incredibly hard during lessons, especially Phonics and Literacy. You did a really good job with your sounds and your handwriting has really come on. Keep it up!

Suubi: For being such a kind and caring person to everyone in the class. Your support to other children and your positive attitude every day hasn't gone unnoticed. Thank you!



Beech butterflies:

Max C is always a superstar in his learning. He always shows our school values of peace and respect and impresses us everyday with a kind and helpful attitude to learning.

Jude C is such a wonderful and caring member of Beech base. He is always peaceful, kind and caring and he always puts in 100% effort with his learning. Well done Jude!

Junior Department updates and Brilliant Butterflies



Important information for Juniors

Next week from Wednesday, there will be a book fair in the Junior Hall after school. Please come along if you are interested in browsing a variety of books that will be available for purchase.

What's been happening in the department this week:

3/4: It has been fantastic to have the children back in school this week as they have all come back with excellent attitudes and ready to do some great learning! It was brilliant to see all the children in their Roman costumes this week, thank you! The children loved Roma day where they had a specialist workshop from a historian, acted being Roman soldiers and completed some beautiful Roman mosaics!

5/6: A great return to school this week for Year 5/6, who have been starting a new History topic on the Ancient Maya! Children had a great time making predictions about this civilisation and using grid references to locate settlements on a map. Speaking of maps, the Year 5s also loved looking over maps of two French towns with magnifying glasses this week to find out the names of different buildings. Things have also got going for the Year 6 end of year production - well done to everyone who auditioned!



Harriet has been a wonderful example of our core values in action. She consistently demonstrates peace through her collaborative approach in lessons, working thoughtfully and supportively with others. Her courage shines in literacy, where she has challenged herself to go beyond her comfort zone and develop her story writing with creativity and determination. Alongside this, Harriet always shows respect in everything she does, treating her classmates and teachers with kindness and consideration. She should be very proud of the positive attitude and commitment she brings to her learning every day.

Alex has been a fantastic role model in demonstrating our core values. He has shown great creativity in his literacy writing, producing an engaging and imaginative story that he should be very proud of. Alex consistently demonstrates respect by thinking of others in class and showing kindness in his interactions. His quiet determination and focused approach to his work reflect a strong sense of peace, creating a calm and positive presence in the classroom. Keep up the excellent work, Alex!



Eliza has started this term with a fantastic attitude. She has come back to school ready to do her best and because of this she has been so successful in her learning! You should be super proud of yourself Eliza, and I'm excited to see all your successes throughout the rest of the term!

Sammy has shown the school value of peace this week. Sammy has put in a big effort to make sure he is always ready to learn, engaged and actively listening. He has worked hard in all lessons and has been a great partner for others to work with. Keep up the good work Sammy!



Esmé for consistently showing excellent manners and organisation, and for approaching all learning with enthusiasm. She demonstrated real courage in her Literacy recently by creating a fantastic story scene based on Holes, and continues to live out our values of respect and the Golden Goals of being ready and being respectful every day.

Pavieshan for his fantastic enthusiasm during lesson inputs and his eagerness to contribute to class discussions. This week, he shared some thoughtful ideas in Guided Reading and RE when interpreting parables, showing real courage in his thinking and demonstrating the Golden Goal of being respectful throughout.



Izzy could receive a butterfly every week for following our school values so beautifully! She is consistently respectful, actively listening to her peers and teachers and always showing them kindness. She is the picture of 'peace' in our class - always focussed on her work, trying to complete every task to the best of her ability. She also shows courage by contributing to lessons and using her voice to share ideas. It is a pleasure and a delight teaching you, Izzy!



Jason is a very respectful member of Asia class. He consistently behaves respectfully towards his peers and teachers, giving them his full attention. He doesn't chat during learning time, he never calls out and he listens to the adults he works with. We can always count on him to be on-task - well done, Jason! Keep it up. Thank you for always being such a gentle and calm member of our class.



Skye has been super courageous in maths this week and as a result she has made great progress in her learning about adding and subtracting fractions. I was really pleased to see her understanding of mixed numbers and improper fractions click! Well done, Skye!

Hamzah has been embodying our school values this week. He has been peaceful with his friend, courageous in his learning and respectful to everyone. I've also been really enjoying watching Hamzah putting so much effort into his learning recently. Great effort, Hamzah!



Henry D for demonstrating brilliant courage this week in our history lesson where he was really engaged, with his hand up, ready to answer questions and share brilliant knowledge about the Romans. Henry has continued to be such a peaceful member of our class, so kind to everyone. Henry also demonstrates great respect in how he engages with any learning task and his engagement in literacy this week has been brilliant. Well done Henry!

Bella K for a brilliant week where she was so courageous in our history lesson with her hand up and engaged, sharing wonderful knowledge about the Romans. In maths, Bella has shown wonderful respect in how she has taken on each task and tried her absolute best with every question. Finally, Bella continues to be such a peaceful and kind member of the class: always helping out with jobs and trying to help others too. Well done Bella!

North America butterflies:

Australasia butterflies:

South America butterflies:

Asia butterflies:

Africa butterflies:

Europe butterflies: