

Highfield CE Primary School

Weekly Update

A message from Mrs Walford



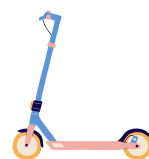
Spiritual Garden

We are looking to create a spiritual garden in our junior department. We would like to provide a valuable area for the children to enjoy a quiet space to reflect and relax during the school day. We aim for children to be able to use the area individually and in groups when they feel the need for a calm, reflective space in which to sit.

We would like our spiritual garden to feature beautiful plants with many calming smells such as lavender, wind chimes to provide soothing sounds and mirrors for the children to enjoy exploring the space around them. If you would like to help with this project or know a company who could potentially sponsor this project, please get in touch!



Scooters and Bikes Reminder



Scooters and bikes are not to be ridden in the playground before or after school. Please ensure all children wear a helmet if they are cycling or scooting to and from school.

Term **Autumn** Number **5**
Date **06/10/2023**



Theme of
collective worship
next week:

Respect



info@highfieldshool.co.uk



02380 555793



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

School Improvement Priorities 2023 2024

Writing



On Friday last week, Mr Dodson, Mrs Bond and Miss Ellis re-planned our year 5/6 writing curriculum. They looked carefully at texts to ensure that each book is engaging and will inspire pupils to create the best possible outcomes.

Developing Leadership



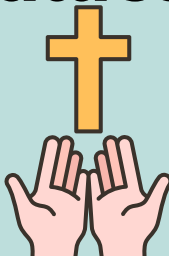
Miss Hill attended year 6 training with other new teachers across the city
Mr Iszatt attended the MHST mental health forum
Mrs Walford attended the all phase headteacher meeting at Cantell for an OFSTED research update
Mrs Walford attended the primary Headteachers conference

Curriculum



Miss Collins spent a day planning geography across the school. She looked at planning to ensure that the curriculum is well sequenced with clear end points.

Christian Values



The governors met with Hannah Shorey to look at our new Christian values launch. They have set up a working party to explore the development of our Christian ethos.

Parent forum

On Monday 9th October, we will be holding our first parent forum of the academic year.

We would love to see you there!

Parent forums are a way for schools to encourage more parents to get involved in school life. They are informal groups where parents can raise issues, be consulted on school policy and give their views.

The parent forum will be held at
4.30pm in the junior hall.

See you there!



Secondary School Admissions

Transfer to Secondary School September 2023

It is time for you to make an application for your child to start secondary school in September 2023, if you have not already done so.

The online portal is open now for applications for secondary school places for September 2024 and **closes on Monday 31st October 2022 at 23:59.**

If you do not apply within this window, your application will be late, and you may miss out on getting a school of your preference.

To make an application, please go to the Southampton City Council website and follow instructions for making a school application on the Citizen's Portal. You may be asked for unique identifier for your child, you do not need this number to apply as it only inputs your child's name and date of birth on the application.

On Thursday 12th October at 2.30pm, the local authority team will come into school (junior site) to talk to parents about the process and answer any questions. This will be held in the junior department hall and is open to all year 6 parents.

Whole school Art Competition!



Calling all artists!

We are currently looking at our school vision.

We are thinking about how a butterfly represents an image of flourishing and how we reflect the life of Jesus. A butterfly represents how each and every one of us transforms and how each and every child is unique and special.



However, we don't know what our butterflies should look like, and we need YOUR help!

Children have until **Tuesday 31st October to complete their design.** There will be a winner for each phase - year R, KS1, year 3/4, year 5/6.

Please hand these in to your teacher and they will be collected by Mrs Walford for judging!

We need you to create a butterfly. You can use ANY media you wish - 3D, paint, a sketch... be as creative as you wish.

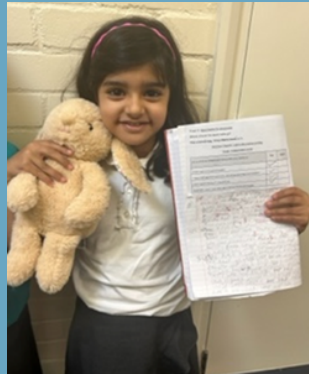
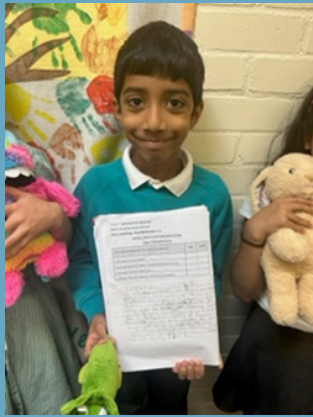
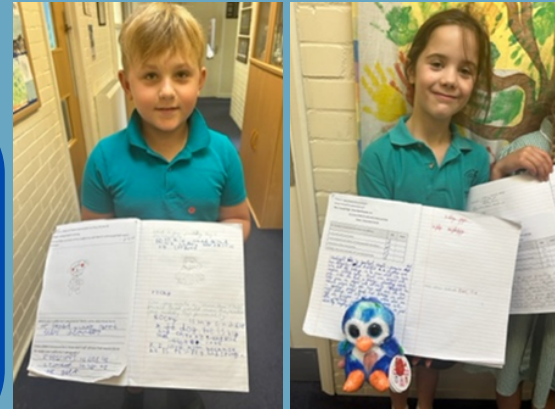
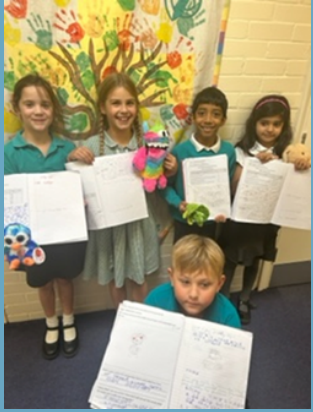
IN THE JUNIORS THIS WEEK

Well done to Otilie and Poppy for playing their clarinets so beautifully in collective worship on Monday. Each week, our musicians play the children into the hall. We are so proud of their musical talents.



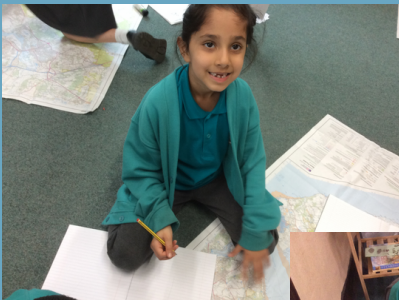
Year 3/4

Well done to these SUPER year 3 and 4 children for their beautiful writing. It was an absolute pleasure to read their teddy descriptions- a huge well done!



Year 3s have been exercising their bodies and their brains in maths this week. Today they counted in 5s, stretching side to side and jumping up and down! They deserve a healthy high 5 for that one!

Year 3/4 had a great time exploring large OS maps of Southampton. We learnt about using keys, and found examples of human and physical features of the area. We were very excited when we found Highfield on the map!



IN THE INFANTS THIS WEEK

Year 1/2

Year 1/2 children have been making and enjoying salad this week!

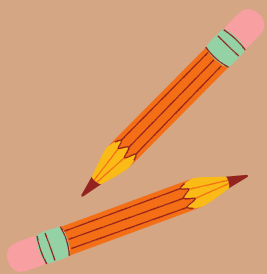


SPORT IN SCHOOL THIS WEEK

Girl's Football Team

It was another strong performance from our girls football team this week! They showed excellent teamwork, tactics and determination to play so well together. This included a 4 - 0 win! Well done to everyone who took part - and thank you Mrs Bond and Mr Eggleton for your superb coaching!





FROM THE GOVERNORS



It has been great to see and hear of all the amazing things your children are doing in school at the start of this new academic year. Governors have started their meeting cycles and are writing their action plan that will monitor the school improvement priorities and we are looking forward to seeing how these progress during the coming terms.

On Wednesday this week, Helen Thompson and Andy Cross attended the Annual Hampshire Governors conference where they spent the day thinking about pupil outcomes, pastoral care and tackling the many varied ways in which pupils may struggle. We will be feeding these back to the whole governing board and incorporating that into our action plan.

Our Foundation governors will be forming a working party in the coming days to support and monitor the great work that is going on with the refresh of the Christian Values and the vision for our school in this post covid era and all the challenges that brings to our school and our children. We would like to thank you for sharing your thoughts on the survey that was sent over the summer regarding the school values, it was encouraging to see so many responses and to read your thoughts.

We look forward to working on the project to support the school!





INSET DAYS FOR 2023/2024

Tuesday 2nd January 2024
Thursday 28th March 2024
Friday 28th June 2024
Monday 1st July 2024



CROSS COUNTRY DATES

Dates: 06/10/23, 13/10/23

If your child is in the junior school and would like to take part, please meet at the Southampton Sports Centre at 4:00pm ready to run! It is a friendly and inclusive event, and it would be great to have as many children as we can taking part! You can run, walk or have a mix of both as you make your way around the course route.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:



All useful dates have been updated onto our website and can be found here:

<https://highfieldceprimarieschool.co.uk/>

Monday 9th October, 4.30pm-5.30pm - Parent Forum at the junior department

Tuesday 10th October - World Mental Health Day

Tuesday 10th & Wednesday 11th October, 8.30am-4.15pm - Asia only Parents Evening (available to book now on SCOPAY)

Thursday 12th October, 2.30pm-3.30pm - Year 6 Admissions Parent Talk at the junior department 'Applying to secondary school'

Wednesday 18th October - Cardwell & Simons (School photographer) in to take individual school photos.

Thursday 2nd November - Whole school Flu immunisations (details will be sent out nearer the time, including details of how to opt out if you do not want your child to receive it)

Tuesday 7th November - Whole school (not Asia) parent's evening 1.30pm - 7.30pm (details to follow)



Highfield School Family and Friends



1920's Gangster Murder Mystery Event on Friday 13th October



Join the HSFF for cocktails, mini quizzes and lots of sleuthing fun next Friday.

Don't delay buy your tickets today (or at some point over the weekend when you get 5 minutes to yourself!)



<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/hsff/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=68145>

What is a murder mystery party... I hear you say?



Quite simply a fabulous night of mystery and intrigue where you each play a character (large and small roles available) and try to work out 'whodunit!'

The story of what happened to the victim is provided on 3 rounds of clue cards. Each clue has snippets of information that can be pieced together to solve the mystery. At the start of each round, the presenter distributes the clues, then people sleuth, eavesdrop, theorise and trade information.



After each round and some sleuthing, the presenter calls everyone together to hear theories and let the accusations fly!



After 3 rounds the groups will have their final chance to work out what has happened and decide whodunit. Each group puts together their version of events. They then explain their story one group at a time. The presenter then tells the real story and ties up all the loose ends and arrests the murderer with handcuffs.

Certificates and prizes are given out to the team who prove to be the best sleuths and there maybe a batch of wooden spoons waiting for others !!



Just £5 per ticket including some nibbles. Paying Bar available.
We look forward to seeing you and your friends there!

Love HSFF.



THE HSFF PRESENTS

1920'S MURDER MYSTERY QUIZ NIGHT

Friday 13th October

8pm 'til the crime is solved!



£5 per ticket includes nibbles.

Paying bar and Highfield's very own Mixologist, Alwyn, to mix up some tasty delights.

At the Juniors.



[Click here or scan the QR code to buy your tickets](#)



5 Ways to Keep Children Safe Whilst Gaming

Gaming continues to be one of many children's - and parents! - favourite pastimes. However, many parents have concerns over how to keep their child safe while gaming. Here at Ineqe Safeguarding Group, we've been busy testing consoles and games to identify areas of risk to promote a safer gaming experience for children.

Video games are fun and remain popular among young and old users alike.



Research by Ofcom showed that approximately

62% of adults in the UK

were reported to have played video games in 2020, propelled by the COVID-19 pandemic and the stay-at-home restrictions.



With all this fun, it's important to remember that playing video games comes with risks.

Our online safety experts have compiled the following top tips to promote a safer gaming experience for children.



Some have **in-game purchasing** while others contain **age-inappropriate** content. These risks can significantly increase when a child is playing and interacting with other gamers online.



1 Choose the right child-friendly game

Choosing the right game for the child in your care can be difficult. Some parents and carers feel pressured to buy a game which might not be age-appropriate.

12 To help you make the choice, we have explored the PEGI age rating system and highlight the designated ratings of the most popular games around.

You can use the **PEGI** (*Pan European Game Information*) labels found on **all major games** to help inform your decision. PEGI is the video game content classification system used for evaluating games based on their themes. It is broken down into the following levels:

3	Suitable for all ages.
7	Includes content with scenes and sounds which might frighten younger children.
12	Slightly graphic violence which is non-realistic/fantasy.
16	Violence included which is similar to real life, bad language, and the use of drugs tobacco, and alcohol.
18	Includes motiveless and gross violence, the glamourisation of drugs, and explicit sexual activity.

The PEGI rating system also includes content descriptors which are symbols that quickly tell you the themes included in a game. Categories include:



For help with teaching children about PEGI ratings, use our free lesson plan on oursaferschools.co.uk.

PEGI Ratings for some of the most Popular Games around:

- Minecraft – **PEGI 7**
- Among Us – **PEGI 7**
- FIFA 22 – **PEGI 3**
- Call of Duty Black Ops: Vanguard – **PEGI 18**
- Spiderman; Miles Morales – **PEGI 12**
- Fortnite: Battle Royale – **PEGI 12**
- Mario Kart Live: Home Circuit – **PEGI 3**
- Call of Duty: Warzone – **PEGI 18**
- Minecraft – **PEGI 7**

Always remember, PEGI ratings focus on in-game content and not communication between players in online games. Children and young people in your care may be exposed to offensive or inappropriate language from other players via their headset and live chat functions in many games.

Using PEGI ratings and online safety advice can help promote safer gaming for children and young people in your care.

4 Know when to take a break from gaming



Many of the top games this Christmas such as Fortnite are created to engage their players. One of our online safety experts refers to this as the **Pringle Effect** – *Le once you pop you just can't stop.*

Many of the most popular games are designed to form strong gaming habits. Game designers use persuasive design tools that work to encourage gaming sessions that can last hours on end.

Encourage the gamers in your care to take a break or use our resources to set a time limit on gameplay.

2 Begin the conversation about gaming safety settings and in-game purchases



Whether the children and young people in your care are new to gaming or are experienced gamers, it's important to have conversations regarding the risks and benefits of gaming.

This is also the perfect time to talk to them about safety and privacy settings.

You might be met with **opposition** but talking about why privacy and safety settings are important can help keep the gamers in your care onside. You might want to talk about what might happen if these aren't enabled.

Feel free to use the top tips in this article to help guide your conversations.

The gaming world and its risks evolve all the time, and naturally so will your conversations about keeping safe while gaming.

It's important not to feel like this is a thankless task or pointless conversation when explaining the importance of safety and privacy while gaming. Enabling these settings is something you and the gamer in your care can do together.

Explaining why safety and privacy are important will help support a child or young person's understanding and respect for these decisions.

It can help to focus on how restrictions on games will change as they grow older. This will give you a perfect opportunity to encourage the gamers in your care to continue talking to you about safety and privacy online.

Check out our Console guides on ineqe.com



Loot Boxes have been compared to gambling. This is because gamers pay for items with real-life currency and in-game currency without a full understanding of the risk and reward of these purchases.

Games now provide warnings on their labels if they include in-game purchases.

Games that have in-game purchases include:

- Fortnite
- Grand Theft Auto 5 (GTA5)
- Marvel's Spider-Man: Miles Morales
- Call of Duty Black Ops: Cold War
- Call of Duty: Warzone
- FIFA 21
- Roblox
- Among Us

Remember, if a child or young person in your care wants to play online, they may have to pay for a subscription service if they are using a PlayStation, Nintendo or Xbox console.

3 Usernames: Keep it random to keep kids safe online

When using consoles and games, users are required to create a username, which is sometimes called a 'Gamer Handle'.

This is the name you are identified by on your online gaming accounts (PlayStation Network or Xbox Live).

Whether they're playing Fortnite Chapter 3 or Call of Duty: Vanguard this Christmas, children and young people in your care will need a username.

When the children in your care use a random username, they are less likely to be identifiable online.

If the gamer(s) in your care wants to personalise their username, make sure they avoid using any personal information, such as first or second names, football teams, or school names.

Xbox and PlayStation assign random usernames and we advise that you keep them.

5 Make sure the child in your care knows where to go for help with gaming

Gaming is fun and can have real benefits for children and young people. But it's not without risks, as highlighted above.

Gamers may interact with strangers via online games, where they might be exposed to age-inappropriate content, or experience bullying and harassment.

Make sure the gamer(s) in your care knows where to go for help if they need it. **This can be you or any other trusted adult.** It's important that they have someone to talk to if they have any interaction which makes them feel uncomfortable while playing games.

To help the children and young people in your care have a safe and fun gaming experience, visit ineqe.com to find more resources and useful information. By doing this together, you can be part of their gaming journey, positioning yourself as someone who they can go to for help.

Celebration

We are very proud of Akaal for his assembly on Sikhism. Here he is wearing his turban and eating Langar at the sikh temple. Everyone can come to the the sikh temple no matter what your background and have a free hot meal.



Celebrating International Older Persons Day

A TASTE OF CARAWAY

HELP US COMBAT LONELINESS AND BUILD COMMUNITY AMONGST OLDER PEOPLE AT OUR ANNUAL FAYRE & FUNDRAISER

- Pick up early Christmas gifts
- Have a go at some craft
- Enjoy cuppa & cake at the cafe

2-5 PM
7 OCTOBER 2023

Fun family afternoon of

- ✓ Local Craft stalls
- ✓ Cafe
- ✓ Live Music
- ✓ Auction of Promises
- ✓ Face Painting

Highfield Church Centre

Highfield Lane
Southampton SO17 1RL

Entry

£3 per person | £10 per group of 4

All funds raised support our work connecting older people
More Information www.caraway@caraway.uk.com

Caraway
Community Supporting the Older Person

World Mental Health Day

Mrs Whitlock had subject leadership time for PSHE where she looked at targets and actions for the year and planned resources ready for World Mental Health day next week, where all staff will be raising extra awareness for mental wellbeing.



mentalhealth.org.uk

 Mental Health Foundation

INFANT CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK!



Ash

Elise for always following the golden goals and being a great role model for her class. She is always reciprocal and tries extremely hard in her learning. This week she has created some great setting description in her plan, ready for writing next week!

Arlo has had some incredible ideas for his setting description this week and has been working so hard! he always follows our golden goals and is a very resilient person! great job!



Maple

Emma S has been amazingly reflective this week. She was able to put some beautiful openers into her sentences and made them even more exciting!

Toby has been a star in this writing this week. He has been challenging himself to write even more than he needed to and he's been putting in exciting adjectives AND using our words of the day!



Beech

Ophelia has shown the school value of love this week! She has gone out of her way to be a friendly face to a classmate and make sure the child feels valued and comfortable. This is no surprise as Ophelia always acts with love and kindness!

Eliza is often showing traits of the resourceful rat and this is most evident through her dedication to being a fantastic learner. Eliza is always trying to improve and she even does excellent learning at home that she should be really proud of along with also being proud of her fantastic attitude to school!



North America

Hamza I for his constant hard work during our publishing sessions in Literacy this week and striving to achieve his best.

Amelia W for taking great care in her work during lessons, showing attention to detail and taking pride in what she is learning.



Africa

Zach G for such a brilliant attitude to his learning.

Zach will always challenge himself to complete his work and meet all of the objectives set. He is so resourceful and reflective when responding to feedback, making sure he always checks in to see if there is any way his work could be improved. A brilliant start to Year 3.

Yicheng P for such a kind and conscientious attitude around our class.

Yicheng shows so much care and concern for others, always wanting to make people feel better. His kindness also shows in how he looks after our classroom, he will always tidy and clean up even when it's not a mess he made. A brilliant start to Year 4.



Australasia

Noah's handwriting is making excellent progress and he wrote up his first publishing piece, describing a teddy, beautifully this week. His cursive forms look great - well done Noah!

We would love to celebrate **James** for always showing our golden goal of being respectful and he is so helpful and kind to those around him. He also shows his teachers that he is listening carefully and taking their feedback on board. We are so proud of you James.



JUNIOR CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK!



South America

Zachary A for a really positive first month in Year 6 in terms of focus in lessons and contributions to class discussions. Zach has been joining in a lot and always has something to say; I've especially noticed this in our History sessions on the Ancient Greeks!

Elizabeth L for a fantastic comparison between Ancient Greek and Ancient Egyptian homes in this week's History lesson - she managed to write a whole page of similarities and differences!



Europe

Mahad has been so resilient this week, especially in his literacy. We reflected together on his language and word choices, and Mahad responded to feedback brilliantly. He has also been working on his handwriting, and he published his teddy description in the neatest handwriting I have ever seen from him! Well done Mahad.

Esme is always showing all of our school values, especially love and sere. She is always just so kind to everyone, and has a brilliant way of encouraging and uplifting all those around her with her positive energy and enthusiasm!

We are lucky to have such a bright spark in our class!



Asia

Isaac has had a fantastic week in Asia class, and I have been so impressed with his determination, resilience and positive attitude towards all his learning! Especially in maths, he has demonstrated a real love for the subject, and this has been reflected in the tricky challenges he has solved this week! It's been lovely to see him working so hard reciprocally to support those around him, and look to challenge himself further. Well done Isaac! What another superb week it's been for **Beatrice**! She has entered the classroom each day with a fantastic attitude and smile on her face! I have been really impressed with her writing this week as she has published a beautifully presented journal, which includes all her writing targets and lovely use of thoughts and feelings! She has really captured the voice of Odysseus! She has also been incredibly kind and caring to those around her, and gone out of her way to support lots of children in class. Well done Bea!