

# Highfield CE Primary School

## Weekly Update

### A message from Mrs Walford



We hope that you found parent's evening useful. It was lovely to see so many smiles in the hall and hear about the successes of your wonderful children.



### Classes for next year



Although it seems like a lifetime away, we would like to inform you of an important change in our classroom assignment process for the next academic year. We thought you would appreciate the notice well in advance.

Traditionally, we have allowed children to provide input regarding their preferred classmates, and we have done our best to accommodate these requests. However, we have reviewed this practice, taken feedback from parents and have decided to make adjustments for the next year. For the classes for next September, the responsibility for assigning pupils to their respective classes will rest with our dedicated teaching staff.

Our teachers are skilled in creating balanced classrooms that promote diversity in terms of academic strengths, learning styles, and social dynamics. This approach ensures a well-rounded learning environment that benefits all pupils. This approach also encourages pupils to form new friendships and adapt to various social settings, which are essential life skills that can contribute to personal growth and development.

Please feel rest assured that we have carefully considered these aspects and are confident that this adjustment will be in the best interest of all our pupils. We believe it will contribute to a fair and inclusive learning environment where every child has the chance to thrive. Our teachers will use their professional judgment to create well-balanced and supportive classrooms. We trust their expertise and commitment to providing a high-quality education for your children.

Term **Autumn** Number **9**

Date **10/11/2023**



Theme of  
collective worship  
next week:

**Serving**



info@highfieldshool.co.uk



02380 555793



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



## Calling all parents!

### Volunteering at School



We would like to extend an invitation to all parents who may have the time and willingness to volunteer. Our school would greatly benefit from your assistance, expertise, and enthusiasm as we work together to create an even more enriching and supportive environment for our students.

There are numerous opportunities to get involved, such as: assisting teachers with various classroom activities, helping students with their work, and organizing classroom materials, assisting in managing and organising the school library, as well as promoting a love for reading among pupils or volunteering for after-school clubs, sports events, and other extracurricular programs.

Volunteering not only benefits our school but also offers a unique opportunity for you to engage with your child's education and create a positive impact within our school community. Whether you can spare a few hours a week or just a couple of days a year, every contribution is highly valued.

If you are interested in volunteering or have specific skills, interests, or ideas you would like to share, please don't hesitate to contact our school office. We will work with you to find the most suitable volunteer opportunities. If this interests you, please email [info@highfieldschool.co.uk](mailto:info@highfieldschool.co.uk) and we will get back to you on how you can help!

### Reminder - Parent Forum

The next parent forum is **Tuesday 5th December** at 9am in the junior hall. All parents are invited to share views, add suggestions and have a cup of tea!



## KS2 Reading Workshp

All KS2 parents are invited to attend a workshop on **16th November at 2.30pm in the junior hall**. This will finish before church pick up. The meeting will outline ways to support your child in the juniors.



### Home learning Reminder



As part of our ongoing commitment to the academic development of our pupils, we would like to emphasise the importance of regular home learning routines. These routines are instrumental in reinforcing the skills and knowledge acquired in school and ensuring that your child continues to make excellent progress.

We kindly request that you encourage your child to adhere to the following home learning practices:

#### Daily Reading

It is essential that students read for at least 20 minutes a day, at least 5 times a week. Reading helps improve comprehension, vocabulary, and overall literacy skills.

Please ensure your child has access to a variety of reading materials, including books, magazines, and online resources.

#### Times Tables Practice

Proficiency in times tables is crucial for success in mathematics. We recommend that students practice their times tables regularly. There are numerous resources available, including a log on to TT Rockstars, games, and worksheets, to make this learning engaging and enjoyable.

#### Spelling Practice

Learning and mastering spellings is vital for effective communication and writing. We encourage pupils to practice and review their key word and weekly spelling lists regularly. You can make this a fun and interactive activity by incorporating games, quizzes, and word challenges.

By consistently implementing these home learning routines, you play a vital role in your child's academic development and overall educational success. It is our belief that the partnership between home and school is essential for fostering a love of learning and encouraging pupils to reach their full potential.

# School Improvement Priorities 2023 2024

## Writing



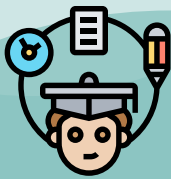
Mrs Bond attended the next part of a greater depth writing course led by Vanessa Chandler. Additional groups have started for year 6 writing which will take place before school.

## Developing Leadership



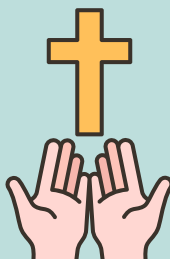
Mr Dodson completed training in how to collate small group, class and year group progress data analysis tables and graphs. He will use this to produce data reports for teachers, SLT and the governors.

## Curriculum



Miss Archer lead a staff meeting on developing our use of concrete, and pictorial resources to support maths learning across all year groups. She is also creating a Calculation Policy, with the staff, to show the progression of strategies used to teach  $+$ ,  $-$ ,  $\times$  and  $\div$  from EYs to KS2.

## Christian Values



Mrs Bond has been applying for grants to help fund our new Spirituality gardens.

We would like to involve our school council in this project with a focus of ensuring the gardens are developed to promote biodiversity.

Mrs Walford, Mrs Bond and Mrs Shorey went to Nursling CE Primary School to look at effective collective worship. They came back inspired!



Mr and Mrs Lewis had their beautiful baby boy at 1.42am on 5.11.23. Meet Carter James Lewis! A HUGE congratulations to the Lewis family on their gorgeous new addition.



B A B Y



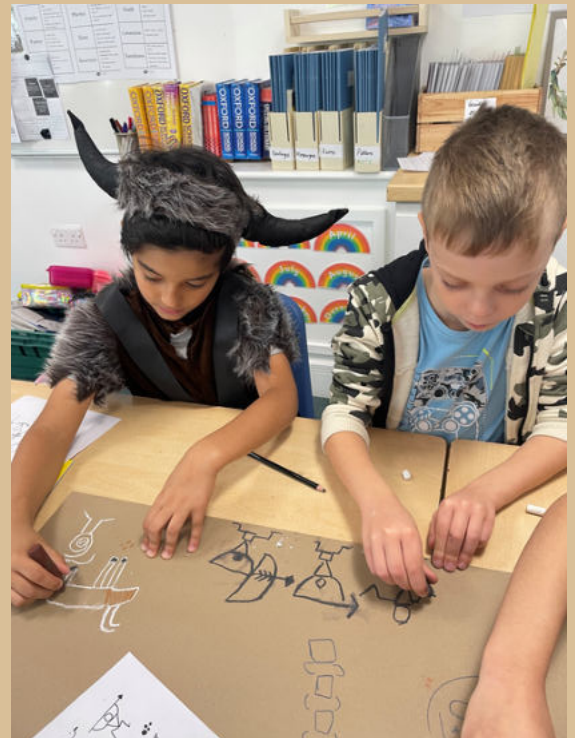
Well done Australasia for earning their reading treat this week by collectively earning 180 reading points. They enjoyed a lovely afternoon together with a movie, popcorn and PJs. Keep up the fantastic reading effort Australasia!



# YEAR 3/4 STONEAGE DAY



Year 3 and 4 had a fantastic historical Stone Age Day this week, where they were invited to dress up as cave people. The children enjoyed learning about what life was like in the Stone Age and they learned more about the Historical timeline. They also had a go at creating their very own cave paintings and Stone Age shelters too. We were very impressed by them. What a wonderful day! The costumes were fantastic - Thank you!

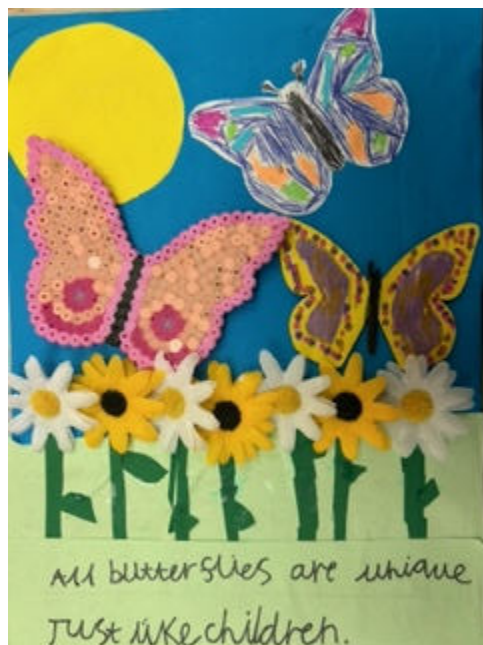




Look at some of our  
FABULOUS entries for  
the butterfly  
competition!









# And the winning entries are...

Year R- Well  
done Rachel!



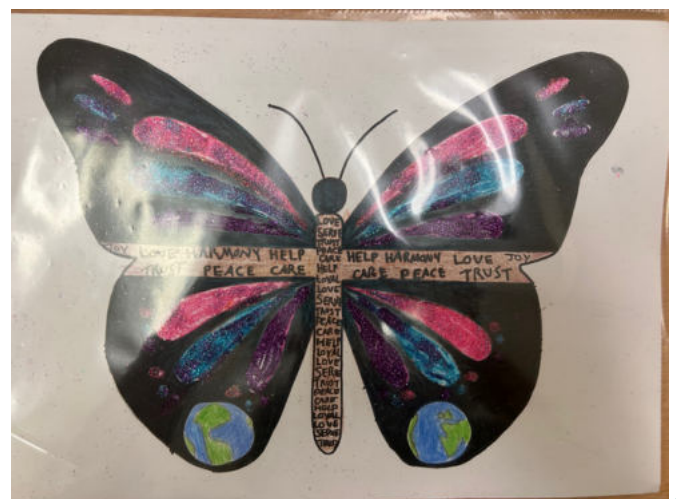
Year 3/4 - Well  
done Prisha!



Year 5/6 - Well  
done Mai!



Year 1/2 - Well  
done Daya!



Men were called  
to fight a war, the true  
danger; none saw. Thousands  
of young, reckless men, none  
to do the same again. They fought  
the battle, brave and strong, then  
cried out, their lives never long.  
Their hearts were pure and  
true, they knew, but death;  
they had no clue. Sing out  
praises to those men, we shall do  
that, and then, we will honour them  
with all our hearts, all our mind  
and all of our love, for those  
who fought for us.

During our  
Remembrance  
activities on Friday  
afternoon, Astrid (Year  
5) wrote this  
beautifully emotive  
poem about about  
World War One.

## EYFS core texts

These are texts for you to read to your child



Please keep an eye out for  
our updated 'core texts'.  
These will be stuck in the  
back of reading diaries.

These are lists of  
**recommended texts** for  
each year group. If  
children manage to read  
them all during the year,  
they will be awarded with  
a certificate.



Tick off the text as you read it and record it in your child's reading diary

The squirrels  
who squabbled

☐

Goldilocks and  
the three bears

☐

Supertato

☐

Best test

☐

The tiger who  
came to tea

☐

Little Red Riding  
Hood

☐

Elmer

☐

Julian is a  
mermaid

☐


I am ready for my certificate





# Year 1 core texts



These are texts for your child to read to you



Tick off the text as you read it and record it in your child's reading diary

I can only draw worms <input type="checkbox"/>	Oof makes an ouch <input type="checkbox"/>
The Gruffalo <input type="checkbox"/>	Penguin <input type="checkbox"/>
The goat and the stoat and the boat <input type="checkbox"/>	You can't take an elephant on the bus <input type="checkbox"/>

★ I am ready for my certificate ★

# Year 2 core texts



These are texts for your child to read



Tick off the text as you read it and record it in your child's reading diary

Anna Hibiscus <input type="checkbox"/>	The hat full of secrets <input type="checkbox"/>
Genie and Teeny make a wish <input type="checkbox"/>	The owl who was afraid of the dark <input type="checkbox"/>
An alien in the jam factory <input type="checkbox"/>	The Giraffe, the Pelly and me <input type="checkbox"/>

★ I am ready for my certificate ★

# Year 3/4 core texts



These are texts for your child to read



Tick off the text as you read it and record it in your child's reading diary

Harklights <input type="checkbox"/>	The amazing story of Adolphus Tips <input type="checkbox"/>
The Iron Man <input type="checkbox"/>	My name is Sunshine Simpson <input type="checkbox"/>
How to train your dragon <input type="checkbox"/>	Gangsta Granny <input type="checkbox"/>
Anisha: Accidental detective <input type="checkbox"/>	Charlotte's Web <input type="checkbox"/>

★ I am ready for my certificate ★

# Year 5/6 core texts



These are texts for your child to read



Tick off the text as you read it and record it in your child's reading diary

Yankee Girl <input type="checkbox"/>	Turtle Boy <input type="checkbox"/>
The Lion, the Witch and the wardrobe <input type="checkbox"/>	Journey to the River Sea <input type="checkbox"/>
Holes <input type="checkbox"/>	Skellig <input type="checkbox"/>
The Boy who sailed the ocean in an armchair <input type="checkbox"/>	Millions- the not so great train robbery <input type="checkbox"/>

★ I am ready for my certificate ★

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

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

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



**Tuesday 13th November** - Year 6 Cantell trip

**Friday 17th November** - Children in Need - SPOTacular

**Tuesday 21st November** - Rescheduled date for the Flu Vaccinations

# FRIDAY 17TH NOVEMBER IS CHILDREN IN NEED



On Friday 17th November, we ask for the children to come into school dressed in non-uniform and spots to raise money for this fantastic charity. Please donate using the above QR code.





**HIGHFIELD SCHOOL'S**

**merry  
CHRISTMAS**

**FAYRE**

**JOLLY JARS, CRAFTS, TOMBOLA,  
FATHER CHRISTMAS, BBQ AND MORE!**

**25TH NOVEMBER**

**4 PM - 7 PM**

**JUNIOR SITE**





## Christmas Fayre Donations

Over the next 2 weeks the HSFF donation boxes will out at the infants and juniors reception area's feeling very hungry for all your wonderful donations and we will also have lots of Jam Jars waiting for you to take home to create some wonderful Jolly Jars of Joy! Our Christmas Donations Calendar will come home with the children next week but to confirm we would be so very grateful for the following contributions and donations:-

-Childrens Jolly Jars- think of putting items in the jars that your children would love to receive- stationery, mini puzzles, sweets, fidget toys and any other amazing little gifts you can think of!



-Bottles for the Grownups Tombola stall

-Chocolate - yummy bars/ selection packs/ advent calendars all welcome for the much loved Chocolate Tombola stall

-Home baked Cakes - delivered on Friday 24th or the morning of the Christmas Fayre Saturday 25th.



-Donation to the Raffle Hampers - we have decided to present you with an easier option for the hamper donations this year- please do consider making a financial donation to the Hamper fund and we will create some amazing Christmas Hamper prizes- think luxury food and indulgent beauty products! You can make your contribution to this much loved stall here:

<https://pay.collctiv.com/hsff-christmas-fayre-donations-75245>

We have a suggested donation of £2.50 but any amount would be gratefully appreciated.

### Pantomime Parentmail

We have requested your opinion on the Panto options that we have been considering.

Please do complete our very quick questionnaire by next Wednesday

<https://forms.gle/3VnsRW9U1HkzNjxeA>

Have a fabulous weekend everyone and we look forward to thinking all about Christmas from Monday with the 2 week HSFF Christmas Fayre countdown!



Love  
HSFF x







**Free Winter Family Day Sun 19 Nov**

Turner Sims FREE Winter Family Day / Sun 19 Nov	
<b>Rhymes LIVE! Singing Workshop</b> TS Foyer 11.30am	<b>Rhymes LIVE!</b> TS Auditorium 12pm
<b>Rhymes LIVE! Singing Workshop</b> TS Foyer 2pm	<b>Rhymes LIVE!</b> TS Auditorium 2.30pm
<b>Tiny Tunes: Let it Ring</b> 11.30am - 12.10pm	<b>Tiny Tunes: Let it Ring</b> 1.15pm - 1.55pm
<b>Rhymes LIVE! Craft Workshop</b> TS Foyer 12pm - 4pm	<b>Face Painting:</b> TS Foyer 11.30am - 4pm

Box Office 023 8059 5151  
info@turnersims.co.uk  
turnersims.co.uk

Turner Sims is part of the University of Southampton and gratefully acknowledges the support of Arts Council England.





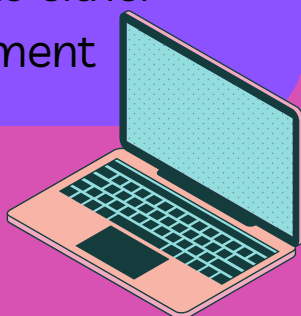


We have been sent these details about an exciting **Free Winter Family Day** which is taking place at the **Turner Sims Concert Hall** (in the University grounds) next **Sunday 19th November**. It is suitable for ages **0-8 (plus grownups!)**. Although the event is free you must book a ticket via their website. It looks like it will be a great show so do go if you are free.



## Laptop and Netbook Donations

Do you have a working netbook or laptop you no longer use and you would be happy to donate to the school? If so, we would welcome any donations coming into either department




**ALL ABOUT ROBLOX**

Have you ever dreamed of creating your own videogame? Roblox is an online gaming platform that allows you to do just that: create games for others or play games that others have created! It is popular with children and young people all over the world who are interested in the world of online gaming.

**YOU CAN FIND ROBLOX ON**  
PC, Mac, iOS, Android, Xbox - even in some VR headsets!

**Roblox Numbers**

- Over 50 Million DAILY ACTIVE USERS
- 67% of users ARE UNDER 18 YEARS OLD
- 72% of session HAPPEN ON MOBILE DEVICES
- Users play 2.6 hours ON AVERAGE PER DAY

**PLAY**  
To play any game in Roblox, it's simple. Visit any experience, press the green 'play' button, download relevant software, and head on in!

**CREATE**  
To create your own Roblox game, you'll have to install the Roblox Studio. This will equip you with easy tools to help you build your idea!

**GOOD TO KNOW!**  
Roblox has parental controls and safety settings enabled by default for children under 13 - which is why registering with a real DOB is important!

**What is a Server?**  
A server is part of the gaming system that allows you to interact with other players online. Most games have a public server, but there is an option to create your own private server and invite your friends to play together - without any strangers! Every server has a maximum capacity, which can vary.

**Top Tips**

- [Ask open questions]** "What do you like about Roblox?"
- [Talk about privacy]** "Let's make this both safe AND fun!"
- [Know how to report/block]** "We can figure it out together."
- [Encourage creativity]** "Tell me about the games you like best."
- [Discuss online safety]** "Here's why we don't talk to strangers..."
- [Set spending boundaries]** "You can use chore money for Roblox."

**Pros**

- Encourages creativity and imagination.
- Demonstrates the benefits of teamwork.
- Grows further technical and design skills.
- Teaches critical thinking/problem solving.

**Cons**

- Adds to screentime fixation and distractions.
- Creates opportunities for cyberbullying attacks.
- Uses online chat that allows stranger interaction.
- Suggests paid for options to 'improve' experience.



# Next week at Re:Minds

## 13th November - 17th November

### SEND LEGAL ADVICE

**Wednesday 15th  
November 12:30pm**

Please email [info@reminds.org.uk](mailto:info@reminds.org.uk) to book a 30 minute appointment

We are linking with Shentons Solicitors to offer free SEND legal advice clinics to Re:Minds families.

These will be for those families requiring further legal advice around education, Tribunals, appeals etc.

Shentons  
Solicitors

### Support Group Shirley

**Friday 17th November 10am**

A chance to talk to other parents/carers and get advice and support.

You can also access the book and sensory library on request.

Children welcome

St James Road Methodist Church, St James Road, Shirley, Southampton.

Find us via the car park to the rear of the church and up the stairs in Room 7. Please let us know if you require access to the lift.

Hampshire and Isle of Wight

NHS

COMMUNITY

Re:Minds

### Adult Mental Health Clinic

**Friday 17th November 2pm**

Sarah Leonard, Head of Adult Community Mental Health Services will be able to give advice and information for anyone needing mental health advice for themselves or their young person over 18.

Parents are welcome to attend with their young person

Hampshire and Isle of Wight

NHS

COMMUNITY

Re:Minds

Re:Minds

Please email [Info@reminds.org.uk](mailto:Info@reminds.org.uk) to book your space at one of the clinics.  
You will have at least 10 minutes in a private session,  
held virtually via Zoom.

**You do not need to book to attend the Support Groups - Just turn up!**



with thanks to



Hampshire and Isle of Wight

NHS

NHS

Solent  
NHS Trust

## Early Bird +

EarlyBird+ is a 10-week course for parents of autistic children or whose children are awaiting an assessment for autism who are aged from 4-9 years. The sessions last for 2.5 hours and are delivered in small groups by friendly and experienced course practitioners. The course is run in various locations across Southampton.

The programme aims to empower parents by building confidence and developing resilience. Parents and families are supported to develop knowledge and understanding of autism and then consider how autism impacts on their individual child. The focus of EarlyBird+ remains on what we can do to support autistic children and give them the best opportunity to reach their maximum potential.



It has been lovely connecting with other parents who understand

The course practitioners were so welcoming and friendly

#### What will the course cover

- Key areas of differences
- Understanding and supporting sensory differences
- Communication
- Supporting interactions
- Socialisation
- Self-awareness
- Understanding and interpreting behaviour
- Supporting behaviour
- Moving forwards
- Looking after yourself

So much helpful information

I've learnt things that I never knew before

For more information visit  
[www.reminds.org.uk](http://www.reminds.org.uk)

**TO ENQUIRE**  
Email [courses@reminds.org.uk](mailto:courses@reminds.org.uk)

## Cygnet

Cygnet is a 6-week course for parents of autistic children or whose children are awaiting an assessment for autism who are aged from 5-18 years. The sessions last for 2.5 hours and are delivered in groups by friendly and experienced course practitioners. The course is run in various locations across Southampton.

The programme acknowledges parents as the experts when it comes to their own children. Cygnet aims to build on parents' knowledge of their child and the challenges autism can present by increasing parental self-esteem, emphasising communication and understanding and supporting behaviour.



It's great taking a course with people who understand

#### What the course will cover

- What do we know about autism?
- Strengths and challenges
- The parents' journey
- What are the senses?
- Types of sensory difficulties
- Strategies for managing sensory needs
- What, how and why of communication
- Communication strategies
- Types and function of behaviour
- Behaviour and autism
- Managing behaviour - STAR, The Iceberg principle

I always learn something new when I do a course

For more information visit  
[www.reminds.org.uk](http://www.reminds.org.uk)

**TO ENQUIRE**  
Email [courses@reminds.org.uk](mailto:courses@reminds.org.uk)



# INFANT CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK!



## Oak

**Sufiyan** has been a superstar in phonics and is always putting his hand up and giving super answers for questions. Great job Sufiyan!

**James** is a lovely, kind and sweet member of Oak base. He is such a reciprocal raccoon and always works so well with other children. Well done James!



## Maple

**Erin** who is a wonderful member of Maple Class. This week she wrote a beautiful autumn poem using her own ideas. She is really being the resilient rhino by challenging herself. Keep it up Erin!

**Alfie** who has settled in so well to Maple class and Highfield School. He is being resourceful - working independently and creating some fantastic work. We are so happy to have you join us!



## Beech

**Samuel** absolutely wowed me in literacy this week. He wrote a beautiful poem about Autumn where he really thought hard about his word choices and the imagery he wanted to create. He showed the skills of a reflective rabbit as he worked independently and carefully planned out what he wanted to write.

Well done Sam!

**Cécile** is such lovely girl and every day she puts a smile on her teachers' faces. She is so sensible and always making sure she is doing what she needs to do to have a successful lesson.

She is a true delight to teach and she should be so proud of the wonderful child she is!



## Ash

**Alisa** for having a great start at Highfield and being a super resilient Rhino whilst she learns our routines. She has tried so hard in her learning and is a great member of Ash Base.

**Henry Willis-Newman** has been such a great helper this week, he's been super reciprocal and has done some great reflecting about remembrance, ready for Remembrance Day!



## Willow

**Mais** has impressed me with her super imaginative ideas during Drawing Club this week! Mais has also been the Reciprocal Raccoon by helping her teachers and friends. Keep being a star, Mais!!

**Chinedu** has been such a Resilient Rhino with his formation and he has worked so hard to get it beautifully neat. Chinedu is always doing super listening and is always focused on his learning.

You're amazing, Chinedu!

# JUNIOR CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK!



## Australasia

**Pelumi** has written some beautiful work this week full of interesting adjectives and new vocabulary. He has been helpful in using the dictionary for the class when we find a new word too. We are proud of his reciprocity and showing our school value 'serve'. We would love to celebrate Sam for always trying his best and showing super behaviour. He shows excellent concentration in lesson times, and is a role model for all. Well done Sam!



## North America

In North America, we have started our Space topic in Science and continued looking at Rivers in Geography! During Re, we did some Drama related to Interpretations and Mrs James said the class came up with some great ideas.

**Akaal** for staying on task during all his lessons and striving to do his best!

**Amelia F** for doing really well in her Maths and English as well as managing her distractions.



## Europe

**Elijah W** has had a brilliant week, and has had a super attitude to learning. We have been learning to use fronted adverbials in literacy, and Elijah was very reflective and made some excellent language choices. He also displayed great respect and empathy in our learning around Remembrance Day. Well done Elijah.

**Evelyn** is always such a fantastic member of our class. She is so reflective and resourceful, and does everything to the best of her ability. This week she has offered several times to be a 'mini teacher' and has done an excellent job of supporting her classmates in their learning. You are a superstar Evelyn!



## South America

**Barnaby** for always being a positive presence in the classroom, paying attention in lessons and showing interest in all aspects of learning. Mr Dodson has been especially impressed with his effort in French this year!

**Xiaohui** for always giving 100% in class. He clearly has a thirst for knowledge, enjoys a good challenge and loves to share this thinking in class, especially in Maths! A lovely young man in all respects.



## Africa

**Ned** for brilliant engagement with our stone age day. Ned was always putting his hand up answering questions, sharing knowledge. This something Ned does in all of his learning. This week, Ned was such a reflective learner who always wants to make his work even better. **Maciej** for fantastic and enthusiastic engagement in our Stone Age Day. Always putting his hand up, answering questions and sharing his knowledge. It was brilliant to see. Maciej as always, tried his best in all of his learning this week and showed kindness to all of his class.



## Asia

**Leo S** for always being so helpful and polite. He is always so engaged with his learning and willing to share his ideas with the class. He is a wonderful member of Asia class and a great role model to his peers. **Mia T** is always using her BLP skills. She shows great resilience and resourcefulness when working independently and is one of the most reciprocal members of Asia class when working as part of a group. She is a kind and helpful member of the class and a wonderful friend.