Highfield CE Primary School
Weekly Update
A message from Mrs Walford

Dear Parents,

Thank you for your support in the busiest time of the school year! It has been lovely seeing the children rehearse for their concerts and services and we look forward to seeing them next week. It was lovely seeing so many of you during 'stay and share' too.

Christmas Fayre

We wanted to take a moment to express our sincere gratitude for the tremendous success of our recent Christmas Fayre. This event would not have been possible without the incredible efforts of our Highfield School Family and Family (HSFF) and the dedicated volunteers who generously contributed their time and talents.

From the festive decorations to the engaging activities and delicious treats, every detail was thoroughly enjoyed by all .

We appreciate the countless hours of planning, preparation, and hard work that the HSFF and volunteers invested to make this event a highlight of our school year. It is the collaborative spirit and enthusiasm of our school community that truly make these occasions special.

School Dinners Survey

Thank you to the 74 pupils/ parents for completing the school dinner survey.. We are looking forward to working with the kitchen.

Term **Autumn** Number **12**
Date **01/12/2023**

Theme of collective worship next week:

Joy

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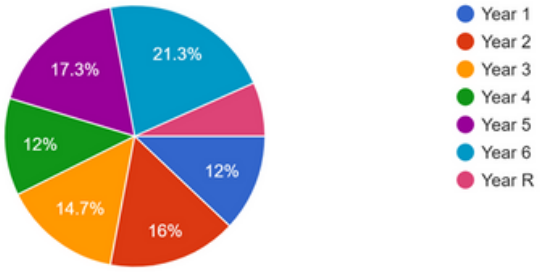
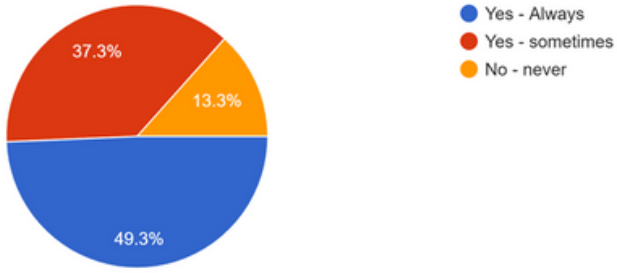
02380 555793
Highfield CE Primary School, Hawthorn Rd, Southampton, SO17 1PX

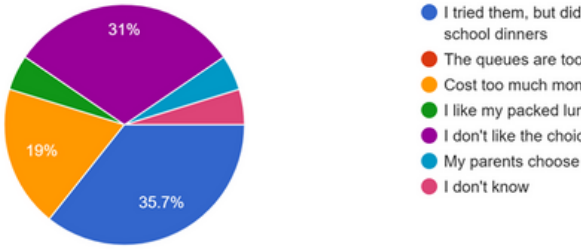
1. What year group are you in?
75 responses



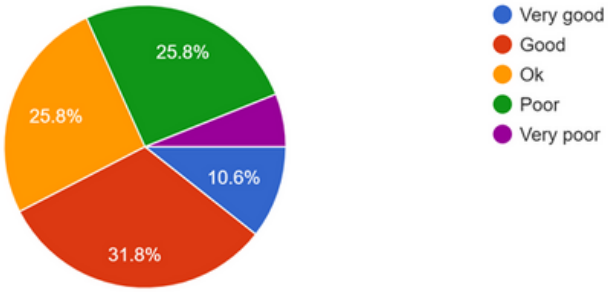
2. Do you have school dinners?
75 responses



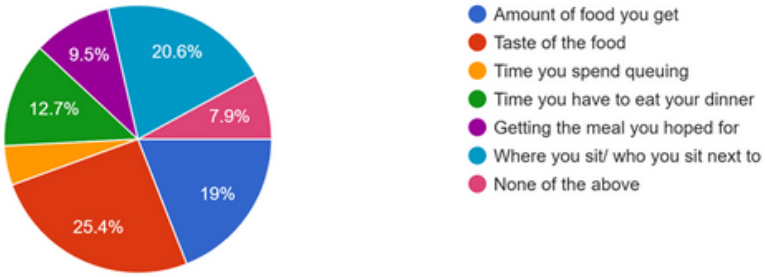
3. Why don't you have school dinners? Please click up to 3 boxes then go to Quest questions 4 to 9.
42 responses



4. What do you think of your school dinners?
66 responses



5. At dinner time, which of these things are you happy with?
63 responses

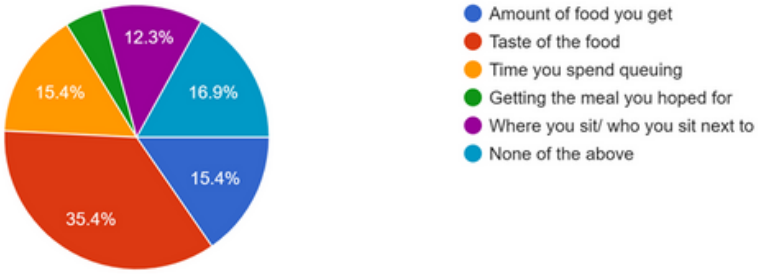


Thank you for your feedback - we are very grateful to everyone who took the time to complete it.

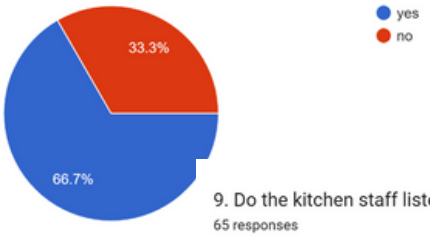
We have shared your feedback to the kitchen and we will update you with any changes made.

We are committed to ensuring that lunches are as enjoyable and as healthy as possible.

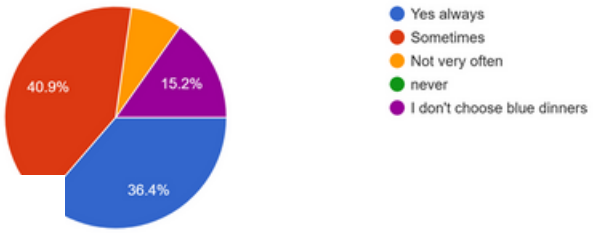
6. At dinner time, which of these things are you unhappy with?
65 responses



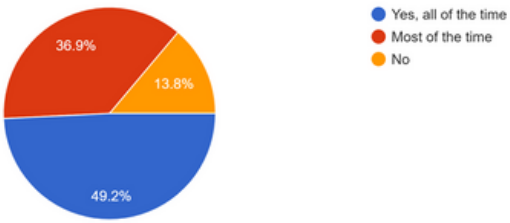
7. Do you always get the colour dinner you chose?
66 responses



8. If you choose a blue band, do you usually get the choice you were hoping for?
66 responses



9. Do the kitchen staff listen to what you want for your dinner?
65 responses



Ideas from children to improve dinners further include:

"More generous with the ingredients"

"Tastier food, and healthier puddings please, some fruit ALONGSIDE biscuit, not instead of."

"Fresher veggies, less ultra-processed meats, ability to mix different parts of meal eg have jacket potato or pasta with sausages rather than mashed potato for example."

"Less overcooked broccoli and more fresh"

"more ice cream days"

"The potatoes are always very different sizes, sometimes they are too small and I get hungry quickly after"

"Put more food in it."

"Better chips"

"Make it a bit cheaper"

"They need to taste much nicer, the veg is too sloppy and they cook it altogether and I don't like all the kinds of veg. Sometimes they don't let me choose beans."

"More stuff with pastry"

"Stop soggy potatoes and vegetables- that's what spoils most of the meals. Give smaller portions, especially when the food tastes horrible. Cooking the food better, like you would have it at home"

"Alternative potato options- I don't like the mash it is very dry."

"More time to eat (he never eats his pudding as there's not enough time apparently)"

"Increase the quantity of greens"

"To sit with my friends/ sister"

"Don't like the taste of the mash potato otherwise I would have dinners more often."

School Improvement Priorities 2023/2024

Writing

This week, all the teachers had training with Charlotte Ellis (our English leader) on strategies to make writing engaging! As you can see from the pictures on the next page, the teachers had lots of fun and came away buzzing with ideas!

Developing Leadership

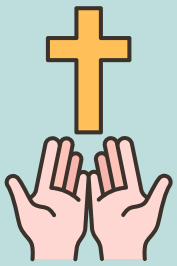
Mrs Walford attended the primary headteacher's conference. Heads from around the city discussed challenges and next steps in educational issues.

Mr Iszatt attended SEN in mainstream training.

Curriculum

This week, we have been very impressed with the history and science learning across the school. Year 56 went outside and made the solar system out of fruit!

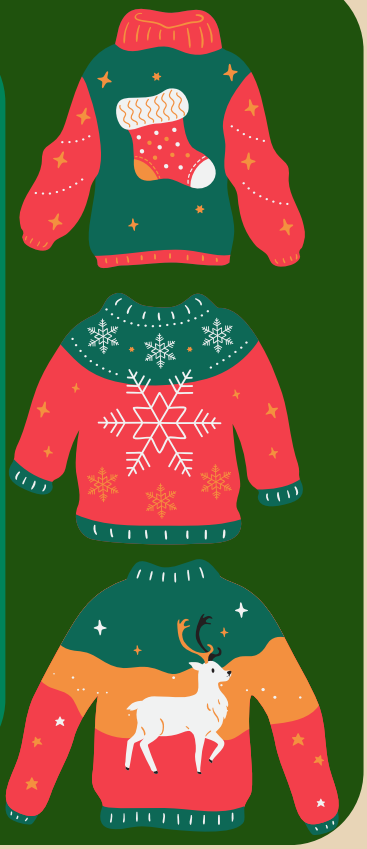
Christian Values



Mrs Bond has applied for two grants to develop our spiritual gardens. Fingers crossed we get them!

On Wednesday December 13th, we invite all children to come to school dressed in their favourite Christmas jumpers or festive clothing.

Additionally, we would like to remind you that Wednesday, December 13th, is also the day for our special Christmas lunch.



Christmas Performance Reminders

The Year R Christmas performance is on Monday 11th December at 9.45am.

The KS1 (years 1 and 2) Nativity is on Wednesday 6th December - children to arrive by 5.30pm and 5.45 start.

The KS2 (years 3, 4, 5 & 6) carol concert is Thursday 7th December at 5.30pm.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

All useful dates have been updated onto our website and can be found here:
https://highfieldceprimaryschool.co.uk/

Monday 4th December, 7pm-9pm - Singing Club Christmas Concert at the Guildhall
Wednesday 6th December, 5.45pm - KS1 Nativity (Year 1 & 2) (see above)
Thursday 7th December , 5.30pm - KS2 Carol Concert (Years 3, 4, 5 & 6) (see above)
Monday 11th December, 9.45am - Year R Christmas Performance (see above)

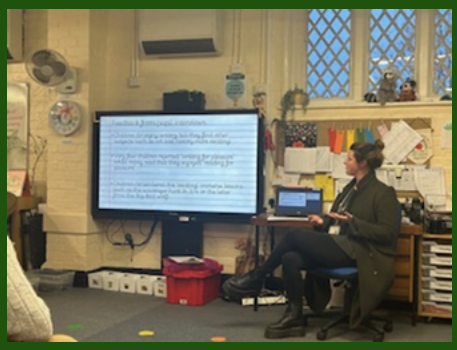
IN SCHOOL THIS WEEK

We had great music in our collective worship this week. Thank you Ned, Poppy and Ottilie for playing so beautifully.

Well done year 6 girls for competing in the football tournament on Thursday afternoon. They braved the icy weather and played their hearts out- in the snow! Thank you to Ottilie's mum for fuelling them with hot chocolate!

This week, the staff spent their staff meeting discussing strategies to make writing fun!

As you can see, the staff had lots of fun having a staged crime scene set up in maple base. We look forward to seeing lots of engaging writing sessions coming soon!



IN SCHOOL THIS WEEK

KS1 Evacuation Day

It was amazing to see all the children dressed in their evacuee outfits! They had a great day thinking about the lives of the evacuated children. We had a lovely circle time where the children shared the 5 items they had brought in from home. They then wrote postcards to their family and made some Christmas decorations with basic rations! We recreated the original HIghfield school photo from 1913!

REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Christmas is coming, and advent calendars are often a favourite way of counting down the days of this exciting season. As many of you will be aware, we launched a 'reverse advent calendar' a few years ago as a way of collecting basic food and hygiene supplies to donate to Southampton City Mission's Basics Bank. This year, with many families facing a cost of living crisis, there will be more families than ever who will struggle this Christmas season.

Our core school core values at Highfield are love, serve and trust, and in the spirit of this, we would be delighted if you could join in again this year to help children see the value of serving their community by giving a contribution on any day of the advent calendar. The idea is that on any day, rather than receiving something, we can give a specific item, which will be collected and then distributed to a local food bank.

Each day, please check the list of suggested items, which has been created to match Southampton City Mission's list of most needed items. There will be boxes outside both the Infant and Junior sites each morning for you to place your donations into.

Below are the details of the items that you can collect on each school day of Advent. Any contributions would be hugely appreciated and will greatly benefit our local community.

Many thanks,

Mrs Shorey

Friday 1st Pasta	**Monday 4th** Tinned hot meat eg. curries, pies, stews etc	**Tuesday 5th** Rice	**Wednesday 6th** Tinned Soup
Thursday 7th Treats eg. crisps, chocolates	**Friday 8th** Tinned fish	**Monday 11th** Hot chocolate / coffee	**Tuesday 12th** Tinned veg
Wednesday 13th Shower gel and shampoo	**Thursday 14th** Tinned Spaghetti	**Friday 15th** Cook-in sauces	

A Christmas Fayre Thank you from the HSFF!

We hope you all had a wonderful time at the Christmas Fayre, thank you so much for coming along and spreading some festive cheer!

Thank you to everyone who gave to the hamper fund, donated bottles, chocolates, jolly jars, and baked cakes for the café.

We would like to extend a humongous thank you to everyone involved in the running of the Fayre- we really cannot put on such a large event without the help you gave on the day!

The teachers and teaching assistants, the admin team and Team Spirit and all the parents and children (current and former) who volunteered their time and energy on Saturday.

Your commitment and enthusiasm from setting up, to running stalls and help to put the school back together at the end of the evening made this event entirely possible!

The fayre has also been a financial success (final figures will be confirmed next week) which means we are already growing a funding pot for the next academic year!

And an extra thank you to Carly, Cath, Emily & Kelly for all the extra hours spent on the preparations leading up to the fayre and for your commitment on the day!

Highfield School's Calendar for 2024.

You may have spotted some amazing artwork around the school on Saturday... the children have been busy working on their class project for next year's school calendar!

Each class was allocated a month and worked as a team to produce a beautiful piece of artwork! All of these amazing images have been brought together in the very handy and oh so useful Highfield School Calendar!

Order a copy for at home and maybe a couple to give as Christmas gifts. The calendar will contain all of the useful Highfield school dates for this academic year!

Order today as the deadline for a delivery before Christmas is Friday 8th December!

https://forms.gle/mdovq9J4QvJRFonX7

INFANT CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK!

Maple

Maya for her resourcefulness in drawing accurate 2D shapes.She used her ruler accurately and her shapes were so neat. Well done Maya!

Maria who has such a positive attitude to school. She always tries her best and is ready to learn, help others and be a great class member.

Oak

For Adam who has completely amazed us with his writing and reading this week. He used to really struggle with holding a pencil properly, but after being a Resilient Rhino, he has completely mastered it now. Well done Adam!

For Jude who has in the past, really struggled to come into school happily. This week he has shown such love to mum and persevered and has come in beautifully every single morning this week.

Willow

Frankie is always displaying the school value of love and he is always making his friends and teachers smile. Frankie always works hard in everything that he does and is a joy to have in Willow. You are amazing, Frankie!!

Theo has been a Resilient Rhino with his writing these last few weeks and has been independently writing some super sentences! He has also been working so hard to stay focused. I'm so proud of you, Theo!!

Ash

Audrey has been super reflective and reciprocal this week. She has tried super hard in our production practice and has been so good at following instructions and helping out in the classroom! Well done, Audrey!

Tommy has been trying so hard in our Christmas performance practices to learn his lines and perform them well while acting out his role. He has been following our Golden Goals beautifully and has been a pleasure this week.

Great effort, Tommy!

Beech

Bea is the ultimate reciprocal racoon as she always goes out of her way to support her peers and ensure that they can achieve success. We are lucky to have Bea as a part of Beech class and we are grateful for her kindness and friendly face.

Sophia has been incredible in the rehearsals for the Christnmas performance. She has had a fantastic attitude and worked really hard to develop her acting skills. Thank you Sophia for showing the school value of serve in trying your hardest this week.

JUNIOR CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK!

Australasia

This week we would like to celebrate Teddy who has shown great kindness (reciprocity) and care towards others and has also been doing some wonderful research on animals for the class. Thanks Teddy!

Preston this week has been the resilient rhino. After not feeling well, he has really applied himself to his work. He has produced some wonderful writing using time adverbials.

Well done Preston.

South America

Congratulations Jesse L, on demonstrating exceptional resilience, positivity and unwavering determination throughout the NFER tests this week! Your remarkable display of strength filled us with immense pride. Keep shining superstar! Well done!

Leo F, we are so proud of your outstanding achievements in English this week! Your diligent efforts in refining spellings, enhancing sentence structures and crafting an absolutely fantastic narrative truly stood out to us. Your dedication and progress are truly amazing!

Asia

Ottile for being really reflective and resourceful in her literacy learning. It really shows that she has gone the extra mile to research and absorb herself in the learning.

Elliott for demonstrating the value of serve. Elliott is always keen and willing to help his peers in class. He shows real care for others. It's so wonderful to see.

Africa

Leny for how he serves our class with kind words and encouragement. He does all of his learning with such enthusiasm which encourages others to be enthusiastic too. The love he shows to peers and others is really inspiring. Well done Leny.

Maciej for resilience shown this week in our maths. Maciej was feeling a little unwell at the start of the week but came back and has engaged so much with our NFERs. Really focusing and trying his best. He also has been his hand up alot more, helping us out with his reciprocity.

North America

As a team, we've been working really hard and doing our best during the NFER/SATs week! Well Done North America!

Marwah did an awesome job on her practice SATs paper! She's stayed super determined and focused, showing how much she cares about doing her best. Great work!

Gethin for showing fantastic effort and dedication through your work. You are setting a fantastic example for everyone around you.

Europe

Dua has been an incredible role model to her peers. Her behavior is impeccable and she has been showing our school value of "trust" as Europe can always count on her. You're so wonderful Dua!

Igor didn't give up this week when he found some learning a bit tricky. We have been turning regular and irregular verbs from present to past tense and Igor was the resilient rhino and tried his very best. It is brave and important to ask for help when needed, so well done Igor! You're a star.