

# Highfield CE Primary School Weekly Update

A message from Mrs Walford and Mrs Bond

Dear Parents,

Thank you for all your support in such a busy week at school.

## Travel Update

On Monday, Rachel Oliver, Sustainable Transport Officer, came into both sites to talk about active travel initiatives. She promoted more sustainable, healthier travel to assist pupils in becoming more self sufficient in their travel choices.



The children talked about the importance of active travel and we are shortly launching 'Junior Travel Ambassadors'. These children will lead on an annual programme of road safety, including assemblies and competitions.



Term **Spring** Number **3**  
Date **19.1.24**



Theme of  
collective worship  
next week:

**Courage**



info@highfieldshool.co.uk



02380 555793



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

# School Improvement Priorities

## 2023/2024

### Attendance



National attendance rate across the academic year to date was **91.6%**

Highfield CE Primary attendance to date this week: **96.1%**

### Writing



We have seen some wonderful writing across our school this week. Year 5 and 6 are gearing up to write their 'howlers' and appear very enthusiastic towards their Harry Potter unit. Years 3 and 4 are writing great diary entries based on their text, Varjak Paw. 'Years 1 and 2 have been writing diaries too, based on their text ' Kitty and the Woodland Wildcat' . And finally, year R have been learning to use the 'j' sound and create words and even sentences!

### Developing Leadership



Mrs Bond visited Swaythling Primary School this week to look at their teachers coaching programme. This is something we would like to introduce at Highfield and an action plan is already underway so watch this place!

Ms Lewis and Mrs Smith went to the ELSA conference. Ms Lewis is a lead on the team and presented part of the day to other ELSAs in the city.

### Curriculum



Subject leaders created reports to be shared at the full governing body meeting next week. They assessed strengths and next steps in each of their subject areas.

### Christian Values



Mrs Shorey has been planning the launch of child led worship at the juniors. We also have a staff meeting next week with Sue Bowen from the diocese. She will be working with staff on how to deliver outstanding collective worship.



# Pantomime Arrangements



Next Friday 26th January, we are lucky enough to have the pantomime coming into school to perform for the children. We hope this will be a fun and memorable event for all! The panto will take place in the junior hall at 1.50pm so the infants will walk up to the juniors after lunch. Infant parents, please ensure children bring in coats etc in case the weather is cold.

The show will finish by 3.10pm. Therefore, the Infants will need to be dismissed from the juniors. Infants will be dismissed from the big junior playground at 3.15pm. Teachers will come out to the playground with a sign so please look out for them. The juniors will stay back for 10 minutes and be dismissed as normal at 3.25pm from their usual entrances/exits.





# Parent Forum Update



## What is a parent forum?

The Parent Forum is a partnership between parents and the school. It is a valuable way to share ideas, views, concerns and make suggestions for improvement.

It gives you an opportunity to get together on a regular basis with other parents to have your say on what the school is doing well, and suggest ideas of how things could be improved.

There will be opportunities to get advice and support to help your child/ children with their learning.

On Monday 22nd January, we will be holding our next parent forum. This will be online using Google Meet. Please copy and paste this link into your browser: [meet.google.com/fqa-rvxm-kuu](https://meet.google.com/fqa-rvxm-kuu)

The forum will run from 4.30pm - 5.30pm on Google Meet. Please note, you will need to log into a Google account to be able to join.

All parents are welcome to join the meeting and I know we have representatives on some year groups. I would be grateful if year group reps could let me know who has been chosen and I will publish these on the next update.

Any parent/carers is welcome to join any parent forum meeting. The forum will be chaired by Mrs Walford, the headteacher and we hope to have at least one parent representative from each year group. At times, other members of the school community will also attend the meetings depending on the agenda items.



# Infants



Oak Base -  
July 4th in the  
infant hall



Willow Base -  
July 5th in the  
infant hall



Ash Base -  
June 21st in  
the infant hall



Beech Base -  
June 27th in  
the infant hall



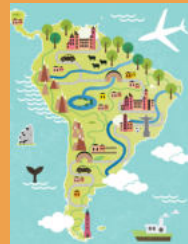
Maple Base -  
June 13th in  
the infant hall

## Class Assemblies this year

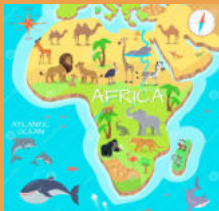
*All class assemblies start at 9.10am*



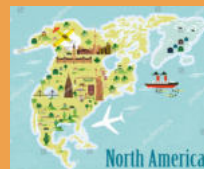
Europe - May  
9th in the junior  
hall



South America-  
March 1st in  
the junior hall



Africa- May 3rd  
in the junior hall



North America-  
March 9th in  
the junior hall



Australasia-  
May 17th in the  
junior hall



Asia- March  
22nd in the  
junior hall

# Juniors



# MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS.



From the first day of term to the last, the small moments in a school day make a real difference to your child. #AttendanceCounts



The link between attendance and attainment is clear:

- In 2018/19, just 40% of persistently absent (PA) children in KS2 achieved expected KS2 standards, compared with 84% of pupils who were regular attenders.
- And 36% of PA children in KS4 got 9 to 4 in their English and maths GCSEs, also compared with 84% of regular attenders.

And it's never too late to benefit from good attendance:

- More than half (54%) of pupils who were PA in Year 10 and then rarely absent in Year 11, passed at least 5 GCSEs, compared to 36% of pupils who were persistently absent in both years.

But attendance is important for more than just attainment:

- Regular school attendance can facilitate positive peer relationships, which is a protective factor for mental health and wellbeing.

Here is a link for helpful guidance from the NHS on whether to send your child to school if you are unsure:

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>





## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:



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

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

**Monday 22nd January** - Parent Forum 4.30pm - 5.30pm **ONLINE** - joining link : **[meet.google.com/fqa-rvxm-kuu](https://meet.google.com/fqa-rvxm-kuu)**

**Friday 26th January** - whole school - pantomime - infants to be collected from the juniors

**Friday 2nd February**, 3.45pm-4.45pm - HSFF School Disco - non - uniform for all children. Please bring in a small donation towards Dance Live fundraising. There will also be a cake sale.

**Friday 9th February** - Last day before the half term break, normal finish time, 3.15pm Infants and 3.25pm Juniors.

**Monday 12th February - Friday 16th February** - Half Term Break

**Monday 19th February** - Return to school

### Once upon a Dream Poetry Competition



Calling all poets, this year we will be taking part in the Once Upon A Dream poetry competition. The theme for the competition is dreams so children who wish to take part can write poems about real life aspirations, wonderful worlds created in their mind or even influenced by nightmares or fears. This is a national competition and prizes for the competition include creative writing goody bags and their chance to be published in a poetry book. If children would like to enter, they can collect an entry form from their class teacher. Entries must be returned to their class teacher by Friday 9th February 2024.



# Highfield School Family & Friends



have booked M&M Theatrical Productions

to perform a live pantomime to

all the children at Highfield

## Cinderella

will be

on



Friday 26th January

what a wonderful way to wrap up the first month of 2024!

plus

**FREE POPCORN for EVERY CHILD...nom nom**

After the results from last terms Panto survey

we are kindly requesting a £4.00 donation per child\*

for this wonderful experience.

Please follow this link: -

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/hsff/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=73905>

\*(just 10% of the ticket cost of theatre Panto production!)

**\*\*Infants parents do look out for Friday pick up instructions as the Panto will be at the juniors.\*\***







# Highfield School Family & Friends

It's Disco Fever Time.....



The HSFF presents

DJ Preacher

at Highfield's School Disco

Friday 2nd February

at the juniors



The exclusive Infants party starts at 3.45pm 'til 4.45pm

(a grownup must stay on site at the infant's party).



The exclusive Junior Disco is from 5pm 'til 6pm.

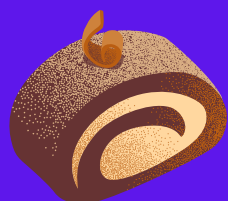


(Junior grownups leave a mobile number or stay and have a cuppa!).

All tickets include a free drink and snack!

The yummy Cake Cafe (including jumbo hotdogs)

and tuck shop will be based in North America.



Don't delay book the children's tickets on this link today!

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/hsff/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=74387>

THE HSFF PRESENTS YOUR SCHOOL



# DISCO

## Party



featuring the brilliant  
DJ PREACHER

2 FEBRUARY 2024

JUNIOR SCHOOL HALL

INFANTS | 15:45 - 16:45

JUNIORS | 17:00 - 18:00

BOOK YOUR TICKET HERE

£2.50 INC SNACK AND A DRINK



## HSFF School Disco

### Infant Disco - 3:45-4:45pm

- Entrance and Exit through Crown Gate
- Please can Grown ups stay onsite - you are responsible for your own children
- Drinks and Cakes available in our Cake Cafe
- Tuck Shop available

### Junior Disco - 5:00-6:00pm

- Entrance and Exit through Crown Gate
- Grown ups can stay and enjoy refreshments or drop and collect later
- Drinks and Cakes available in our Cake Cafe
- Tuck Shop available



Tickets £2.50 inc. a snack & drink

Book using the link in your email or  
click the QR code



## Other Important Dates to save in your Diary!



### The Highfield School International Day

where we celebrate our amazing school community



with a trip around the world!

Saturday 2nd March.

Musical Afternoon Tea



a chance to hear the fabulous talents of our musicians and singers

whilst enjoying a traditional afternoon Tea.

Saturday 27th April.



HOME → SCHOOL INFORMATION → VACANCIES

## Vacancies

Train to be a teacher at Highfield Primary School

### In This Section

Finance/Admin Assistant  
(Part-time)

Senior Supervisory  
Assistant



We currently have two job vacancies. We are looking to recruit a lunchtime supervisory assistant and a finance/ admin officer.

Please take a look on our website and share if you know anyone who may be interested.

<https://www.highfieldceprimaryschool.co.uk/page/?title=Vacancies&pid=47>



# IN SCHOOL THIS WEEK



## Winchester Cathedral Visit

On Saturday, a group of wonderful juniors and Helen Thompson, our chair of governors, attended Winchester cathedral for a very special service. Our new Diocesan Bishop, the Rt Revd Philip Mounstephen, was welcomed to the Diocese.

This was a joyous and momentous occasion, one which most people will never experience.



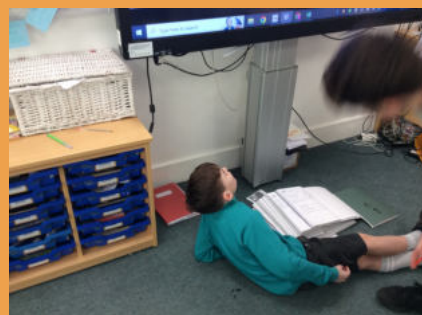
## Year 5/6 geography

The children have been working on their cartography skills this week, and showcased fantastic resilience to locate different countries with different natural resources.



## Year 5/6 dictation

The children in Mr Lewis' writing group this week have been showcasing their fantastic spelling and grammar knowledge! They showed excellent reciprocity today to work in partners and travel around the school looking to find different sentences. They had to hold the sentence in their head, then dictate it back to their partner to write accurately. They were all so resilient when noticing the errors to correct, and even amended some sentences to include semi-colons!



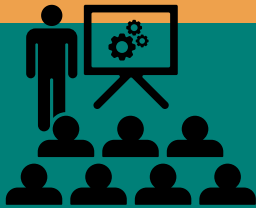


# IN SCHOOL THIS WEEK

## Southampton ELSA Conference 2024

The Southampton ELSA conference was held on Tuesday with almost 100 delegates from across the city and Hampshire attending. The conference was planned and facilitated by the Emotional Development Group – a team of educational psychologists and ELSAs, including Ms Lewis and Mrs Smith! The theme of the conference was "Side-by-side : Travelling together" with three workshops to help explore what and how we 'think, feel and do' when working 'side by side' in all things emotional literacy including a keynote speech and workshop run by Andrew Moffat, founder of No Outsiders.

Ms Lewis was lucky enough to help facilitate the "Do" workshop – Hearing their stories: exploring methods and materials that help us connect, understand and support our young people. Ms Lewis said it was great to network with so many professionals from across the city and share the good practice that we have here at Highfield School.



## MHST Managing Challenging Behaviour Parent Workshop

We welcomed parents and carers to our 'Managing Challenging Behaviours' workshop on Thursday 18th January. The Mental Health in Schools Team delivered interesting and informative training to help parents understand challenging behaviour as well as providing a range of strategies and tips to support them. More workshops are planned throughout the rest of this academic year. More details to follow in future updates.



## PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2024

Dear Parents, Carers, Children and Young People,

Happy New Year and welcome to the Mental Health in Schools Team (MHST) January Newsletter!

We hope that you've all had a fabulous Christmas holiday and enjoyed time with friends and family.

Here at the MHST, we are excited to begin 2024 and continue to provide mental health support for young people, parents, and school staff alike.



# 2024

CONTACT US

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR QUERIES FOR THE SOUTHAMPTON MHST

TEL: 0300 1236689

EMAIL: SOUTHAMPTONMHST@SOLENT.NHS.UK



Please follow this link to access the newsletter:

<https://online.flippingbook.com/view/1026194457/>



Southampton Music Hub and Friends of the Southampton Youth Orchestras  
present their annual

## Pyramid Concert

Featuring Elgar Strings, Youth Strings, Youth Concert Sinfonia  
and Youth Orchestra

**Saturday 3 February**

7.00pm

at Central Hall

St Mary Street, Southampton, SO14 1NF

Tickets:

£12 adults, £8 concessions, £2 under 16s

£25 Family ticket - 2 adults and 2 children

Box Office:

Available on the door on the day



southamptonmusichub.org  
music@southampton.gov.uk

023 8083 3648  
@musichubsouth



## Good Grub Club – February Holidays 2023

This project is aimed at children/ families eligible for free school meals and/ or Abri Housing Families.

**TUESDAY 13<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY**

**11AM TO 1PM**

**AT: COLNE AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH, COLNE AVE, SO16 9NY**

We'll be running our FREE Spring event offering the opportunity to get involved in cooking some tasty 'good grub' and fun activities! Each family attending the session will also take home a bag to replicate the recipe again at home. If you'd like to book on the session, please get in contact - we'll work on a first come first served basis!

Get great tips on how to make fantastic meals on a budget!  
With a activities and sport exercises for the whole family!

To book your family: please click on the link below:

[Good Grub Club - Millbrook - February 2024 - Google Forms](#)

For more information, please email:

[sam@cm-foundation.co.uk](mailto:sam@cm-foundation.co.uk)







# INFANT CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK!



## Beech

**Mahir** has been an outstanding reflective rabbit this week and I have been so impressed with his attitude to learning. He has been working really hard to slow down and ensure he is doing his best in his writing. Keep up the amazing work Mahir!

**Bassam** has shown the school value of peace throughout the week. He has been trying really hard and making sure he is listening in order to produce his best possible learning. It has been so lovely to see Bassam have this excellent attitude. Well done!



## Maple

**Myla** in Maple has been working so hard in her handwriting this week! She has been trying to keep her handwriting on the line, spaced properly and making sure she is pressing harder with her pencil. Well done Myla! What a resilient rhino!

**Ethan** has been a writing whizz this week! He wrote so many incredible sentences about different animals using fronted adverbials and adjectives this week! He even asked if he could go back and write more during lunchtime and playtime! You are a star Ethan!



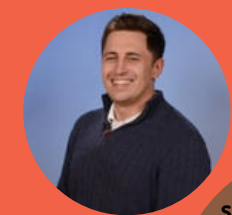
## Oak

**Arthur** has been such a super star this week. He has been working so hard on all his jobs and did some super learning practising his numbers! **James** has been such a resilient rhino this week and has been challenging himself to write sentences and we were so impressed



## Willow

**Thabi** has been working really hard on making choices in school and being able to communicate these. Thabi spreads joy and love to everyone and she always puts a smile on everyone's face. You are a star, Thabi!! **Burak** has been Resilient Rhino with his learning as he has been determined to complete his jobs independently this week. Burak has also been showing the school value of respect to all of his friends and teachers. Thank you for being super, Burak!!



## Ash

**Yifei** has been super resilient in literacy. she has been trying so hard with her sentence structure, making sure she always uses capital letters and full stops and she has been including adjectives to add detail. She has been such a super role model for the rest of Ash Base this week too. Well done, Yifei!

**Anees** has been so resilient in her writing this week. She has made some super sentences in writing by adding fronted adverbials to the start of her sentences. I really enjoyed reading her learning. Anees has also been courageous in maths this week and she has done so well to learn about money and solve problems using money. Great effort, Anees!



# JUNIOR CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK!

## Australasia

**Sithelo** is a role model for the school value of 'respect'. He always says please and thank you, politely moves around his peers and listens well to all adults. Well done Sithelo for your impeccable manners.

We would love to celebrate **Alfred** this week for showing our school value 'courage'. He spoke to a teacher about how he was feeling and we were all very proud of him for recognising that talking about things is better than keeping them inside. We have spoken a lot about this in our PSHE lessons and Alfred has been incredibly reflective on this learning. Well done Freddie!

## South America

**Fatima** for showing the school value of peace when giving the new child in our class a lovely, warm welcome to the school! Fatima helped her find her way around, make new friends and include her in the life of the school.

**Cyrus** for showing fantastic resourcefulness in Geography this week by making some great links to his wider knowledge of the topic of sustainability. He is always so keen to share his love of learning with the rest of the class!

## Asia

Well done **Alex** for another fantastic week! He has been so positive and engaged across all his learning, and in particular, shown excellent creativity in our geography lessons! He showcased his cartography skills in an engaging and imaginative way!

**Joey** has been a superstar this week, and I have been so impressed with his courage and resilience! He has been incredibly engaged with our literacy topic, and it's been fantastic to hear him sharing his thoughts and ideas within our class discussions.

I am excited to hear what creative ideas he plans for his howler next week? Well done Joey!

## Europe

**Mohammed** has shown our school value of respect many times this week. He has been very kind to his classmates, letting them go ahead of him when collecting resources, and offering up resources he has for children who were without. I was also really proud of his writing this week, he earned himself the title of King of Detail! Brilliant job Mo!

**Prisha** reflected brilliantly this week on the diary writing skills that we have been learning in literacy. She was our Queen of Detail and thought so carefully and intentionally about her word choices. The resulting diary entry was full of emotion and description.

Well done  
Prisha.

## Africa

**Eva** for resilience with her writing. Being so determined to complete her writing to the best of her ability and all round brilliance in her learning.

**Tiana** for courage with her writing. Tiana was so courageous with her writing. Trying new skills that we have learnt this half term and challenging herself to be more independent.

## North America

**Ariya** - You really showed our value of respect and what it means to be a true friend. You made sure everything was okay, emphasising the importance of kindness and standing by each other. Great job!

**Alan** - You have been working really hard during lesson and persevering. Your attitude to learning has been so positive!