

Highfield CE Primary School

Weekly Update

A message from Mrs Walford and Mrs Bond

Dear Parents,

We are very pleased to be one of the highest performing primary schools in the city! We are among the top schools for combined reading, writing and maths in KS2 and we are very proud! Take a read of the report in the Echo this week, if you haven't done so already:

<https://www.dailyecho.co.uk/news/24066382.southampton-best-performing-primary-schools-revealed/>

A **huge** congratulations to our hockey team for coming first in the top category out of all the schools in Hampshire! This is an INCREDIBLE achievement - please read the report on the event, written by two of our year 6 pupils, on page 10.

School Shoes - Reminder

We have seen a few pairs of trainers sneaking into class and it is important that all children follow our policy, unless there is a medical reason.



Children are required to wear **black, closed toe shoes to school.**

Trainers, open-toed sandals and large, thick boots are not considered suitable footwear for school. High heels are not permitted: sensible, plain black shoes must be worn by both boys and girls.

If you are facing financial difficulty, we may be able to support with school shoe cost. If you would like to speak to a member of our team regarding this, please contact the office on info@highfieldschool.co.uk

Term **Spring** Number **4**
Date



Theme of
collective worship
next week:
Young Carers



info@highfieldschool.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 **93.4%**

Highfield CE Primary attendance to date this week: **95.54%**

Writing



Mrs Bond and Mrs Walford completed learning walks in both departments. We were particularly impressed with the writing in years 1 and 2 and were completely blown away by the children's beautiful handwriting and composition. As a school, we have been focussing on marking and feedback so pupils know exactly what they need to do to further improve. The junior books were equally impressive - lovely presentation, fabulous output and great ideas! Well done Highfield!

Developing Leadership



Rosie Walford and Beth Lewis attended their DSL (designated safeguarding lead) training refresher. We have 4x DSLs at Highfield - Mrs Walford, Ms Lewis, Mr Iszatt and Mrs Bond. Mrs Walford attended a very exciting meeting at Cantell this week with other Headteachers in the Trust. They looked at how assisted technology can support pupils in the classroom. We have exciting things to come! Earlier in the week, Mr Iszatt led training with MHST.

Curriculum



Miss Bignell attended the autism in school's project training. All teachers attended training on adaptive teaching through the National College. This webinar provided staff with an understanding of the importance of stretching and challenging pupils' capabilities for learning, storing and implementing knowledge through adaptive teaching.

Christian Values



We are excited to launch our child-led worship ambassadors at the juniors!

Thank you HSFF!



Thank you HSFF for funding a new lap top trolley and lap tops for our infants! The children are very excited to use them in class.

Introducing young children to laptops, in addition to iPads, is crucial as it broadens their technological skills and prepares them for diverse digital environments. Laptops offer a different interface, keyboard, and operating system, fostering a more comprehensive understanding of technology. This exposure helps develop versatile problem-solving skills and adaptability, preparing them for the evolving landscape of digital tools they will encounter throughout their education and future careers.



Measles Outbreak

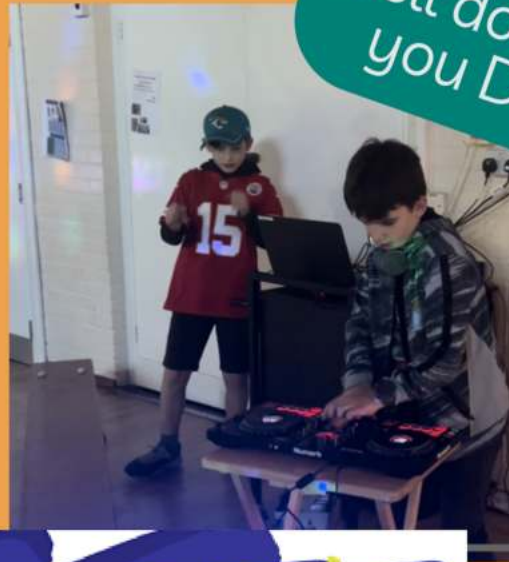


We wanted to draw your attention to the following guidance for parents summarising the issues around measles national outbreak.

Measles is a highly infectious virus that can cause serious illness, such as inflammation of the brain.

Please click on the link to find out more:

<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2024/01/22/what-to-do-if-you-think-your-child-has-measles-and-when-to-keep-them-off-school/>



Well done and thank
you DJ Withers!



The Dance Live crew danced brilliantly at the Dance-a-thon last Friday! Thank you so much to all the parents who supported their sponsorship, lent us disco balls and helped with the event itself. The children had a fabulous time and we are very excited to see their performance next month.



Food Development Team



On Wednesday, our food development team met with the City Catering staff to plan the menu for next term. It was a lovely meeting and the children had some fabulous ideas. The children liked the new summer menu and have made suggestions for the Autumn menu.



Governor Update

Governors had their first meeting of 2024 this week and have been planning how they will monitor the curriculum in school to ensure that the children continue to receive the highest quality education. Monitoring for English and Maths will be done through meetings of governors and time in school.

Governors are looking forward to see other subjects and are scheduling in meetings to look at RE, DT, Geography and PE as the start point. To start us off the teachers who lead each subject had prepared us thorough updates on progress of their subjects to help us as we start.

Parent Reps - We need you!



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.

We would LOVE to have a parent rep at each parent forum meeting. These are held once a half term.

What is a Parent Rep?

Parents' representatives promote the interests of parents by facilitating the expression of parents' opinions, ideas and general concerns on matters concerning their children's education at parents' representative meetings.

If you would like to commit to being a representative for your child's year group - even for one term, please get in touch by emailing info@highfieldschool.co.uk





DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:



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

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

Monday 19th January - Collective worship run by Young Carers in both departments

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.

IN SCHOOL THIS WEEK



Year 5/6 hockey
tournament - Written by
Ottillie and Betty

We set-off from the junior school at 10:00. There was a feeling of excitement among us on the bus as we made the 40 minute drive to Basingstoke. We had our first game at eleven o'clock and our nerves were on the edge.

After Henry, Odhran and Ottillie scored eight goals in total, we had our first astounding victory to settle the nerves. The second match comprised the three goals scored by numerous players: Odhran, Henry and Seb. After going 1 - 0 down, we realised we needed to improve our defense, so we set-up with a 3 - 3 - 1 formation. However, in the third game the wind started to act up causing us to lose confidence, meaning in the first half we were in a draw 1-1 but after some quick tapping and tactical skill from Odhran and Henry We managed to scrape through with a 2-1 to us and win the third game. Game number four, if we won this, we would be through to the top league! Pressure was on. But our hockey team managed to get away with six goals putting us through to the second trials in the afternoon. We were happy.

After an exciting lunchtime full of food, we played our first game against Ryde: they were also top of their league, so that match was a lot harder for us, but we managed to power through 5-1. After a short break (where we escaped the rain to observe from the clubhouse), we had our toughest opponents of the day. It was a 1 sided game in the first half, the score was 3-0 against us. But after some inspiring words and an amazing pep talk from our incredible coach MR LEWIS (the sport lord supreme) who quoted "It's a game of two half's" - and it truly was - we came through in our second half scoring 3, which meant the match was a draw. Teamwork, resilience and courage got us through! As a result, we were still in the running for the number 1 spot. After a busy day, we took to the pitch for the final game, which was going to determine whether we would finish 1st or 2nd. We were up against Knightwood; they were the best team yet. After a tense first half, we finished the day with an outstanding win of 5-1.

We nervously entered the clubhouse to receive our final score because we drew one game, so we were unsure whether we came first or second. We waited with baited breaths as they announced the winners. We were first! We had placed first in the top category out of all the schools in Hampshire- 560 - schools - it was amazing.

IN SCHOOL THIS WEEK



Wednesday 24th January 2023 Publish Year 3/4

LO: to create a guided write of a diary entry
SC

- Create a diary entry based around the text of Varjack Paw.

Today the children created a diary entry independently using the plans that they had made. Children reflected after they had finished and made sure it had all the skills that we had been looking at in this journey and checked it against the success criteria.

Success Criteria	Me	teacher
I have included correct punctuation		
I have included similes		△
I have included emotive language		△
I have included subordinating conjunctions		△
Challenge: I have used a wide range of subordinating conjunctions in different places in my sentences.		

Dear Diary,

Today was a terrifyingly exciting days of my life although scary at some points not so bad at others.

While I walked around my mind floated into thinking about the Elder Paw, Julius, Jasmine, Jay, Jeggro and Jerome. How ~~is I was~~ I was a big failure. Elder Paw was wrong to send me. Julius was absolutely right. I was an insect a big fat disgrace to the great name of Tatal.

My ~~2~~ Second skill, awerness ^{are} pricked up and I found an alley way and walked down it my paces as slow as snails. I look around this alleyway was as dark as night. Dark shadows loom around they were the perfect hiding spots.

In year 3 and 4 we have been enjoying writing diary entries from the perspective of Varjack Paw (by SF Said). It has been wonderful to use a range of emotive language and similes to retell parts of the book. Well done year 3 and 4!

Cross country success!

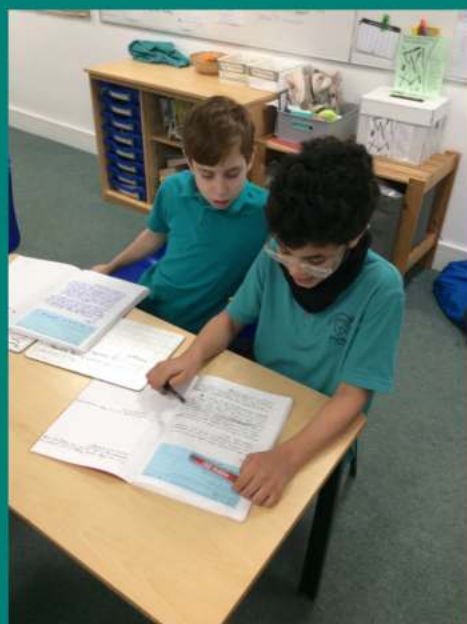
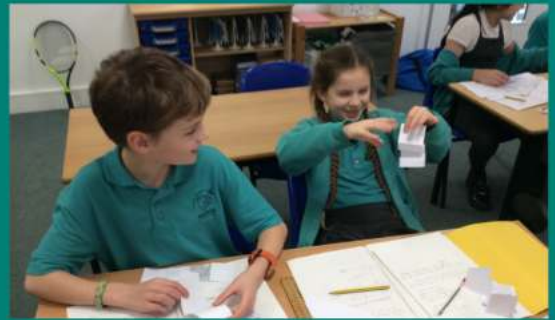
A HUGE well done to Matilda and Emma who have been selected to represent Southampton in the cross-country county race! This is all down to their fantastic performances in the autumn term cross-country races last year. You both should feel so proud!



IN SCHOOL THIS WEEK

Magical maths!

As the children near the end of their fractions unit, they have spent some time this week looking at multiplying fractions by fractions - they did this using pieces of paper! They showed excellent reciprocity and noticing to recognise when we multiply numbers by fractions, the answer gets smaller, so this helped them recognise what was happening with their equations. They then went on to show their understanding with bar models, before solving some tricky challenges!



Writing

The children in Mr Lewis' writing class have shown excellent reciprocity and absorption once again in their writing lessons. They have been so energised by the howler writing task, and their final pieces of writing are fantastic! They spent some time on Thursday practicing reading out their writing as if they were Professor Snape. They then gave each other feedback on how to uplevel their word choice and punctuation!

IN SCHOOL THIS WEEK

Year 1/2 have been scientists this week and they have been investigating which material would be best to make an umbrella. They worked hard to make sure their test was fair in order to get the best results. They agreed that tissue paper would not be appropriate as it made the poor teddy wet. They thought wood or maybe foil would be a good idea!



Would you consider training to become a teacher?



University of Southampton PGCE Open Evenings are advertised at <https://www.southampton.ac.uk/education/open-evenings.page> and the next one is coming up on Thursday 8th February.

These are suitable for anyone considering training, whether they are just vaguely interested or well on their way to making an application. They cover Primary and all Secondary subjects we offer.

We know there are sometimes TAs, parents, or volunteers in school who might want to know about this, so please pass this information over to anyone you think may benefit.

Details are on the webpage but just to highlight:

There is no need for people to register – just turn up.
5 pm start time.

All Open Evenings are held in Building 34 at the University of Southampton, Highfield campus.

Evening parking is free on campus.
We hope that many of you can make it.

The PGCE Primary Team

ITT PGCE Primary Partnership
Faculty of Social Sciences
University of Southampton
B4/1003 Highfield Campus
Southampton SO17 1BJ



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.



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>

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 13th 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



Love your journey to school



This Valentine's Day, we want you to tell us everything you love about your active journey to school.

To tell us about your journey walking, cycling or scooting to school, you could:

- Take a photo or draw a picture of something interesting or unusual you see along the way.
- Tell us about your favourite part of your journey – it could be a nice green space or catching up with friends or neighbours along the way.
- Write us a poem about your journey.
- Bling your bike or scooter for your journey to school and share your photos with us.

It's up to you – let your creativity run wild!



For a chance to win:

1ST PLACE

JD Bug Classic Street 120 scooter

2ND PLACE

Treasure trail voucher

3RD PLACE

Scouting goody bag



Submit your entries by 23 February 2024.

Email rachel.oliver@southampton.gov.uk or post on social media and tag My Journey with your entries, using the hashtag #LoveYourJourneySoton

See myjourneysouthampton.com/loveyourjourneytoschool