

Highfield CE Primary School

Weekly Update

A message from Mrs Walford and Mrs Bond

Dear Parents,

We hope that you had a lovely half term break with your families. Our pupils have returned full of enthusiasm and energy, ready to tackle the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. It has been great to see that our junior travel ambassadors are now set up! Congratulations to the 13x pupils who have taken on this important role.

A huge well done to our school orchestra for performing so well on Wednesday afternoon. We are incredibly fortunate to have such great music provision at Highfield - a huge thank you to our music teachers and Mrs Caveney for organising such a memorable and special event.

We want to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to you, for your ongoing support and encouragement. Your partnership plays a crucial role in our students' success, and we're grateful for the trust you place in us each day. If you would like to join our next parent forum (or be a class representative) and the next meeting is online on March 6th at 4.30pm using this link: meet.google.com/jrw-mppq-vfj

Thank you for coming to 'stay and share' sessions in the departments this week - it was great to see so many of you.

As we continue through the term, we encourage you to stay engaged with your child's education and reach out to us with any questions or concerns.

Thank you for entrusting us with your child's education. Here's to another fantastic week ahead!



Term: **Spring Number 7**

Date: 23.2.24



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

Attendance



National attendance rate across the academic year to date was **93.0%**

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

Writing



This week, SLT (the senior leadership team) met to review reading and writing across the school. Mrs Walford started a reading comprehension group at the juniors on Wednesday mornings.

Developing Leadership



Mrs Bond attended SCITT interviews. All staff were trained on 'young carers' during the staff meeting on Wednesday.

Curriculum



It was an absolute privilege to look around the Year 1/2 classes to see how our children are getting on with their learning in maths. All of the children were really engaged and using resources to support them in their independent learning as well as proving their answers. Thank you to all of the adults in the class who were doing a fantastic job of supporting all of our children to ensure that everyone was making good progress.

Christian Values



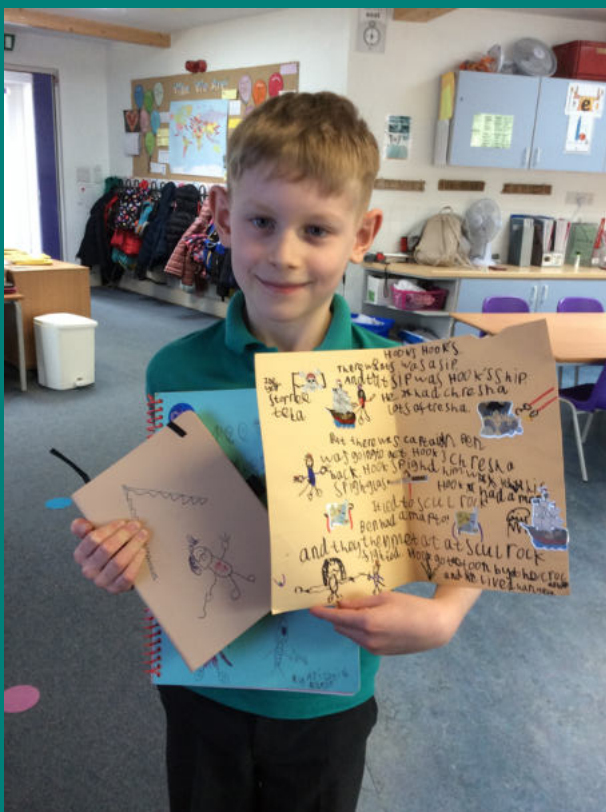
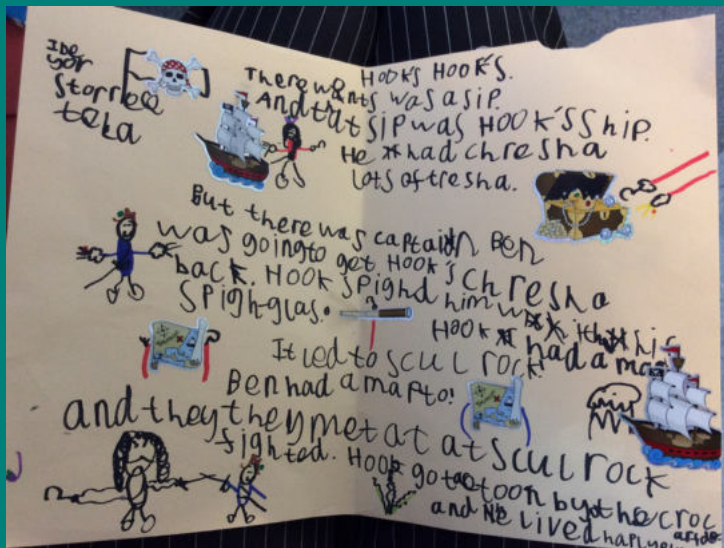
This week, our theme was temptation. Collective Worship Ambassadors Inayah, Eleanor and Ted read the story of Adam and Eve. We reflected on what temptations we face, and the consequences of breaking rules set for our good and safety.

IN SCHOOL THIS WEEK

**Beech
Base**

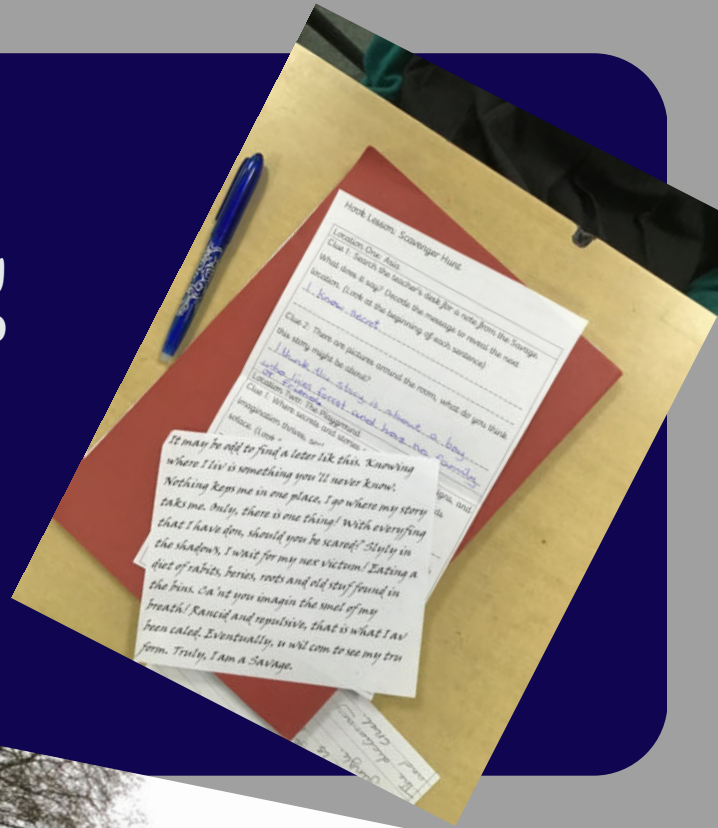


In Beech we have been inspired by the amazing authors we have in our class! Arisztid has blown us away this week because he has written not 1, not 2 but 3 books at home! We have really enjoyed reading them and seeing all the illustrations Arisztid has drawn to go with his stories. Alyssa has also been working incredibly hard at home and written a detailed adventure story that the whole class was so invested in! We are so proud of these two and it has been such a joy to see them be proud of their writing and feeling passionate enough to write at home.



IN SCHOOL THIS WEEK

A visitor recently graced Mrs Bond's English group with intriguing information and clues. The children embarked on a journey of solving puzzles, employing inference and deduction to unravel the mysteries and uncover the answers. Through keen observation, they discovered that the elusive culprit was none other than the wild 'Savage'. This revelation served as a captivating hook, igniting the spark for our new English unit.



IN SCHOOL THIS WEEK



Baby Suso Orchestra Concert

This week, we were lucky enough to have Baby Suso come into school and lead workshops with the children. Our own orchestra played with the professionals and what an experience it was!

The workshops were led by the principal players of each section, while the concerts was conducted by the University of Southampton's finest conducting students. Each member of Baby SUSO is united in their commitment to sharing their experience and passion for the promotion of orchestral music. In the past the project has featured on regional news programme 'Meridian', on local radio stations, in local newspapers and in Music Teacher Magazine.



Join us to celebrate Highfield's award-winning

INTERNATIONAL DAY



Saturday 2nd March

3 - 5:30pm

At the Juniors

Crafts

Workshops

Food

Friends



This event
is alcohol
free!

Tickets

£3 Adults

£1.50 School-age Children



Exploring our countries and cultures!

INTERNATIONAL DAY

Sat 2nd March 3-5:30pm

Meet up with old friends and make some new friends on your journey around the world!

Facepainting
and Glitter Tattoos

Raffle Prizes
to be won

Free workshops!

Free Crafts from
around the world

Delicious Food
and Drink to try



**Book your tickets here or
follow the link in
parentmail.**

**Celebrate all the different
countries and cultures that
are represented at our school!**



WELL DONE

CONGRATULATIONS OLIVIA



Olivia received the exciting news over half term that she has been chosen to be part of the ensemble of the professional tour of Chitty Chitty Bang Bang when it comes to the Mayflower in May. She will be performing in 16 shows between 30th April and 12th May this year.



Parent Webinars for Internet Safe



The webinars which Cybercrime Education ran for Parents and Carers, in support of Safer Internet Day, were so overwhelming popular that they have decided to run more! Dates and registration links for the new sessions are below.

These webinars are best suited to parents of children in KS2 (aged 7) and above.

When: Feb 27, 2024 10:00 GMT

Registration:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_f85LCF9XQQiveByxpGjBRA

When: Feb 28, 2024 20:00 GMT

Registration:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_XZSXC9NnRBWVsnUzxFUtg

When: Mar 4, 2024 11:00 GMT

Registration:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_2fwzDzv3RMmo7GmOPGf_3w

When: Mar 4, 2024 20:00 London

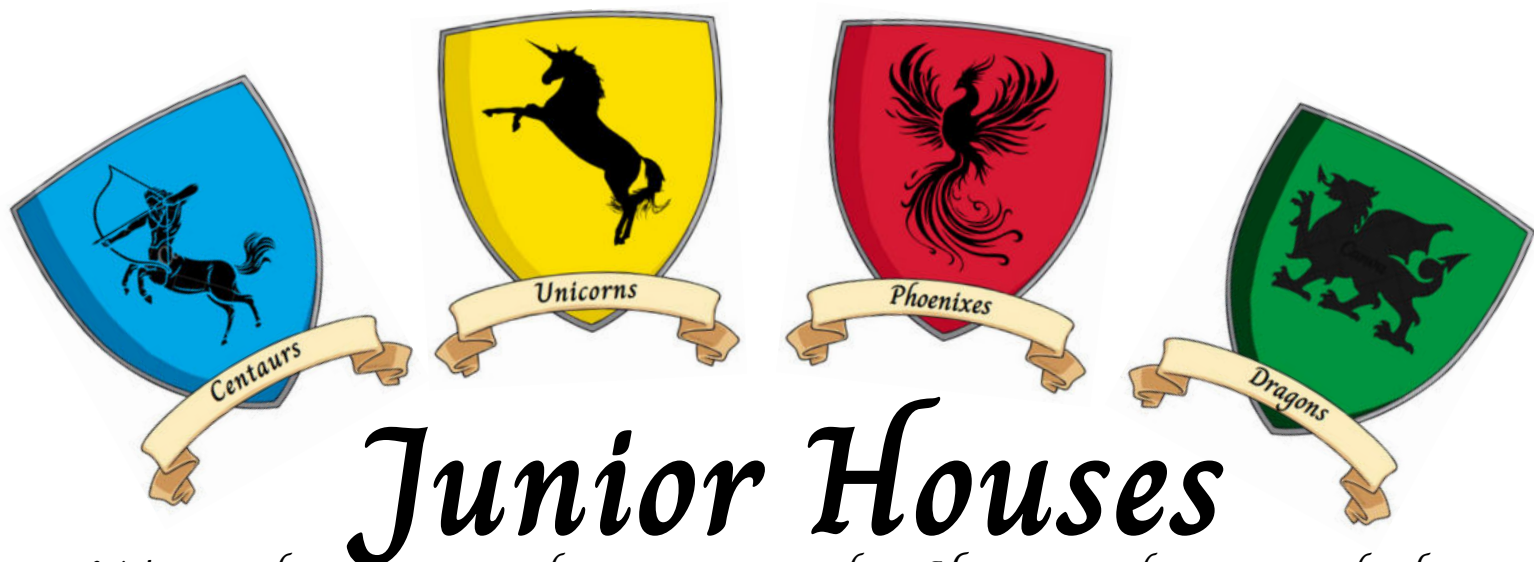
Registration:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_2ROjhhKsSKueNgILJ7lSfQ

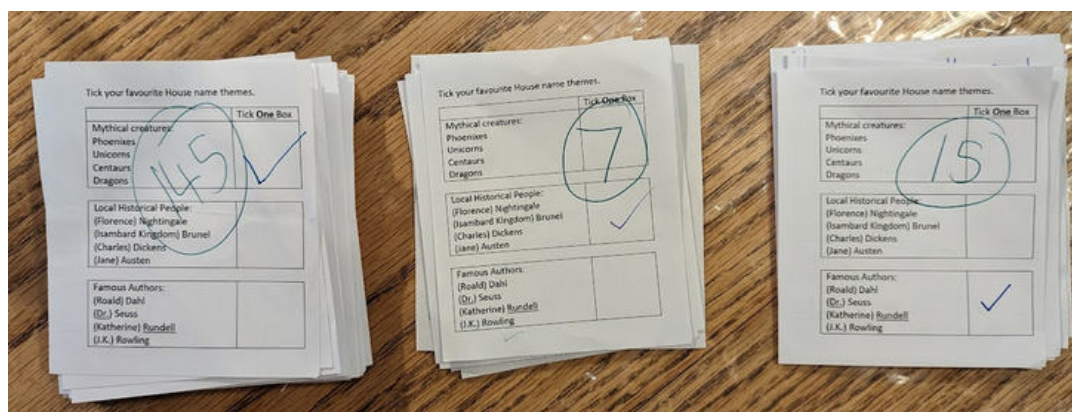
Boilerplate: This session introduces you to the Cyber Choices programme, led by the National Crime Agency, and delivered locally by SEROCU (the South East Regional Organised Crime Unit). Cyber Choices is a programme that supports those people at risk of committing computer misuse offences, such as hacking. These risks are far more real than most people recognise, with around 1 in 4 young people admitting to committing low-harm cybercrimes, perhaps without even realising what they were doing was illegal.

Ideally suited to parents/carers of children in Year 3 (age 7) and above, all the way up to college, university and beyond, this session will help parents and carers to understand what computer misuse is, what the risks to young people are, to recognise some of the indicators that young people may be involved in committing cybercrimes, and how the Cyber Choices programme supports at-risk individuals.

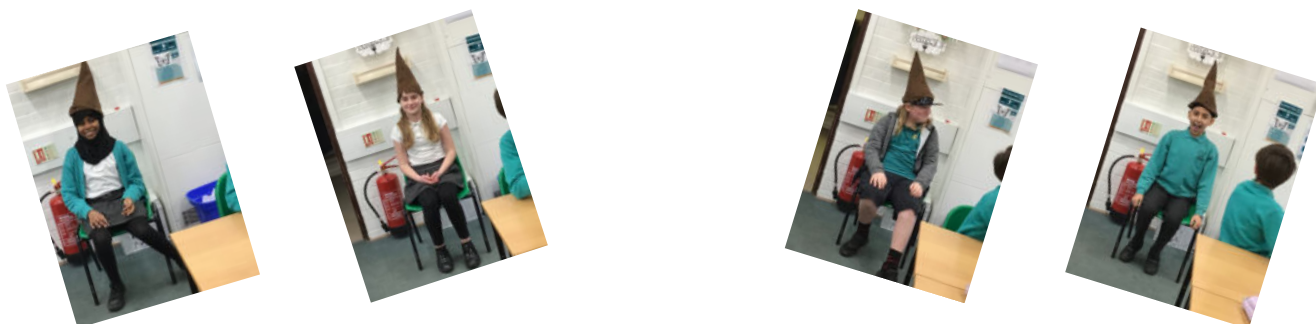
If you have any issues with booking on to any of the sessions, please ask contact the SEROCU Cyber Choices team on cyberchoices@serocu.police.uk



We've made an exciting decision to introduce Houses at the junior school department, aiming to foster teamwork and provide an additional avenue for praising positive learner behaviour. The School Council spearheaded this initiative, brainstorming ideas for the houses, which were then put to a school-wide vote to determine the most popular theme. With overwhelming support, the theme of mythical creatures emerged as the clear winner!



This week, the children eagerly awaited the revelation of their assigned houses. In Mr. Dodson's class, anticipation reached its peak as the sorting hat emerged, bestowing upon each child their rightful house affiliation!



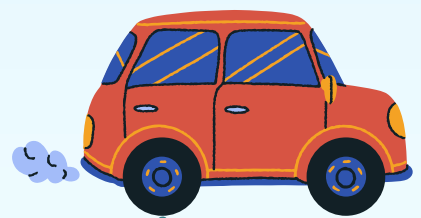
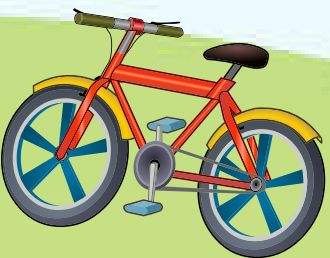
Our next exciting endeavour involves appointing House and Vice Captains, a process we eagerly anticipate updating you on in the near future. We look forward to sharing more updates with you!

Active Travel Update

Junior Travel Ambassadors



Before half-term, we introduced the role to the role of Junior Travel Ambassadors and invited interested children to apply. Following this, children filled out application forms and participated in interviews conducted by Rachel Oliver, the Southampton Sustainable Transport Officer. Every child showcased remarkable qualities, impressing Rachel with their creativity and insightful ideas on how to promote safe travel at Highfield. We're delighted to announce that all the children who interviewed for the role of Junior Travel Ambassadors have been successful. It's a testament to their enthusiasm and dedication, and we couldn't be prouder of them.



CONGRATULATIONS

**Lucas (Yr6), Isabel (Yr5), Fay (Yr3), Zeyno (Yr4),
Harriet (Yr3), Hamza (Yr 5), Marwah (Yr6),
Abdulahman (Yr6), Dera (Yr6), Emma (Yr6),
Oscar (Yr6), Matilda (Yr6), Ivy (Yr5)**



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:



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

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

Friday 1st March, 9.15am-9.45am - South America Class Assembly

Saturday 2nd March, 3pm-5.30pm - Highfield School International Day at the Junior Department

Wednesday 6th March, 4.30pm-5.30pm - Parent Forum at the Junior Department

Thursday 7th March - World Book Day (Children to dress up as their favourite book character)

Friday 8th March, 9.15am-9.45am - North America Class Assembly

Friday 15th March - Red Nose Day (Non-Uniform Day, See below)

Red Nose Day 15 March 2024

On Friday 15th March, we will join thousands of schools up and down the country coming together to spread joy, have fun and raise money for those who need it most. At Highfield, we have decided to host a non-uniform day to raise money for this great cause. We know there's a lot going on right now and for many people things are really tough. There is no expectation for you to donate but if you can, every penny will add up to a life changing difference. You can donate by scanning the QR code below or by dropping some pennies in the buckets on the 15th March.



SAVE THE DATE – THE BIG WALK AND WHEEL



Headline sponsor:

SCHWALBE*



Info sheet

11–22 March 2024

Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel is the UK's largest walking, wheeling, scooting and cycling challenge. It inspires pupils to make active journeys to school, improve air quality in their neighbourhood and discover how these changes benefit their world.



15th Big Walk and Wheel challenge

Help us to celebrate the 15th year of Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel and make it the biggest one yet. Active travel is a great way to build physical activity into children's daily routine. It helps them arrive to school more relaxed and alert, and is great for their mental wellbeing too.

This year the challenge will run from **11–22 March 2024**. It is free and easy to take part in Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel. You can register your school for the challenge from January 2024 at www.bigwalkandwheel.org.uk.



How it works

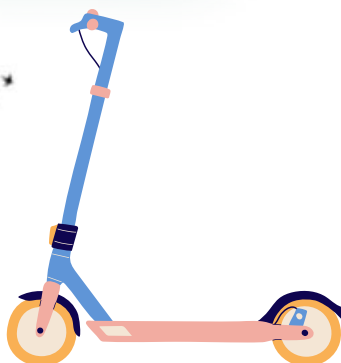
On each day of the challenge schools compete to see who can record the greatest number of pupils walking, using a wheelchair, scooting or cycling to school.

A school's best five days will determine their final position and schools at the top of their leaderboards will receive an exclusive Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel certificate.



Prizes

All schools will be entered into daily prize draws for rewards if over 15% of your school takes part on each day of the challenge. Prizes up for grabs include accessories and equipment to help your school travel actively.



In 2023,
3,096kg
of nitrogen oxide
avoided as a result
of the 10-day
challenge*

In 2023,
**1,890
tonnes**
of CO₂ avoided as a
result of the 10-day
challenge*

In 2023, pupils at
**1,862
schools** made
2,666,937
journeys to school by
foot, wheelchair,
scooter and cycle

*Based on the assumption the journeys logged in the challenge would otherwise have been made by car.

10 Top Tips on Supporting Children with SELF-REGULATION

Children need to learn to understand and recognise their emotions, while finding healthy ways to process them. Emotional self-regulation, however, depends heavily on age and development. While very young ones or children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) may find it particularly challenging to self-regulate, nurturing these important skills can be hugely beneficial. Here are ten top tips for supporting children with their self-regulation.

1. DESIGNATE A TRUSTED ADULT



It's vital that children feel safe and know that there's someone they can always go to for help if they need it. Schedule consistent times for the child to develop a relationship with this person – ideally through play and games – allowing trust to grow and ensuring that the child is more likely to come forward if anything is wrong, rather than hiding their emotions.

2. MEET CHILDREN HALFWAY

Unless you know where a child is developmentally and tailor your approach to their needs, you're less likely to have an impact. In particular, younger ones and children with SEND can struggle to self-regulate and instead rely on others to help them. We call this 'co-regulation'. Rather than offering strategies for self-regulation, it could be better to start co-regulating with a trusted adult first.

3. FACTOR IN THEIR BASIC NEEDS

Remember that for a child to develop emotional regulation skills, their basic needs must be met first. Children who are hungry, tired, cold and so on – as well as those who have experienced adverse childhood experiences – may struggle to self-regulate. Before you develop strategies with any child, make sure they feel safe, secure and comfortable in themselves.

4. REMAIN PATIENT

If a child is struggling with their emotions, it can often become difficult to stay calm. Remember that dysregulation is beyond their control, so a display of frustration or anger could negatively impact the situation. Instead, children need to be met with comfort and understanding to help them manage these problematic feelings.

5. BE 'A DYSREGULATION DETECTIVE'

While some children can tell you why they become dysregulated, many others can't. You could investigate potential triggers by observing the child and talking to their family. When the child becomes dysregulated, note down details like the time, what they're doing and who they're with – the trigger may be someone they sit near, an unmet sensory need or something else entirely. Once we identify some triggers, we can help to avoid or overcome them.

6. USE SUITABLE LITERATURE

There are some wonderful books that can help you teach self-regulation to children. Reading these with a child can be especially powerful. Take time to discuss the content: ask questions about what feelings the characters had, why they felt that way and what strategies helped them. It can also be useful to refer back to snippets of these books at appropriate moments.

7. TRY SENSORY RESOURCES

An overlap between sensory needs and emotional regulation is possible. Children may struggle to self-regulate if they're experiencing sensory overload (a noisy classroom, for example). Positive sensory input can help calm them down. Use resources such as weighted blankets and fibre-optic lights. Of course, what works for one child might not work for another – so it's important to offer a choice of resources to discover which they prefer.

8. NURTURE INDEPENDENCE

If you feel it's appropriate, let children try out these strategies alone. Always offer them a choice: they could listen to music when they're feeling stressed, for example, or they could write down their worries or draw something to represent how they feel. This may take time for the child to get used to, so be patient. Encourage them to share any helpful strategies with a trusted adult.

9. MODEL GENUINE FEELINGS

Children learn a lot just from watching grown-ups. Don't be afraid to show your own emotions and self-regulation strategies. While you'll obviously want to avoid sharing anything too personal with children, they should still see us experiencing and handling our own feelings. Tell them how you are feeling, then show them how to respond in a healthy manner.

10. FORMULATE A PLAN

As much as we try to prevent children from experiencing dysregulation, it's always wise to have an appropriate plan for when it does happen. Discuss this strategy with the child (if appropriate) and their family. The best approach for an individual child is often a bespoke one; it's hugely important to know in advance what might help and what could worsen the situation.

Meet Our Expert

Georgina Durrant is an author, former teacher, Special Educational Needs Coordinator and the founder of the award-winning SEN Resources Blog, where she shares activities, advice and recommendations for parents and teachers of children with SEND.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College



HAMPSHIRE
CULTURAL
TRUST



We ask that you kindly forward this on to the relevant subject lead(s). Thank you.



**HAMPSHIRE YOUNG POETS COMPETITION
OPEN FOR ENTRIES**

Hampshire Cultural Trust has launched their annual poetry competition in partnership with Winchester Poetry Festival and supported by Paris Smith and P&G Wells.

The competition is open for submissions from young people ages 4 to 16 who live or study in Hampshire.

The theme this year is 'Our world, our planet. Whether it's your favourite place in the world to be or your thoughts on climate change, we want to read about what the words mean to you.'

Students should write a poem of no more than 14 lines on this theme and send it to us for a chance to be one of the winning poets announced at the awards ceremony on Saturday 5 October 2024 at Winchester Poetry Day 2024 to be held at The Arc, Winchester.

Competition closing date: Wednesday 31 July 2024

Entries can be submitted by post or online.

For more information and the online entry form, copy and paste the link below.

[https://www.hampshireculture.org.uk/hantsyoungpoets?](https://www.hampshireculture.org.uk/hantsyoungpoets?utm_campaign=1060773_31%20Hampshire%20Young%20Poets%20launch&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Hampshire%20Cultural%20Trust&dm_i=75YQ,MQHX,2B33Y1,2ZEHJ,1)

[utm_campaign=1060773_31%20Hampshire%20Young%20Poets%20launch&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Hampshire%20Cultural%20Trust&dm_i=75YQ,MQHX,2B33Y1,2ZEHJ,1](https://www.hampshireculture.org.uk/hantsyoungpoets?utm_campaign=1060773_31%20Hampshire%20Young%20Poets%20launch&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Hampshire%20Cultural%20Trust&dm_i=75YQ,MQHX,2B33Y1,2ZEHJ,1)

INFANT CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK!



Oak

Theo has absolutely wowed us with his letter formation and independent reading and writing this week! He has been the best example of "Resilient Rhino" and we could not be more proud of him. Well done Theo!

Harry has been showing our school values of peace and respect this week. He is such a wonderful and helpful presence in the classroom and not just to the adults but with the other children. He has been a big encourager of children, particularly in Guided Reading. Well done Harry!



Maple

Maya for being amazing at managing her distractions this week. She has been getting on with her work quickly AND neatly- beautiful handwriting Maya, well done.

Heidi has been such a resilient rhino AND a resourceful rat- because she has been a fantastic independent learner in maths. Keep up the good work Heidi!



Beech

Manuela has shown true resilience this week in maths. She was faced with a challenge that required her to reflect and edit her answers a few times but she persevered until she had successfully answered it. I was so impressed as it was a hard challenge and I was so proud that she did not falter in her resilience!

Zarsha is a valued member of Beech class and we have very much enjoyed the positive attitude she has brought to the classroom.

Zarsha always shows the school value of peace in her interactions with her peers and staff and she is always a delight to work with!



Ash

Ibraheem has been so reflective recently! He's been trying really hard to make good choices every day and has been doing so well in his learning. As a result, he has been on the rainbow so many times this week! Keep up the great effort, Ibraheem!

Finn has been doing so well in his writing this week! He has been learning about synonyms and has done so well to come up with so many ideas! Finn has also recently published a beautiful fact file that we have put on our class display! Great resilience and effort, Finn, well done!



Willow

Austen has had a fantastic first week back at school and has made sure to always be following our golden goals. He has been so resilient with his learning and independently writing sentences. He's also been doing fantastic sitting and listening on the carpet. Keep up the amazing work, Austen!!

Ottilie has worked so hard at being the Resilient Rhino with her writing and she has been able to independently find the sounds she needs for her sentences. Ottilie has also worked so hard in maths and has really impressed me with her adding. You're a star, Ottilie!!

JUNIOR CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK!

Europe

Elijah W has had a fantastic first week back. He has shown our school value of peace, and been a kind, reciprocal member of the class. He also serenaded us with some beautiful guitar playing, we had no idea he was so talented! Well done Elijah.

Ian was crowned one of our Kings of Detail and Tension this week. He slowed his writing down and added lots of great detail and description to his writing, setting a very tense and ominous scene! He is always a peaceful and respectful member of our class, as demonstrated when he gave feedback to his peers.

Well done Ian.

Australasia

Fleur is doing so well. She is being focused and the resilient rhino. She has a fantastic learning attitude, and particularly demonstrated this in guided reading and literacy this week, where she wrote beautiful, coherent work and even finished first! Keep it up Fleur!

We would love to celebrate **George** for outstanding behaviour. He is always following the golden goals, is polite, respectful and listens well to instructions. We are so proud of his effort with all of his learning too.

Well done George.

North America

We kicked off our first week back in Year 5/6 with lots of excitement! We've been diving into some captivating new topics and doing all sorts of fun activities.

Kai for demonstrating significant improvement in your reading skills and consistently exhibiting high levels of respect within the school community.

Emma C for fostering a supportive atmosphere in Math class, actively assisting peers, and demonstrating outstanding dedication to her studies.

Asia

Keylee for showing such courage and resilience this week. She has worked hard to overcome challenges and shown great problem solving skills. Well done Keylee!

Luca for showing respect and resilience. It has been wonderful to see him manage his distractions and make such mature choices to really ensure he's engaging with his learning. Keeping up Luca!

Africa

Freddie for courage in writing, challenging himself to put in so many skills and make his writing as tension filled as possible. Brilliant effort from a brilliant member of our class.

Yicheng for resilience in his writing, working so hard and so independently to make his writing as brilliant as possible. A fantastic effort from a fantastic member of our class.

South America

Barnaby for being really reliable when it's come to preparation for next week's class assembly: with the partner he'll be on stage with being away, Barnaby has worked hard to write a great script and prepare other important parts for their segment independently. Well done, Barnaby!

Elizabeth for showing super resilience in this week's Maths lessons on decimals. Even though she found some parts of it tricky, she's continued to work hard and has made good progress in her understanding of the concept of decimal and fraction equivalence throughout the week.