

Highfield CE Primary School

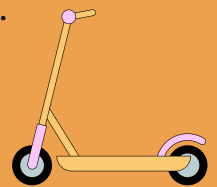
Weekly Update

A message from Mrs Walford and Mrs Bond

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have some exciting news for you! We are taking part in the 15th year celebration of Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel, the UK's largest inter-school cycling, walking, wheeling and scooting challenge. The challenge runs from **11-22 March 2024**. It's free to take part and we would love everyone to be involved.

What do you need to do?



Encourage your child(ren) to walk, use a wheelchair, scoot or cycle to school on as many days as possible during the event. Even if you travel to school by car and live further away, we encourage to park further away and walk, scoot or cycle the remainder of the journey.

Why we are taking part



Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel is a great way to build physical activity in children's daily routine which is important for their physical health and mental wellbeing. Active school runs also help to reduce congestion and air pollution outside the school gate. A 2021 YouGov study showed nearly half of UK children worry about air pollution near their school. And that children thought active travel was the best away to bring down these pollution levels.

Term: **Spring Number 9**

Date: 08.03.24



Theme of collective
worship next week:

forgiveness



info@highfieldshool.co.uk



02380 555793



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

A message from Mrs Walford and Mrs Bond

Plus there are some great prizes to be won every day if we get enough children taking part!

For more information about the event go to www.bigwalkandwheel.org.uk. Enjoy the challenge!

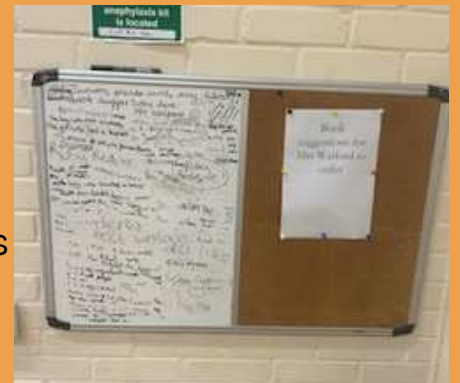
International Day

A huge thank you to the HSFF for running such a brilliant event on Saturday. It was a fantastic event and we are hugely grateful for the enormous amount of parent support. Thank you so much to all involved.



Pupil Surveys

We have been talking to the children about their education at Highfield. We are really proud that most children feel happy at school and are engaged in their lessons. Some of the suggestions from pupils included having more mystery and 'Dog man' books in the junior library. Mrs Bond and Mrs Walford ordered these immediately and shared the new stock of books with pupils on Monday. We also now have a board up in the junior hall for book suggestions.



We have also been talking to pupils in years 5 and 6 about conflict resolution. We found that some pupils were unsure on how to reach compromise with their friends and needed more strategies to solve disagreements. We have put in place a series of assemblies and lessons for our older pupils to explore how to solve friendship disputes peacefully.

We take pupil's views on life at school very seriously and encourage pupils to speak up if they have an idea or suggestion.

Have a lovely weekend and see you all on Monday.

School Improvement Priorities

2023/2024

Attendance



National attendance rate across the academic year to date was 93.2%

Highfield CE Primary attendance to date this week: **95.7%**

Writing



Mrs Bond attended a greater depth writing session with the county's lead moderator. The session focused on the finer details to ensure greater depth writers are given the learning they need to achieve. Task design and effective models were explored to develop all writers.

Developing Leadership



On Tuesday we had a science peer review. The reviews were designed primarily to support science subject leaders by providing opportunities for collaboration with colleagues in other schools. The intention was that the reviews will provide an opportunity for host schools to showcase and celebrate their work, share ideas and good practice, and provide an opportunity to consider and discuss next steps for the school. The aim is that the reviews will be equally developmental for both the host school and the visiting reviewers. The reviews will also provide an opportunity to look at how science is taught in different schools and identify any common strengths and areas for further development that can be followed up through the Trust Science Curriculum Group.

Curriculum



Mrs Caveney (our music leader) attended training on assessing pupil progress in music. Miss Bignell (our DT leader) spent time at the juniors, reviewing lessons.

Christian Values



We have been successful in our application to be part of the Tesco Stronger Starts - In Store Vote to fund our spiritual gardens.



WORLD BOOK DAY

7 MARCH 2024



WORLD BOOK DAY

7 MARCH 2024



IN SCHOOL THIS WEEK



Cross Country

A HUGE well done to Matilda and Emma who took part in the county cross-country championship this week – representing Southampton! They were selected after their fantastic finishes in the Autumn term cross-country races and showed superb courage to race so well despite the muddy conditions!



Sublime Science

Highfield Family and Friends kindly funded Sublime Science (as seen on Dragon's Den!) to visit the infants this week. Lightning Lesley came and wowed the pupils with her science experiments. The pupils got hands on and even made their own slime. Thank you HSFF for funding this amazing day :)



IN SCHOOL THIS WEEK

Turner Sims Concert

This morning, members of our school orchestra attended a short concert at the Turner Sims Concert Hall. It was led by composer Lucy Armstrong and featured musicians from the London Sinfonietta. As well as listening to some short pieces by living composers, they also explored how music can be composed using graphic scores, and even joined in with some complicated body percussion! A HUGE tank you to Mrs Caveney and Mrs James for organising such a great event.



IN SCHOOL THIS WEEK

Year 5/6 science

The children have been working like scientists this week and applying their fantastic knowledge of circuits and electricity to their very own experiments! They have worked in groups to plan each part of their experiment, and showcased excellent teamwork and use of scientific key words!



Year 5 Savage writing!

The children in year 5 have been loving their topic on the Savage book. They have started planning their own narratives in class this week and it's been fantastic to see them being so resourceful and reciprocal when collecting their ideas!



IN SCHOOL THIS WEEK

Year R Balance Bikes

Children in year R had a great morning today learning to ride balance bikes! Thank you to Miss Bignell for leading such a great day with sustrans.



The children had a **FABULOUS** time.



FROM THE GOVERNORS



Will Collinson came into school on Tuesday to look at well-being

“There is nothing more important than the Health and Wellbeing of our children, because as a school we know that it underpins all of the children’s wonderful successes inside and outside the classroom. It is a great privilege therefore to be the Governor with responsibility for wellbeing and it is a role I really enjoy as it means I regularly get to meet a selection of the children at Highfield and talk to them about their mental health.

My visits to the school are normally made up of two parts: firstly I meet with Mr Iszatt, who brings me up to date with all of the school’s efforts to support the wellbeing of both children and staff, and then secondly I conduct a wellbeing survey with a selection of the children. These surveys focus on how well the children feel they can cope with all of the challenges of life, as well as how they feel about key relationships. It never fails to amaze me how such young children can speak so maturely on these subjects and be so self aware.

All in all I am very impressed with all of the efforts at Highfield to look after the wellbeing of everyone in the community, it is truly inspirational!”

Governors met this week for their monthly meeting. We welcomed Dong for the first time, who will be joining us as a Foundation Governor.

I asked both Iraya, our newest parent governor, and Dong, what they are most looking forward to as part of their role on the governing body.

Dong is most looking forward to “Serving our staff and the children here at Highfield is what I am most looking forward to being part of the governing body. I am confident that by bringing my own experience and skills to the highly committed governing body, I can contribute, through this rewarding role, to

- the continuous improvement of teaching and learning standards,
- strengthening our relationship with the community, and
- creating a loving, inclusive and transformative environment in which all children and staff can flourish.”

Iraya has been with us a few months and is continuing her induction as well as taking on the role.

Iraya shared, “I am most looking forward to the opportunity to play a positive role in shaping the educational experience and future prospects of the students at Highfield school. I am eager to collaborate with fellow governors, school staff, parents, and the local community to ensure that every child receives a high-quality education in a supportive and inclusive environment.

The prospect of being involved in key decision-making processes that impact curriculum development, teaching and learning practices, and school policies is something I am excited about. I believe that by working together to understand everyone’s perspective and concerns within the school community, we can foster a collaborative and supportive learning environment.”

Welcome to you both!

Helen Thompson, Chair of Governors

PARENT FORUM FEEDBACK AND MINUTES



- Can the parent forum link be sent so it can be copied and pasted? Yes, we will send it out in a PDF/ word doc next time.
- Can year 3/4 send out spelling activities? Yes, Mrs Walford has spoken with the teachers who plan spellings and there will now be word searches and other spelling activities.
- Parking - We discussed the on-going parking issue. We talked through the measures that are in place and Mrs Walford and Mrs Bond are meeting with the council again on Monday.
- Gates and timings - we discussed the difficulties in parents who transport children between both sites and the possibility of having a longer rolling start time. SLT met and discussed this and feel that at this point, if the gates were always open on time, it will not be an issue. Mrs Walford has therefore spoken with all staff to ensure that it is open on time.
- Spellings on Showbie - a parent requested that paper copies are sent out. I have spoken to teachers and on parent request, they can be issued on paper. If you would like spellings sent on paper, please speak to your child's class teacher and they will be able to facilitate this.
- Can teachers/ SLT present on different areas of school improvement? Yes, they would happily share what they have been working on in different subjects. Please let parent reps know which areas you would like to find out more about and we will ensure this will feature at the next parent forum.
- Sports club allocation - we discussed the process for club allocation after Easter. This will be run predominantly by Team Spirit after the Easter break.
- Can the parent forum have a 'big question' on agenda? Yes, each week, SLT will choose one area of school improvement/ life at Highfield which will be discussed. Parents will then be able to attend if it is an area of interest.
- Communication regarding learning for SEND - Mrs Walford and Mr Iszatt are meeting to discuss our procedures in the next week. We will update you with any relevant changes.
- Parent volunteers - Some volunteers have not been spoken to regarding their offer to volunteer hearing readers. Mrs Walford has spoken to the teachers involved and they will be in touch.
- We discussed the school's position on children using AI. Mrs Walford has been in touch with Mr Rawlins (our computing lead) about adapting our curriculum and IT policies to ensure that this is considered with the changing world.
- Parents have expressed interest for a learning based after school club. We currently do not have staff capacity to facilitate this. However, we are looking into whether this could be run by Team Spirit or other providers. Watch this space...

NEURODIVERSITY CELEBRATION WEEK

March 18 - 24

<https://www.neurodiversityweek.com/events>

We are excited to share the schedule of events with you for Neurodiversity Celebration Week 2024!

This year we're bringing you more panel discussions than ever before, with inspirational speakers from a range of backgrounds and professions. The discussions will all be focussing on key neurodiversity topics, and aim to educate while inspiring conversations about neurodiversity.

All events are free of charge and open to all. Please do sign up to as many events as you like and share with your networks, so we can all join together in celebrating different minds!

Neurodiversity Celebration Week 2024 Events

Monday 18	Tuesday 19	Wednesday 20	Thursday 21	Friday 22
09:30 - 10:30 An Introduction to Neurodiversity	08:00 - 08:45 Neurodiversity at Work Q&A: Ask the Experts	08:00 - 08:45 Neurodiversity at Work Q&A: Ask the Experts	08:00 - 08:45 Neurodiversity at Work Q&A: Ask the Experts	08:00 - 08:45 Neurodiversity at Work Q&A: Ask the Experts
11:30 - 13:00 Neuro-inclusive Language & Communications	09:30 - 11:00 Culture, Community and Class in Neurodiversity: Who Gets Left Behind?	9:30 - 11:00 Neurodivergent & LGBTQIA+: The 'Double Rainbow' Intersection	9:30 - 11:00 Neurodiversity for HR Professionals	9:30 - 11:00 Neurodiversity: Understanding Alternative Education Provision
13:30 - 15:00 Neurodiversity: We Don't All Fit into One Box!	12:00 - 13:30 The Benefits of Neurodiversity in the Workplace	12:00 - 13:30 Connecting Classrooms to Careers: Neuro-inclusive Tech for Future Leaders	12:00 - 13:30 Late Discovered Autism & Menopause	12:00 - 13:30 The Experiences of Neurodivergent Women & Girls
15:30 - 17:00 Neurodiversity in Higher & Further Education	14:30 - 16:00 Creating a Neuro-inclusive Classroom	14:30 - 16:00 Neurodivergence isn't a Mental Health Problem	14:30 - 16:00 Empowering Yourself as a Neurodivergent Woman in the Workplace	14:30 - 16:00 Global Perspectives: Neurodiversity around the World
	16:30 - 18:00 Neurodiversity: Fuelling Creative Minds	16:30 - 18:00 Understanding Neurodiversity as a Family	18:30 - 20:00 Neurodiversity for Parents & Carers	16:30 - 18:00 Good Practice for Neurodiversity Professionals

TESCO Funding

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We put an application in to ask Tesco to support us financially in our quest to develop our spiritual gardens. We are so pleased to inform you that **we have been selected to enter their regional vote**. The highest number of votes across your region will receive £1,500, the second placed project £1,000 and the third placed project £500.

To vote, you will need to make a purchase within store of any value. You will receive one token per transaction and it's not necessary to purchase a carrier bag in order to receive a token.

Please see below a list of stores taking part in the voting on our project.

6148 Southampton High St Exp Small unit SO14 2BY
2975 Ocean Village Express Small unit SO14 3JS
3054 Portswood Express Small unit SO14 6RP
2719 Southampton Central Station Express Small unit SO15 1GP
6214 London Rd Soton Exp Small unit SO15 2AG
5519 Soton Shirley Rd Exp Small unit SO15 3JD
5807 Soton Burgess Rd Exp Small unit SO16 3BE
4380 Romsey Rd Southampton Small unit SO16 4HP
3190 Southampton Large unit SO16 4QE
3248 Wimpson Lane Express Small unit SO16 4QF
6598 Lordswood Rd Soton Exp Small unit SO16 6LN
5401 Cobden Ave Soton Exp Small unit SO18 1FX
3465 Wessex Road Soton Exp Small unit SO18 3RA
6813 Southampton Witts Exp Small unit SO18 4QA
6840 Southampton Thorn Exp Small unit SO18 5TP
2175 Bitterne Express Small unit SO18 6PJ
6682 Southampton Butts Exp Small unit SO19 1BJ
5533 Soton Spring Rd Exp Small unit SO19 2BN
2514 Calmore Soton Exp Small unit SO40 2SQ
3460 West Totton Soton Exp Small unit SO40 8JT

To check the location of any of the above stores, please go to the Tesco website here:
<http://www.tesco.com/store-locator/uk>



Team Spirit Breakfast Club

For further information about the Team Spirit breakfast clubs that are run at both our sites every day starting from 7.50am, please follow this link:

<https://teamspirit4sport.co.uk/breakfast-clubs>

If you want to book in for any of the breakfast clubs please email:

jamesteamspirit@hotmail.com





INTERNATIONAL DAY!



What a fantastic afternoon– we hope you all enjoyed your trip around the world!
We would like to extend a **HUGE THANK YOU** to all the families who were ambassadors for the 22 countries represented on Saturday and to all those who organised and participated in the wonderful workshops!



Thank you to all the helping hands from setup to take down and everything in between – we really cannot run events without helpers!

Thank you grown ups and children for coming along, getting involved and for supporting the HSFF–

We hope you all tasted something different, tried something new and learned a little something about far flung places!



And finally a huge thank you to the HSFF team for being the "Dependables" that they always are!



Our next event is the Spring Afternoon Tea on 27th April.

Letters will be coming home soon with children who take music lessons, play in the orchestra or are part of singing club and to the wider school community via parentmail – so do look out for those!

Love

HSFF.x







DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:



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

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

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

Thursday 21st March, 9.30am - Year R & KS1 Easter Performance

Thursday 21st March, 2.45pm - KS2 Easter Service

Friday 22nd March, 9.15am - Asia Class Assembly

Wednesday 27th March - Last day of term, finish 1 hour early (2.15pm Infants & 2.25pm Juniors)

Thursday 28th March - INSET Day (school closed)

Friday 29th March to Friday 12th April - School closed for the Easter break

Monday 15th April - First day back to school after the Easter Break

Cross-country

Just as a reminder, here are the dates for the next 3 cross-country races taking place at Southampton Sports Centre. If you would like your child to take part, please have them arrive for 4:00pm at the sports centre ready to run!



Lower school race is **today** Friday 8th March 2024

Upper school race is – Friday 15th March 2024

March Hare relay (years 3,4,5,6) more information to come – Friday 22nd March 2024



Red Nose Day
15th 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.



KIDS HOLIDAY CAMPS

TEAM SPIRIT

SPORTS COACHING

APRIL 2ND -
APRIL 12TH



**SOUTHAMPTON
HAF**
Holiday Activities & Food

**FREE spaces available for
children in receipt of free
school meals as part of
Southampton HAF**



**Visit
our site**

**Join us this Easter for some action packed days full of
enjoyable activities! MULTI-SPORTS, CRAFTS,
FOOTBALL AND GYMNASTICS! SO MUCH FUN TO BE
HAD THIS HALF TERM - DON'T MISS OUT BOOK
TODAY!**

Shirley Junior School (Week 1) / Redbridge Community School (Week 2) /
Highfield CE Primary School (Both weeks)

Short day option 9am - 3pm / Long day option 9am - 5pm



For More information, contact us :
admin@teamspirit4sport.co.uk
023 80 658 636

Limited spaces - BOOK TODAY:
www.teamspirit4sport.co.uk

DISCOVER THE AMAZING



**SCIENCE AND
ENGINEERING DAY**

Saturday 16th March 2024

Highfield Campus and
Boldrewood Innovation Campus,
Southampton



Visit
www.sotsef.co.uk



#SOTSEF



Saturday 16th March is the University of Southampton's Science and Engineering Day. We'd be delighted if you could extend the invitation to this event with your pupils and parents via your school newsletter.

Run in parallel with British Science Week, Science and Engineering Day is a completely free fun-filled event, celebrating all things science and engineering! Giving young people a chance to see science up close. Explore over 140 activities, including workshops, shows and laboratory tours of the state-of-the-art facilities at the Highfield and Boldrewood Campuses at the University. No prior knowledge required. Free tickets can be booked through the festival website: www.sotsef.co.uk/SED.

Here is a short video showing last year's highlights to give you a taster of what to expect: www.youtube.com/watch?v=vyX3xDJEfqw

There's even a competition to win a family pass for the Winchester Science Centre for those who travel sustainably to Science and Engineering Day.

www.sotsef.co.uk/SED/find-us

INFANT CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK!



Beech

It has been so exciting to see **Arisztid** showing the school value of peace towards his learning recently. At all times he is making good choices towards his work and he is settled when working independently. This has been most noticeable with Arisztid and his reading as he now takes the time to really enjoy any text he is using in his learning.

Oren has been such a reflective rabbit recently and I have been so impressed with him. Oren has been producing some incredibly high quality learning as he has been taking the time to think deeply and apply himself. He should be really proud of himself and I am looking forward to seeing what he produces next!



Willow

Ainul is such a lovely, kind and helpful member of Willow Base and she is always showing the School's value of respect to everyone around her. Ainul has been putting 110% into her learning and has impressed me with her fantastic sentence writing and creative ideas in Drawing Club. You are an absolute star, Ainul!

Chinedu has been working so hard with his independent writing and has been such a Resilient Rhino with it. This week he has been pushing himself to write more and his segmenting and blending of words has been fantastic. Keep up the super work, Chinedu!



Oak

Rachel who has been showing all of our school values this week and who has been a resilient rhino in her learning and using all the resources to help her.

Filip who has been working so hard at his reading and enjoying writing his letters in phonics! Well done Filip and keep up the hard work.



Maple

Hridh in Maple has been an absolute joy to teach this year. He has been a wonderful friend to all of us and has been full of fun and excitement for learning. He has done so well at Highfield and I know that we are all going to miss him so much. Good luck in your new school, they are very lucky to have you!

Maria has been such a reflective learner this week. She has been able to put new skills into practise and has been working on making her handwriting even more beautiful too! She is using conjunctions and different punctuation marks to make her writing interesting, keep it up Maria!



Ash

Henry D has been doing incredible writing recently and has written a great description of the Great Fire of London. He's been trying so hard to be so resilient and reflective and it has really shown in his effort this week!

Bella H has been very respectful and reflective this week, she has written a great setting description for the Great Fire of London and she has been consistently been making good behaviour and learning choices. Well done for being such a good role model for year 1 this week!

JUNIOR CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK!

Europe

Elijah O impressed me this week with his investigation skills in science. He was very reflected and thought in-depth about the food chain, using scientific language and vocabulary to explain his reasoning. Well done Elijah!

Igor has been very courageous and independent in literacy this week. He came up with lots of very formal language for his letter writing, really impressing me with his vocabulary and his complex sentences. We are so proud of you Igor!

South America

Zach A for showing great BLP skills in Science. his super focused attitude and attention to detail meant that he produced a superb investigation.

Josh G for fantastic focus during this week's Science lessons and working like a real scientist, especially when he was working out how the pitch of an electric buzzer changed with increased voltage in the circuit.

Australasia

We would love to celebrate **Preston** for his super resilience with his Literacy learning. He has made excellent progress with his handwriting and spellings this half term and we couldn't feel more proud of him. He is also very polite and kind. Well done Preston!

Teddy always shows our school value love when it comes to Science, and learning about living things. It has been wonderful to watch him teach others his knowledge of animals too! He has also increased his stamina in writing this week which we are very proud of. Keep it up Teddy!

Asia

Well done **Harriet** for another fantastic week! She has entered the classroom each morning with a wonderful attitude and shown so much love for all her learning! I have been really impressed with her resilience to always do her best and be a kind and supportive friend to others. Well done Harriet!

Otto has had another brilliant week, and I have been so impressed with his reflective and resilient attitude he has applied to all his learning. In particular, his knowledge of measure has been excellent and he has demonstrated his understanding with a perfectly sawn and assembled frame for his DT project! Great work Otto!

North America

THE WHOLE CLASS – You have worked so hard on your class assembly. You all performed really well this morning and made all your adults really proud! Big thanks to Gethin for jumping into the role last minute, and a shoutout to Max for the great support in continuing the scene.

Africa

Zeyno for courage in her letter writing this week. Putting in lots of fantastic features of formal letters and really pushing herself to make her letter as fantastic as possible. She has also shown so much courage in maths when learning bus stop.

Dhillon for resilience in his maths this week. Dhillon has shown so much resilience when learning bus stop this week, not giving up and challenging himself to keep going. I have also noticed how resilient Dhillon is being outside of school to help learn his times tables.