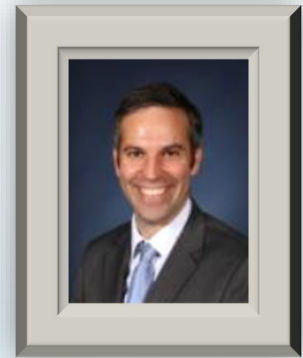




Highfield Primary School

NEWSLETTER September 2024



Message from Headteacher

First of all, I would like to give a warm welcome to our new families. I had the pleasure of attending the Friends of Highfield coffee morning and it was great to see so many new faces as well as some more familiar ones. The children have quickly settled into their new classes and have thoroughly enjoyed being back at school with their friends and new teachers.

Our theme for the term is '**Get up, stand up!**'. This comes from the song that Bob Marley wrote after seeing the poverty in Haiti. This is linked to this term's value of **courage** and the '**Show Racism the red card**' event that will be taking place later in the term. These themes will be linked to our curriculum and children have already created lovely displays on the topic.

We continue to focus on hands on, creative learning and our Year 5s have already visited Winchmore school for a creative writing session. Children have told us some of their favourite lessons are when they work practically and creatively and we are ensuring that they get plenty of opportunities to do so.

Another focus is using technology to enhance children's learning experiences and Year 3 have already been using the Nearpod app in their lesson starters. Over the year children will be given the opportunity to showcase their work, produce videos and program robots, amongst many other things. Learning still needs to be a collaborative, hands on experience and it is important we prepare our children for the world they will be living in.



Our three core values are Respect, Co-Operation and Kindness
This term's value is Courage

Headteacher Awards this month:

Week Ending: 20.09.24

6G - Sena

6MB - Miray

6M - Amir Suzy

Week Ending: 27.09.24

5P - Charlie

5C - Tilly

5A - Mario

Week ending: 04.10.24

4C - TBC

4GF - TBC

4NC - TBC



Attendance Class Awards this month:

Week Ending: 06.09.24

KS1: 1W - 95%

KS2: 3C & 6M - 99%

Week Ending: 13.09.24

KS1: 2BD - 100%

KS2: 3J & 6M - 100%

Week Ending: 20.09.24

KS1: 1L & 1W—100%

KS2: 4NC - 100%

Week Ending 27.09.24

KS1: 2S - 99%

KS2: 5P - 99%

Week Ending 27.09.24

KS1: 2S 99%

KS2: 3J 99%



Boys football match

On Thursday 27th September the boys took part in their first round of the league football matches.

The weather didn't stop the Highfield boys from giving it their all. They played against three teams. The first game was against St Edmunds where the boys started off strong, winning 3-1 goals scored by Brodie and Nicholas. The second game vs Edmonton county, Highfield lost 1-0. The final game was against Firs Farm where Highfield won 6-0, Brodie scored 4 and Nicholas scored 2.



It was a clean sheet for goalkeeper Charlie. Despite it being their first tournament playing together they showed great teamwork and sportsmanship.

A huge well done to Brodie, Luca, Etienne, Ishan, Nicholas, Max, Charlie and Dionysis!!

5P Creative Writing Workshop at Winchmore Secondary School

On Monday 30th September, 5P attended an exciting Writing Workshop at Winchmore. The children used their knowledge of oceans to write some high-level sentences about Moana. During the session, the children learnt about different perspectives and how things can appear differently according to different characters.

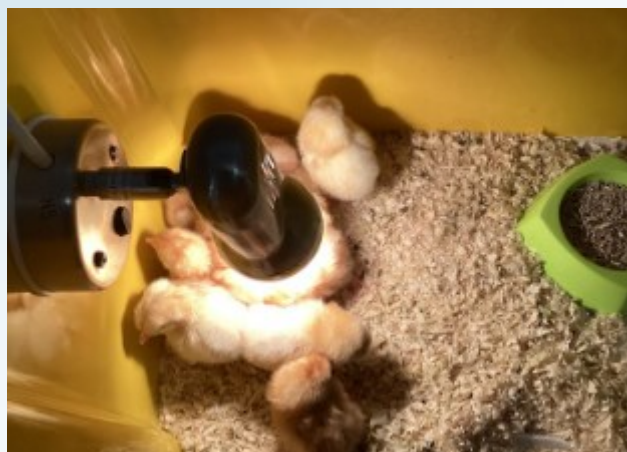
Thank you to the teachers at Winchmore for delivering this workshop – we had a great time. The rest of Year 5 will be having their workshops in the coming weeks.



Newly hatched Chicks in Class 2S

This week 2S have been looking after some newly hatched chicks. The children have really enjoyed having them in the classroom and seeing them hatch was definitely an awe and wonder moment.

They have had many visitors from across the school who have also really enjoyed seeing them. We will be looking after them until next Thursday when they will be moved to a local farm.



GET UP, STAND UP,
STAND UP FOR YOUR RIGHTS.
GET UP, STAND UP,
DON'T GIVE UP THE FIGHT.

- BOB MARLEY -

Our autumn whole school topic, '**Get up, Stand up**' is inspired by Bob Marley song of the same name. He wrote the song after seeing poverty and Haiti . Our hope for the topic is to show Highfield children the importance of standing up for what is right and to show them how they can make a positive difference to the world around them. We are linking this to our school council's chosen value of the term 'courage', our community action plan and the 'Show racism the red card day' later this term.



Buddies

Welcome to our new team of Buddies. Their job is to make sure that everyone has someone to play with at lunchtime. They want to make sure that lunchtime is fun for everyone at Highfield. On a daily rota the buddies wear their hi viz jackets so anyone who needs a bit of help finding someone to play with knows where they can go.

They are; Sophia, Ellie, Lily, Joseph, Amira, Chloe, Mira, Aminah, Cecilia, Rheo, Raffy and Ayla.

Environmental Prefects

It is the job of our Environmental Prefects to ensure that Highfield is a lovely environment to play and learn in. They regularly do litter picking duties to ensure our playground and field are neat and tidy but over the year, they will also be involved in planting and other activities to ensure that the school is an inviting and attractive place.

They are; Angelo, Ourania, Sophie, Kaylum, Rosie, Artemis, Charlie, Cora, Elitza, Martyna, Hamit and Sami.

Anti Bullying Ambassadors

Our Anti Bullying Ambassadors have a vital job to do at the school. They promote kindness and respect and make sure that children understand what bullying is and what they can do if it happens to them or are worried that it is happening to others. If children are worried about bullying they can speak to our ambassadors who will help them get the support they need.

They are; Jimmy, Rowan, Octavia, Frankie, James, Alex, Rayyan, Sewal, Reyhan, Eyman, Hafsa and Jonny.

Eco Council

The children are excited to take part in the various activities in and around the school. In September the children appointed Energy Monitors for each class, where they ensure lights are switched off in classrooms and cloakrooms when they are not used and classrooms whiteboards, often forgotten by the teachers. The children have made plans for a new Bug Hotel by the pond and have started bringing natural materials to make it 'cozy' for the new inhabitants.



Curriculum Spotlight

Maths

Reception

In Reception we have been starting to write the numbers we know and exploring different Maths activities in our indoor and outdoor environments. During carpet sessions we have been learning to compare amounts using the language more and fewer and have also been making shape pictures and patterns during choosing time.



Year 1



In year 1 we have been focusing on Place Value. The children have been successfully able to find one more and one less of a given number. The children have been learning to count forwards and backwards and comparing amounts using the vocabulary fewer, less than and more than.

Year 2

In Maths, year 2 have been exploring place value. They have learned to reproduce 2-digit numbers up to 50 using dienes and other manipulatives to represent tens and ones. Their understanding of numbers up to 100 has been enhanced by partitioning and counting on number lines.



Year 3



In Year 3, we have been exploring place value. The children have learned to represent 3-digit numbers in a variety of ways and have especially enjoyed using counters to secure their understanding of hundreds, tens and ones. We have also begun using Chromebooks to enhance our Maths learning.

Year 4

In year 4, we have been focusing on the place value of numbers to 10,000. The children have been learning to order, compare and round numbers to 10,000.

Year 5

In Year 5 we have been focussing on the place value of numbers to a million. We have been ordering rounding and comparing these numbers. Our lessons include fluency, reasoning and problem solving and we have been learning how to explain our reasoning.

Year 6

In Maths, we have been focussing on Place Value and Negative Numbers. The children have also demonstrated their ability to compare and order numbers up to 10,000,000. Within lessons, we have been completing a range of activities including fluency, reasoning and problem-solving.

Berry Class



In Berry Class this half term, we have been focusing on place value to 100. Within that topic, we have explored numbers greater than and less than, counting forwards and backwards from 50 and understanding tens and ones.

Curriculum Spotlight

Reading

Reception

In Reception we have been reading the story 'Anna Hibiscus' Song'. We have enjoyed talking about the people who are part of our family and thinking about the similarities and differences between ours and Anna Hibiscus'. "I like reading stories like this." Arthur



Year 1



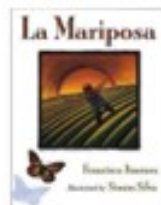
Year 1 have enjoyed reading the story 'The Little Red Hen'. We have been learning new vocabulary and discussing the different characters within the story. We also enjoyed acting out 'The Little Red Hen' which helped when writing speech bubbles in our English lesson.

Year 2

Year 2 have been learning about poetry; the features of a poem and how to perform a poem. We looked at the works of performance poets such as Benjamin Zephaniah and Michael Rosen. We focussed on the poem 'Don't' by Michael Rosen and discussed how repetition and rhyming is used.

Year 3

In Year 3, we have been reading Tchang and the Pearl Dragon. We have also been studying the book 'Jack's Fantastic Voyage'. We have been learning new vocabulary and discussing what it means. We also spoke about different verbs, nouns and adjectives we could use to describe different settings in the story.



Year 4

In Year 4, we have been looking at the story 'La Mariposa' where a child called Francisco from Mexico starts a new school without knowing the language. We spoke about how the character must have been feeling and how this changed through the course of the book.

Year 5

In Year 5 we have been reading 'There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom'. The story is set in the USA and it deals with issues such as bullying, friendships and school life. It is also incredibly funny. We spoke about how the character felt at different points in the story and loved learning new vocabulary from the book.



Year 6

Year 6 have been reading about 'The Way of the Dodo' and discussed the impact humans had on the animals of Mauritius. We learnt why the dodo became extinct after humans arrived and found it interesting to learn how the discovery of the dodos' bones helped to change the image of the dodo.

Berry Class



In Berry class, the children have been studying the text 'The Colour Monster goes to School'. As part of their learning, the children have been identifying and acting out the different emotions explored in the story. They have also been talking about how different situations may make them feel.

MAKE EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNT At Highfield Primary - Attendance & Punctuality

While the majority of pupils at Highfield do have good attendance and are only absent when absolutely necessary, we want to remind our families about the importance of attendance and punctuality.

September 2024

ATTENDANCE

| Form | % |
|-------|--------|
| RB | 97.1% |
| RF | 94.6% |
| RJ | 96.7% |
| 1B | 96.5% |
| 1L | 96.4% |
| 1W | 98.8% |
| 2BD | 97.6% |
| 2L | 96.1% |
| 2S | 97.2% |
| 3C | 97.6% |
| 3J | 98.0% |
| 3P | 96.2% |
| 4C | 95.1% |
| 4GF | 96.2% |
| 4NC | 97.2% |
| 5A | 96.0% |
| 5C | 97.1% |
| 5P | 96.8% |
| 6G | 96.2% |
| 6M | 98.0% |
| 6MB | 96.5% |
| Total | 96.80% |

Regular attendance and punctuality at school is very important for your child's wellbeing. Children who miss school are missing out on essential social interaction which can affect their ability to make friends. If your child doesn't attend school regularly, they are less likely to do as well as other children.

At Highfield we are committed to working together with parents to increase the attendance and punctuality of all our pupils.

Although being absent cannot always be helped, at Highfield School we expect all our children to aim for 100% attendance each half term and to be on time every day, every week! Take a look at the table below to show you exactly what your child could be missing over the year.

| TIME ABSENT FROM SCHOOL | ATTENDANCE |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| 0 | 100% attendance |
| 10 DAYS | 95% attendance |
| 19 DAYS | 90% attendance |
| 28 DAYS | 85% attendance |
| More than half a term | 80% attendance |
| 9 + weeks | 75% attendance |

EVERY MINUTE COUNTS

As well as being absent a lot from school effecting your child's development being **LATE** also has a big effect, please look at the table below.

| <u>Lateness = Lost Learning</u> (figures below are calculated over a school year) | |
|---|---------------|
| 5 mins late each day | 3 days lost |
| 10 mins late each day | 6.5 days lost |
| 15 mins late each day | 10 days lost |
| 20 mins late each day | 13 days lost |
| 30 mins late each day | 19 days lost |

Every day your child is absent from school affects their education! You will notice from the figures above, that the odd day off really does mount up. Please be aware that Highfield School **WILL NOT AUTHORISE any **HOLIDAYS** during term time, this is done in the interest of your child's education.**

| | October 2024 |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Monday 7th and Tuesday 8th October | Geography workshops in the hall |
| Wednesday 9th October | 5C Creative Writing workshop at Winchmore School |
| Thursday 10th October | Boys league football match |
| Friday 11th October | Class 5A Assembly |
| Monday 14th October | Year 5 Aquarium Trip |
| Tuesday 15th October | Year 1 trip to the church for Harvest Festival |
| Thursday 17th October | Girls league football match |
| Friday 18th October | Class 5C Assembly |
| Tuesday 22nd October | Parent's Evening 4.00 -6.30pm The Pantry parent taster session |
| Thursday 24th October | Parent Evening 3.30 - 6.00pm The Pantry parent taster session |
| Friday 25th October | Friends of Highfield disco in the hall |
| | Year 5 Science workshop in the hall |
| Monday 28th– Friday 25th October | Half term |
| Monday 4th November | Inset day |