

Highfield Update

No.15 Autumn Term

December 2021



A message from Mrs Warren and Miss Savill



Another year has passed so unbelievably fast and 2022 awaits...

As this will be the last update this term, we would like to take the opportunity to thank the children for their resilience and enthusiasm to return to learning this term. We have been so impressed with the high quality of learning in a range of subject areas. The children have continued to apply all the BLP skills of being reflective, resilient, resourceful and reciprocal and have been very proud of themselves rightly so. We would also like to thank all the school staff who have continued to serve with all the additional pressures and restrictions of a changing covid picture but not compromising on making the memories for the children. All of our staff teams - teaching, learning support, office, lunching and cleaning teams have worked hard and together in unity despite their respective challenges!

We have also had great fun putting together our virtual school performances so that the children did not miss out on this opportunity to celebrate Christmas with their adults at home. Of course, it would have been lovely to see them in person but a big thank you to Helen Thompson and the church team who skilfully edited the films to create a "front row" view for all of our families. We really hope that you have enjoyed watching them as much as the children have enjoyed performing them. Finally, a big thank you to all the parents who have continued to support their children in the regular reading at home. As we keep saying, it really is the key for academic success over time and also just the best thing to do with your children at home. A thank you also to the parents who supported us recently as we needed to re-introduce mask-wearing and change some of our arrangements as we battled COVID cases especially in the infant site. Of course it has not been the most perfect end of term - we are still very aware that we cannot be entirely sure of what January is going to bring. Please look out for any operational updates that you may receive before our return on Tuesday 4th January on the basis of a government update - hopefully not the night before we return! Thank you for parents who have written in constructively and supportively to give us their thoughts - we appreciate the feedback too. On behalf of the school, we would like to wish all of our families a wonderful Christmas time and may 2022 bring us all health and happiness so we can move forward confidently into a new year. Many thanks, Mrs Warren and Miss Savill and all the staff teams at Highfield.



MERRY CHRISTMAS
and
HAPPY NEW YEAR



Highfield Update

Online Safety reminders

The Children's Commissioner is today launching a guide for parents and carers on online sexual harassment and how they can support children to stay safe online. "The things I wish my parents had known" draws together advice from 16 to 21 year olds on how parents should manage tricky conversations around sexual harassment and access to inappropriate content, including pornography. Some of you may be thinking - this is not relevant for primary school! A surprising but overriding message from young people is that parents should start these challenging conversations early. They suggest broaching topics before a child is given a phone or a social media account, which is often around the age of 9 or 10. Many of our children may have access to phones around this time, and sometimes, despite the age restrictions, we know that children have had access to apps that are not age-relevant. Messaging between children on platforms like "whatsapp" remains an important area for parents to be vigilant about and establish clear ground rules and expectations in using a phone. Please take a look at the advice and keep the conversation open at home about the importance of our bodies being special and private so that from an early age children have positive body image as well as a clear understanding of what it means to be safe both in online and off line situations. **A Note on Parents Whatsapp:** Whatsapp is a really useful and important mode of communication between parent groups and is often set up by parents to be helpful and supportive to each other. Occasionally however, we are made aware of this platform being used negatively to complain or criticise decisions or communications that may have been made in school. We would politely ask that any Administrators who set up these groups maintain a code of conduct to avoid these situations "bubbling" and sometimes compromising the spirit in which the group was set up. Any concerns can be raised with the school via info@highfieldschool.co.uk to ensure that we are aware and can address these in a timely and professional manner. We have an "open door" policy in order to engage in partnership.

Goodbyes.....



We are sad to say goodbye to a couple of members of staff at the end of the term. Miss Pearce leaves us to resume her teaching career. She has been wonderful at Highfield and is using her skills to now work as a Special School teacher in Southampton. We wish her the very best! We also say a fond farewell to Mrs Shaik, she has been a member of our lunchtime team and her lovely smile and calm nature has been a wonderful addition to lunchtimes. She leaves to work more in her family business. We wish her all the best!



Highfield Update



The HSFF team would like to thank all the staff, parents, and children at Highfield for their support and encouragement during this Autumn term. We look forward to seeing you in January when we should have some very exciting news and many more events and experiences to add a little bit of extra sparkle to the children's amazing journey at Highfield CofE!

Thank you all so very much we couldn't have done it without you!

We wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Love
from
Kelly, Carly, Tanya, Cath, Emily, Shar.



AGM

HSFF AGM

The HSFF AGM will be held on Tuesday 4th January 2022 at 8.30pm via Googlemeet.

All parents or carers of pupils at the school, governors and members of staff are welcome to attend. The agenda and meeting details can be found on the attached document.

If you have any questions regarding the meeting please email the HSFF on: familyandfriends@highfieldschool.co.uk

thank
you

A very big thankyou to the Highfield School Family and Friends who provided popcorn snacks and a pantomime performance that the children were able to watch yesterday. It was the story of Aladdin with some interesting twists to the tale.

Highfield Update



Monday, 3rd January - Bank holiday

Tuesday, 4th January - First day back for children after the Christmas break

Friday 7th January 2.30pm - Celebration assembly - parents invited. Link to join: meet.google.com/rkf-kjon-omp

Friday, 14th January - Year 3 / 4 Gangsta Granny Trip

17th January - 21st January - Creative arts week (whole school)

Friday 28th January, 2.30pm - Celebration assembly - parents invited. Link to join: meet.google.com/rkf-kjon-omp

Tuesday, 1st February, 15:30 - 18:30 - Parents evening early

Wednesday, 2nd February, 16:30 - 19:30 - Parents evening late

Friday 11th February, 2.30pm - Celebration assembly - parents invited. Link to join: meet.google.com/rkf-kjon-omp

Christmas Videos

For any parents who were unable to watch the Christmas videos, the file sizes have now been reduced so you can watch them, please follow this link:

<https://highfieldceprimaryschool.co.uk/2021/12/christmas-videos-reduced-file-size/>

Highlight of the day on Thursday was Frankies's final visit Before Christmas. He even got in the Christmas spirit and wore his Christmas pudding jumper!!



Highfield Update



Infant Department Class Highlights of the Year so far!



Oak: The children in oak had so many highlights and things they enjoyed about starting school it was hard to choose! The most memorable and enjoyable parts for the children were the class treats. The children were so proud of themselves for working as a team and earning themselves a bubble party and a mini campfire. They have been such reciprocal raccoons and made so many new friends and they are so happy about it! 

Willow: The class highlight for Willow Base was when Glob the alien visited our classroom; it was the most exciting event of the whole year! The children wrote him amazing letters asking him to return the pants he took and did some super drawings for him. Over the last month he's been helping us learn all about space, telescopes and Edwin Hubble. Glob even secretly visited again this week to leave us all a christmas present which was a super fun astronaut racing game! The children in Willow have settled so well into Highfield school and I'm so proud of the effort and energy they put into each day here; they are all absolute stars! 

Ash: Ash class have had a great year so far! We have made lots of new friends, been resilient rhinos, resourceful rats, reflective rabbits and reciprocal raccoons. We have made many special memories already, some of our favourites have been settling into our new class at the start of term (we loved the spider web game!), being superheroes on WOW day, painting descriptions of a winter setting and being evacuated! We have had an amazing end to the term where we have made salt dough ornaments, had a delicious christmas dinner, watched 'Aladdin' and made sure to open our advent calendar! We are very looking forward to an amazing new year with lots more fun :) 

Maple: We really enjoyed the lead up to Christmas in general. The elf created such excitement for us and we looked forward to seeing what mischief it would get up to each day. We also loved doing the class riddle and joke advent calendar, having the opportunity to wear Christmas clothes and enjoy a Christmas dinner together and watch the online panto 

Beech: We have had an awesome time in Beech so far! We have loved our superhero WOW day, having our reading treat, and all of our fantastic PE and music sessions. We especially liked working together to create our super-healthy (and delicious) smoothies. Finally, we have enjoyed doing some great learning and getting to spend time together as a Beech family! We can't wait to see what next term has in store for us! 

Highfield Update



Junior Department Class Highlights of the Year so far!



Africa: There have been many great moments in Africa this year. When asked, the children picked out our work on sketching as their most treasured learning - they made fantastic progress in their shading and understanding of facial proportions. Learning to design using Keynote on ipads was also a popular choice, and we had a great (if chilly) time at Butser Farm. We are really looking forward to the many learning opportunities ahead!



Europe: We have had such a wonderful term in Europe class. We love learning and developing our skills, and are always so reciprocal and resilient in our learning. We are all especially proud of the progress we have made in our sketching skills over the course of the term, and our final portraits were brilliant. We also absolutely love reading, and one of our highlights of the build up to Christmas has been reading the Christmasaurus as a class, it's such a funny, exciting book!



Australasia: Australasia have had a fantastic term this year full of lots of laughter and excellent learning. The highlight was when we visited the university to learn all about sound. It was so much fun going into all the different rooms, and experiencing how sound travels and how it affected how we heard it. We learnt so much and are now all sound experts!



Asia: What a fantastic first term we have had in Asia class! Since the start of the year, it has been wonderful to see the brilliant progress that has been made and the positive, supportive and caring working environment that has been created. Each child within the class follows our Golden Goals and core values, and are always wanting to work their hardest, support one another and find the fun throughout the day! As their teacher, I am so proud of the classroom environment that has been created, and look forward to a fantastic 2022! We have had so many wonderful memories from the year so far like football training on the playground, acting out the stages of the river in geography and rehearsing our songs for the Christmas performance (sorry again if you heard the bottle crunch at the end of the year 5/6 song!). It's been a brilliant end to Autumn term - well done everyone for your hard work, and your help in making Asia class a great place to learn!



North America: I have really enjoyed my time at Highfield so far; getting to know each of the children in North America and many other children from across the school has been an incredible experience as I have loved finding out about each of their hobbies, passions and pastimes. The children have been incredibly hard working and routinely demonstrate their golden goals and the four Rs. I really love our class dynamic, one in which the children help each other out all the time and work amazingly well together to achieve their goals. Some of the highlights of this year so far have been our trip to the river Itchen, where the children got first hand experience of everything they had been learning about in geography, whether it be flood plains or river mouths. They did an exceptional job of applying their learning to their experiences on the trip, making for a great day! I also loved our day in church, recording our Christmas carols that the children had been practicing, they did a great job and it made for a brilliant day of fun and excitement with the chil



South America: Our class reading treat when we watched Ice Age in our PJs, Making our clay models of Greek monsters and getting our hands messy, Making the Christmas decorations and decorating the classroom, Our trip to Roche Court and seeing the artwork and we enjoyed doing a double page spread all about the River Itchen.

