



Highfield Newsletter



Dates for your diary:

Monday 22nd February—Term 2.2 starts.

Monday 22nd February—New value launch 'Determination.

Monday 1st March—Literacy week

Thursday 4th March—World Book day.

Monday 8th March—Science week

Monday 22nd March—Determination history week

Monday 29th March -Autism awareness day. 'Wear blue'

Friday 12th March—Mother's day assembly.

I hope that you are all well and keeping safe through yet another long and difficult lockdown.

As always, we have worked collaboratively to ensure that learning continues to happen for all children either through online learning or through the paper packs that have been prepared. I would like to thank you all for the support that you are providing to your children so that they are learning and engaging as much as they can with school, their teachers and their peers. I would also like to thank all the Highfield team for the work that they are doing too. This is still a new way of working for us all and the sense of support and togetherness from the whole Highfield community makes the difficulties that we face much easier. It has been a pleasure to see the high-quality work that your children are completing and returning either by email or on the Teams page for their class. We are very proud of what the children are producing and continue to be full of admiration of their hard work, commitment and dedication. Much of this is celebrated on Twitter so please encourage your children to share, upload or email the brilliant work that they are completing.

I am aware that a number of you are still in need of devices and we are working effortlessly to try and source more devices. This is frustrating for us all and we would love to be in a position where we were able to issue devices to everyone who needs them. We will continue to compile our waiting list and will inform parents if , and when, we receive any more devices. I am also aware that some parents are concerned about the amount of time your children are spending at a screen. Myself and the rest of the SLT are looking into this and hope to be able to address this a little more after half term.

As I am sure you are aware, children will not be returning after half term unless they are part of the critical worker provision so the remote and home learning provision will continue for at least another 2 weeks after the holiday. This is very disappointing for us all as the whole school staff miss being in school with the children and sincerely hope that we are able to welcome you and your children back to school as soon as we possibly can. In the meantime, remember that school is still here to support you however we can. I wish you all the very best and hope that you continue to keep safe, well and in good health.

Take care and best wishes,
Mr. Knibbs

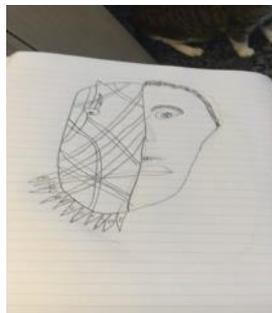


Do you want to keep up to date with exciting things going on at Highfield?

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Value of term 2.1: Inspiration

This term ,we have looked at the value 'Inspiration'. We have explored what it means and looked at what inspires us and other people. We had an 'Inspiration day' where we researched key people who are have done something extraordinary in their lives. Year four looked at Stab Lee. Year one, looked at Simona Halep. She is famous female tennis player. Year two looked at Jawahir Rible and Sanina Baig and designed them medals. We were very impressed with the work produced from home.

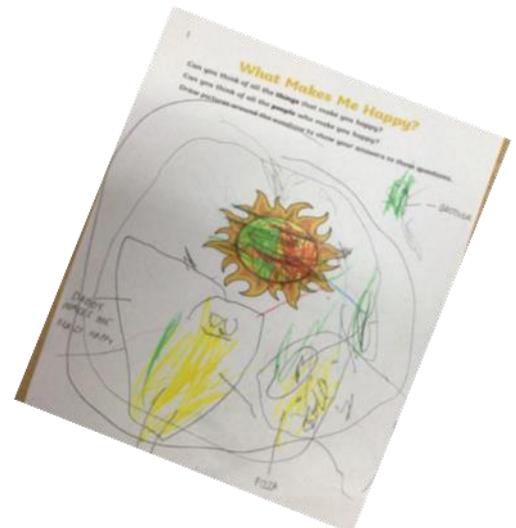




We have loved seeing all your pictures of all the fantastic remote learning that has taken place at home. Please continue to share them with your child's class teacher.

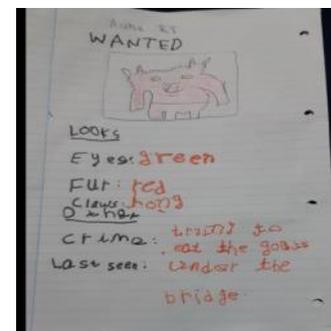
Inclusion Team

The Inclusion Team have been very busy this half term supporting children in school and with remote learning. The Inclusion Group have been enjoying the Handa stories by Eileen Browne. We have based our project work around the stories and have found out about life in Kenya; the animals, people and their lifestyle. Handa's Noisy Night allowed us to explore how sound is made. We have enjoyed making a lot of noise! We carried out experiments to show that sound is made by vibrations. During children's mental health week we also used the story to explore our feelings. We talked about feeling scared and what we could do to help ourselves feel better. We also explored feeling happy and helping others to be happy too!



Reception

It has been a very different start to a new year as we have embarked on a remote learning journey. This hasn't stopped us learning, developing, achieving and smiling. But of course we miss seeing you in person and cannot wait to get back to normality. We kicked off the term with exploring the story 'The Little Red Hen'. We have made story maps, created scenes from the story, baked bread rolls, and practised our counting and matching number to quantity. Next we moved onto the story 'The Gingerbread Man'. This was a great traditional tale to help us develop confidence in joining in with repetitive language from the story. The children explored what happens to gingerbread men in different liquids, wrote speech bubbles, and used the gingerbread men to work out addition, doubling, halving and sharing problems. Finally we moved onto the story 'Three Billy Goats Gruff', during this focus we practised take away problems and explored time too. In literacy the children wrote captions and wanted posters for the troll, and in Understanding the World they used a variety of materials to build bridges. The final week of term we focused on a Chinese New Year and had a very creative week learning all about a different culture. We practised writing our names in Chinese, made Chinese drums and lanterns and learnt all about the story behind the festival.



Year one

Year One have settled really well accessing the online learning and the teachers are really pleased with the work that is being produced. It has been lovely to see so many faces! This half term, the children have enjoyed the story Jack and the Beanstalk linked to our LFL topic 'Up, Up and Away'. The children have enjoyed retelling the story and describing the mean giant. The children have learnt about aviation and have used the resources that are available at home to make hot air balloons, kites and aeroplanes. For Children's Mental Health Week, the children spoke about the important things in their life and ways they can keep themselves happy. We look forward to seeing more of you online next half term. Please continue to keep safe and happy!"



Year Two

Firstly, we would like to say a massive thank you to all of the Year 2 children and parents for their hard work and support during this half term. The children have worked extremely hard and have been learning lots of new and exciting things from home! They have learnt to write a set of instructions for making a healthy lunch linked to the text 'The Lighthouse Keepers Lunch' and learnt how to use a formal method to add and subtract two-digit numbers. We have also started an interesting new topic called 'People that Paved the Way' focussing on the importance of Mary Seacole and Florence



Nightingale and how they influenced modern nursing. Linking to this, we have created and designed an ambulance with realistic features. In

addition, the children have also participated in different Wow days this half term, including an Inspiration Day, Chinese New Year and Safer Internet Day. We have been so proud of all the work that we have been sent. We can't wait to see your smiley faces very soon! Take care and keep safe. Team Year 2.



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Year three

We would like to thank all parents for their hard work and support over the half term. We are proud of way children have engaged with their learning from home.

In Reading, the children have worked hard at building their inference skills using pictures and sentences. They will continue to work on this skill over the next few weeks. In Maths, we have looked at money where the children had a chance to practice the four operations when problem solving. Times tables is a real focus in Year 3, and we include activities in our weekly packs – please continue to practise this at home with your child.

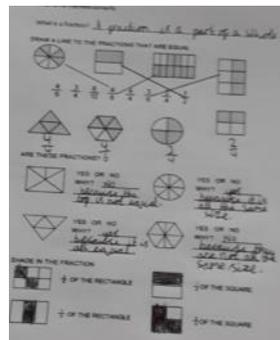
Our current topic is ‘Ancient Egyptians’ and we have enjoyed learning about this past civilisation. Building snow pyramids on Snow Day was an opportunity we could not miss! The children were also inspired to design and create some jewellery in the style of the Ancient Egyptians. In Science, we have explored plants, looking at the structure of a flower and the best conditions for germination to take place. We have had an exciting half term,...



Year four

It has been an unusual start of term, but we are so proud of the way our children have taken on the challenge of remote learning. We have set assignments, quizzes, and weekly challenges every week. Children are accessing various tutorials and learning materials independently too. Thanks to parents for your amazing support and co-operation.

As part of Learning for life – children are learning the history of the Anglo-Saxons. They have been diving deeper into finding out about the Fall of the Roman Empire. They have learnt who Vortigern and King Arthur were and looked at key events leading up to the battle of Badon. For Art – children have been very enthusiastic to learn about calligraphy. They have created geometric patterns as a background to insert their names on top. In Maths, children have explored perimeter as well as fractions. Please continue to support your child to learn their timetables using their TT Rockstar log in.



Year five

This term, in Year 5, children have been enjoying a range of activities. Our value for this half term is inspiration and children were given the opportunity to research and create a booklet about Malala. For LFL, children learnt about Ancient Greece including myths and legends. Some children created their own Greek foods. In Science, children have learned all about parts of a flower and the process of germination. In Maths, they have learnt how to find areas, perimeters and how to construct graphs using different data. Children have also been given the opportunity to take part in an enrichment activity where they can make their own fruit salad at home. We would like to thank all the parents for their support this term and we are very impressed with the number of children in year five online.



Year six

A new year, a new term, a new normal. This term Year 6 met Alem Kelo, an Ethiopian boy from within the pages of, Handsworth born, Benjamin Zephaniah's book: Refugee Boy. Complimenting this, in history we began a new topic: Migration Stories – The Making of Modern Britain. Over the weeks we have built up our knowledge of how migration has positively influenced the Britain we live in today. The children have looked at the arrival of the Windrush to British shores and have drawn upon the experiences of themselves and friends and family, to engage and connect with the topic on a personal level. Additionally, we were lucky enough to be treated to a virtual talk by Jahan Mahmood, who spoke to us about the crucial contribution to the war effort made by the Commonwealth and the great sacrifices that were made. Despite the lockdown, lessons have been adapted, and we have covered the timetable as per a standard school week, with its breadth even extending to PE, where the children have enjoyed live physical education sessions. In our Holocaust Memorial Day, we saw how everyday substances such as coffee, turmeric and beetroot juice could be used as 'ink' for the printing that we did. When the snow came, the children thoroughly enjoyed a day of winter-based learning, where they created snow sculptures and embraced the joys of outdoor maths. During Children's Mental Health Week, we looked at ways to support each other and where to turn for help, we looked at music to calm and sooth us and we shared the things that made us happy. We have learnt many things this term and the children have demonstrated their resilience and perseverance in spades.