



Highfield Newsletter



Headteacher's Message

We are still only just touching the surface of finding out how the pandemic, and more specifically long periods of isolation, has impacted upon the **wellbeing** and **development** of our children. Academically we did our absolute best to ensure that children did not fall behind through online learning and supporting the children of key workers in school. But **personal**, **social** and **emotional** development cannot be learned and experienced fully through a screen. For this reason, we have this week launched our whole school PSED curriculum, to develop these skills through talk, role play and modelling. In our first week we looked at **expectations** and what we expect of one another in school. Next we will be learning about **emotions**, how we identify our own and then regulate them appropriately. We want to equip our children with the skills for life and the different challenges they will face. If you should like to learn more about this please feel free to talk to your class teacher, Mrs Bowker or me.

Have a great weekend and thank you for your support.

Mr Feeley

News & Updates

Celebration Assembly

Congratulations and a huge well done to the children in Key Stage Two who were recognised for their fantastic effort and attitude this week by making it into the **celebration book**. We are all proud of you for setting such a high standard! The children who we are celebrating this week are:

RH - Layla, Kailash, Oscar, Rayan

RGW - Amara, Arthur, Dolly, Seb

1B - Emilia, Florence, Jude, Sophia

1LW- Aadhya, Akaal, Charlie, Sophia

2F - Akira, Huzaifah, Isabelle, Oliver

2H – Annabelle, Harri, Isla

Turkey-Syria Earthquake Appeal

The generosity of the Highfield community has been overwhelming this week. Firstly the Friends of Highfield raised an incredible £335 from Tuesday's bun sale, with some parents paying considerably more than the asking price to donate to this worthy cause. Thank you so much for your support.



Then brothers Drupta and Reyansh held a food and toy sale outside their house to raise money for the appeal. They raised £232 which is a phenomenal effort. The thoughtfulness of the two boys to give up their time (and toys) to raise for those who have suffered is wonderful to see.

Pancake Toss Record!



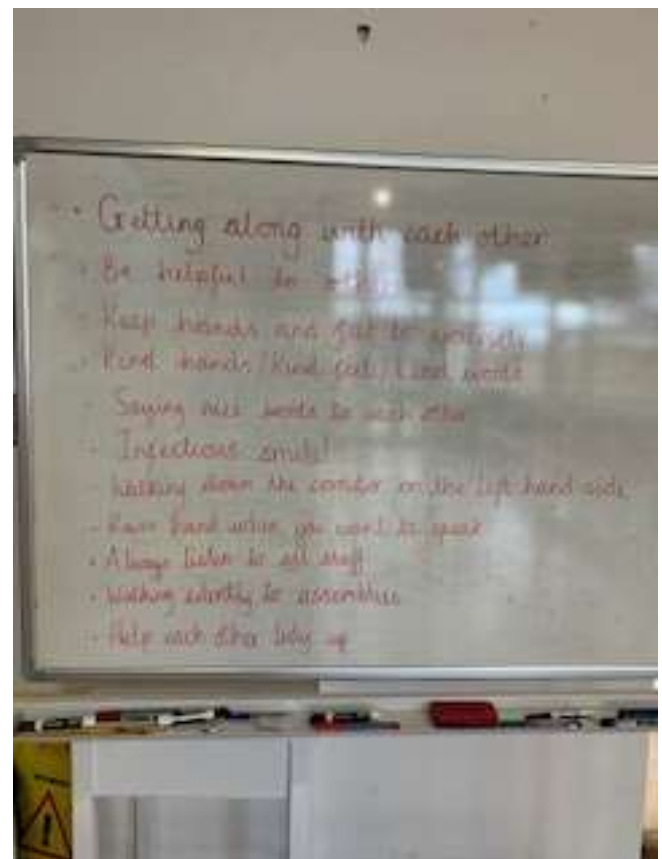
Tuesday was Pancake Day and in true Highfield tradition we held our pancake tossing competition. Joseph, Elsie and Surya came to the front to have a go and did brilliantly in front of such a large audience. Surya, incredibly, set a new record of 57 consecutive tosses!

6BH Assembly

In their sharing assembly this week, 6BH took us on a journey through their learning in English and the class novel Skellig. They shared writing and drama but were very careful not to spoil the plot for the future year groups who will have the opportunity to read it when they reach Year 6!

Our Expectations of Ourselves and Each Other

Because of special visitors in school, Mr Feeley's whole school assembly was moved from Monday to Tuesday this week. The children discussed what they expect in terms of behaviour, conduct and friendships in or school. Miss Harrower scribed for Mr Feeley and the children formed the list below. Padra came up with perhaps the most enlightening expectation - to smile!



World Book Day: Thursday 2nd March

World Book Day is being celebrated in many ways throughout school on Thursday next week. The theme for this year is 'the love of reading' and children can come dressed as a word with opportunities to swap books and play the 'Masked Reader'!

Strike Action:

A reminder that the 28th February (Tuesday) is the next teacher's strike day. The scenario is the same as the previous strike and the school's position statement is at the foot of the newsletter. Parents have posed questions to Mr Feeley which he is keen to answer so please do not hesitate to ask.

Internet Safety Workshop for Parents

Thank you to all the parents who attended the internet safety workshop on Tuesday afternoon. It was a well attended event and we are sure it was very useful in what is an ever demanding and changing world. Our guest speaker from the NSPCC was really impressed with the interest and detail of questions she received at the end.



Dates for your Diary!

- **Mon 27th Feb:** Netball fixture @ Immaculate Heart
- **Tues 28th Feb:** NEU Strike Action
- **Weds 1st Mar:** 40 Class Sharing Assembly
- **Thurs 2nd March:** World Book Day

Safeguarding. For child protection concerns you can contact any of our Designated Child Protection Officers: Mr Feeley, Mrs McVeigh and Mrs Calvert. There is some useful information on the LSCB website about online safety with some useful tips for parents: <http://www.leedslscb.org.uk/Parents-Carers-Wider-Family/Keeping-children-safe-online>. If you are worried that a child is at risk of harm please contact Leeds Children's Social Work Services on 0113 222 4403.

Proposed Strike Action update for parents

RE: The NEU (National Education Union) planned strike dates on: 28th February 2023, 15th March 2023 and 16th March 2023.

Dear Parents and Carers,

In preparation for the strike day, I would like to state my planned course of action to keep you fully informed. The strike action is a result of a national pay dispute between the NEU and the Government. It is a matter for the NEU and the Government to resolve independently of the school.

The procedure at Highfield will be as follows:

On Tuesday morning, at the earliest opportunity, I will send out a Parentmail to all parents advising them of whether or not their child's class is open or closed. As things stand, every child's class is open. I will be here and opening school as normal.

Whilst we will do all that we can to minimise disruption, we would advise you to begin considering alternative childcare arrangements, where needed, for the above dates should your child's class be closed. I realise that is not the ideal situation, however the purpose of strike action is to cause disruption in order to highlight their cause hence why I am not entitled to know the intentions of NEU members.

I will keep you updated with developments and the arrangements for the planned strike days as soon as I am able to do so. As soon as I know, you will know. I can assure you of that.

As always, thank you for your continued support.

Many thanks,

Mr Feeley