



Highfield Newsletter



Headteacher's Message

A slightly unusual message from me today because we have had some unusual challenges at Highfield this week! Following the storms, a damaged, very large tree near the Belvedere Gate continued to show signs of deterioration. With the path, school hall and after-school club all within the radial fall zone of the tree, we had to close those areas of school. As a result the school dinners, after-school club and 40 sharing assembly all had to be relocated within the main building. But as the branches of the tree also hung over and through the power lines running parallel to the back fence, our tree surgeon couldn't take it down without the power being turned off. Unfortunately, the power lines supplied the Yorkshire Water pumping station and therefore required the cooperation of Northern Power and Yorkshire Water to allow the tree to be brought down, all without cutting off the power and water to the local community and keeping the school open. Thankfully we have a wonderful business manager in Mr. Singh who has managed to organise this and a fabulous superintendent in Mr. Walsh who has sometimes had to work late into the night with engineers. Both have given up hours of their own time. Please thank them if you see them. Thank you for your patience in working with us around the challenges; it is appreciated.

Have a great weekend and thank you for your support.

Mr Feeley

News & Updates

Expect Problems and Eat Them for Breakfast!

Padra in Year 4 dropped by Mr Feeley's office to talk about quotes that inspire him from his book 'Always Look on the Brightside'. The idea of eating problems for breakfast was the one that he feels gives him the greatest inspiration! It puts him in the right mindset to tackle the day's challenges (or the 'green zone' as we might say when describing our emotions!). Thank you Padra! Considering this week's events, Mr Feeley found a quote in the book that he thought was particularly appropriate...

A tree doesn't fall
with one blow.

YIDDISH PROVERB

Ernie Marching On!

Well done to Ernie in Year 2 who played for the Leeds United pre academy as part of his initial assessment. He said he really enjoyed the experience, playing against Chesterfield Utd.



Celebrating in Style!

World Book Day 2023 was celebrated in style yesterday. The children certainly rose to the occasion of dressing as a word and enjoyed lots of different reading opportunities throughout the day. 'The masked reader' was enjoyed throughout school, where children had to guess the staff member reading a poem with a digital facial disguise. It wasn't as easy as they thought it would be! Our Reading Ambassadors in Key Stage 2 did a fabulous job of organising and supporting book swaps within each year group allowing lots of children to go home with 'new to them' books. Thank you for supporting your child this week.



Book Fair in School

Following on from World Book Day, next week the Scholastic Book Fair comes to Highfield. This is a great opportunity to buy new books for home and support school at the same time. World Book Day tokens will also be redeemable against purchases. School will receive 25% of total spending (if over £300) to spend on books for our class libraries.



Netballers Continue to Impress!



Here's a picture of the netball squad who won all 4 games they played at Immaculate Heart this week. They were brilliant, in fact, they scored so many goals that Miss Elson stopped counting. But more importantly the good grace with which they won and the manner in which they represented the school was the most important part. It was a great final friendly before we start our league defence next week away at Gledhow.

Choral Reading

Year 5 enjoyed choral reading this week with their current class novel 'The Boy at the Back of the Class'. Choral reading is reading aloud in unison with a whole class or in a group. Choral reading helps build pupils' fluency, self-confidence and motivation. Because they are reading aloud together, children who may ordinarily feel self-conscious or nervous about reading aloud have built-in support. The children gave great feedback about how much they enjoy choral reading.



Dates for your Diary!

- **Weds 8th Mar to 13th** : Book Fair in School
- **Thurs 9th Mar:**
 - Cross Country Finals @ Temple Newsam
 - Year 6 Netball fixture @ Gledhow

What Colour is Your Emotion?

This week in Mr Feeley’s assembly and our PSED curriculum we encouraged the children to think about emotions; identifying what emotions are, naming emotions they have experienced and physical body changes that come with each emotion. An important part of our discussions, throughout school, was recognising that no emotion is a ‘bad’ emotion. What is important is that we recognise the emotions we are experiencing and learn how to deal with them appropriately. To help the children with this concept we introduced “the coloured Zones of Regulation” to provide a common, non-judgemental language and to make it simple for all to understand. Children also had the opportunity to discuss personal triggers that may move them into the ‘Blue / Yellow / Red’ zone.

The ZONES of Regulation

			
<p>Blue Zone</p> <p>Sad Bored Tired Sick</p>	<p>Green Zone</p> <p>Happy Focused Calm Proud</p>	<p>Yellow Zone</p> <p>Worried Frustrated Silly Excited</p>	<p>Red Zone</p> <p>overjoyed/Elated Panicked Angry Terrified</p>

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.