



# Highfield Newsletter



## Headteacher's Message

As this half-term comes to a close I asked the children in my Monday assembly to reflect on their **achievements** and **targets** for the future. I asked them to think about what they were most **proud** of and, most importantly, **why** they were proud of it. What **steps** did they take to achieve the outcome? What **skills** did it require? **Reflection** provides a **learning opportunity** that leads to greater success in the future. But being able to reflect purposefully is a skill in itself which requires nurturing. Knowing yourself as a learner improves the effectiveness of learning. It is why your discussions at home with your children are so vital – ask them not just what they enjoyed or did well, but **why** and the **thinking processes** that supported it. Extend their thinking; it isn't easy – it requires thinking **hard!**

Please take time to read the fabulous poems from Year 5 which conclude this newsletter. They are simply brilliant and reflect the wonderful diversity within our school which they have been celebrating.

Finally, over the half-term I have enjoyed connecting with you, the parents and carers, particularly on the playground. It is important I hear your voice. Please do not hesitate to ask any questions, get clarification or even just catch up on school life. It is why I am here.

Have a great half-term and **thank you** for your support.

Mr Feeley

## News & Updates



### A Bolt from the Glue!

A huge thank you to the Nauths for their incredibly generous donation of glue sticks for school! We go through so many glue sticks every year and these thoughtful children decided to help us out (with a very kind helping hand from the family!). A wonderful gesture.

## Year 2 Skipping Ahead



School Skipping Leader Jodi came in to teach our Year 2 children the skills involved in skipping. They even advanced to cross-overs and competitions! They worked together, encouraged each other and had a brilliant time!

## Mummifying in Year 3



In Year 3 history this week, they learned how ancient Egyptians mummified their pharaohs and nobles and mummified their own!

The **Legendary Fruity Friday Team** have done it again!

This half-term they have raised £300 for investment in our school science resources! What an incredible effort by this group of fabulous volunteers who give up their Friday morning to source, chop and then sell fruit to our children. Thank you so much. The children benefit greatly from your hard work and all the parents who send the money in.

## Mrs Homan Leading the Way in DT!



Our brilliant Curriculum Lead, Mrs Homan, this week led CPD for schools across the Red Kite Alliance in their teaching and learning of Design Technology. We are lucky to have such talented staff at Highfield who are now helping to improve standards in other schools in our region.

## A Competition for the Geographers out there!

Cartography is making maps. It is part of geography. How people make maps is always changing. In the past, maps were drawn by hand but today most printed maps are made using computers. Someone who makes maps is called a cartographer. The British Cartographic Society is running a great competition for children to draw their own map. The theme for entries is: "A map of my future world". For more details see: <https://www.cartography.org.uk/barbara-petchenik> or speak to our Geography Leader, Mrs Flynn. Geography is on our school improvement plan and it would be terrific to see their creations.



Clickety-Clack! Clickety-Clack!



Year 2 went to the National Railway Museum this week as a part of their Transport topic. They enjoyed seeing trains through history and even enjoyed some role play. 2H shared their experiences in their class assembly this week.



### School Dinner Menu Choice

We have been informed by Leeds City Catering that due to supply issues they will not be offering a change in menu at the current time. They will keep us informed regarding choices moving forward.

“Your Children’s Education is in **Safe Hands.**”

(Mr J Brassil, 2023)

A huge thank you to the amazing Friends of Highfield for hosting the annual quiz night on Friday. They raised an incredible £1246, which will be so valuable for developing the outdoor provision across school. Thank you also to Mr Ashurst for his superb performance as quiz master, always entertaining. Who won the quiz is irrelevant, it was about enjoying the evening and raising funds for school. However, we’ll just leave this here...



### Dates for your Diary!

- **Thurs 9<sup>th</sup> Feb:** Break-up for half-term
- **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> Feb:** Training Day (school closed for children)
- **Mon 20<sup>th</sup> Feb:** School Opens
- **Tues 21<sup>st</sup> Feb:** Online Safety Parent Workshop 14:15-15:15 in school hall
- **Monday 27<sup>th</sup> Feb:** Year 6 Netball at Immaculate Heart

**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.



Collect some Hungarian, Russian and Turkish  
and start to build our class.

Add a sprinkle of Nigerian.

Then lead them with a touch Norwegian and  
British.

Blend in some Greek, American and Syrian.

Combine with some cool Kenyans, Cantonese and  
Jamaican.

Australian, Bangladeshi, Scandinavian, Serbian and  
Sri Lankan.

Our class starts to come together.

Join in with multiple Indian, Swedish, Dutch,  
Dominican and Pakistani.

Sprinkle with some Scottish, Irish, Iranian and a  
dash of Spanish and British.

Turn up the heat and drop in the UAE

And we start to make 5E.

We've come together, allowing each mother  
tongue to merge and flourish,  
combining them with English.

Mutual respect for everyone's heritage and history  
Unity and equality holds 5E together.



Take some Turkish, Scottish, Indian and French,  
and start to bring the cultures together.

Then sprinkle in some Taiwanese, Israeli,  
Lithuanian and a splash of Portuguese.

Lead them with a handful of Irish and British,  
and we start to create 5M.

Open the pot to American, Pakistani and some cool  
Kenyans.

Turn up the heat with some Jamaican, Italian and  
Melanesians.

Allow the ingredients to combine,  
whilst the mother tongues flourish and bind.

Include equality and understanding, friendship and  
respect.

The perfect blend  
to discover 5M.