Headteacher's Message

Flags, Community and Highfield Unity

Over the past week, I've had several thought-provoking conversations about the flag campaign, discussions sparked by flags on lampposts, roundabouts and motorway bridges. It's been a topic of interest among governors, parents and even made its way onto the agenda at a Headteachers' meeting just yesterday. I have very much enjoyed the openness and different perspectives I have listened to.

What's clear is that this is a highly localised issue. Driving recently, I was reminded of visits to Belfast, where flags often mark the boundaries of different communities. As someone descended from Irish immigrants that imagery resonates deeply (please note the parallel I have drawn is solely in relation to the use of flags and does not imply any deeper similarity).

Patriotism—being proud of one's country—is a powerful and admirable sentiment. We all want to live in a place where we feel safe, valued and respected. But the recent surge in flag-waving raises an important question: what is the intent behind it and what message is being sent? Context, as always, is everything.

This weekend the Red Roses will face Canada in the Rugby World Cup Final at Twickenham. Just as we saw with the Lionesses during the Euros and when we go down-under to face the Aussies in the cricket this winter, the flag of St George will be waved proudly by people from all walks of life. In these moments the flag becomes a symbol of unity, not division—patriotism at its best. This is patriotism with which I can identify and enjoy being a part of.

Outside the Sandringham Gate there's a road safety banner where a child has written: "We rise by lifting others." It's a quote from Robert Ingersoll and I believe it beautifully captures the spirit of Highfield. Through compassion and mutual support we strengthen our community. In that light, flags can become symbols that bring us together—not push us apart.

Enjoy your 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 One who were recognised for their fantastic effort and attitude last week by making it into the celebration book. The children whom we were celebrating last week were:

2H - Arshaan, Fatima, Hector

2F- Eden, Elspeth, Maiya

1W -Armaan, Eliza, Joshua

1W - Agastya, Ayza, Harveen, Henry

Congratulations and a huge well done to the children in Key Stage Two who are recognised for their fantastic effort and attitude this week by making it into the celebration book. The children whom we are celebrating this week are:

3T - Hudson, Shloka, Summer, Toby

3FL - Aazra, Dolsie, Lewi, Rose

4V - whole class

40- whole class

5E - Bebe, Frankie, Jason, Isabelle

5L - Ada, Alex, Chloe, Max

6G - Charlie, Eli, Layla-Grace, Ralph

6BH - Elena, Gursehaj, Karyn, Thomas

We are all proud of you for setting such a high standard!

Leeds Youth Music Festival

A video has been produced for the Leeds Music showcase, which Highfield Choir attended at the First Direct Arena last Summer. Watch some highlights of the performance here: LYMF Leeds Arena 2025 highlights



Football club kicks off



It was the afternoon that our Year 6 pupils had been waiting for! Our after-school football club started on Thursday last week. Run by the brilliant Basic Ballers, this is weekly on a Thursday afternoon. They are also providing coaching for girls from Years 3,4 and 5 at lunchtime. A great sporting start to our Autumn Term.

Taekwondo Club taster!



Our after-school Taekwondo Club taster session took place in school. Run by Dynamix Taekwondo, it promises to be a thoroughly enjoyable club that will teach our pupils new skills and be a really enjoyable experience.



Highfield Signposting



OUTER EAST FAMILY HUB

SEND Parent Сагег MONTHLY DROP INS

Come and see us at our monthly drop ins to get personalised support, helpful advice, and connect with others in the community.

Whether you're navigating services or facing the challenges of raising a child with possible or diagnosed additional needs, you're not alone. These sessions are designed to empower parents and carers, helping you feel supported, informed, and confident in speaking up for your child's needs.

Amanda Parkinson, SEND Specialist Co-Ordinator at Chapeltown Family Hub, will be hosting these sessions each month. With over 30+ years' experience in a variety of roles, Amanda brings her knowledge, access to useful resources, and a compassionate approach.



When:

9:30am-12pm Monday 6th October Monday 3rd November Monday 1st December

Where:

Reginald Centre 263 Chapeltown Rd LS7 3EX











Dates for your Diary!

- Mon 29th Sept: Year 6 Curriculum meeting for parents (15:45)
- Tues 30th Oct: Year 3 Curriculum meeting for parents (15:45)
- Weds 1st Oct: Watch Us Learn morning
- Thurs 2nd Oct: Taekwondo Club starts
- Fri 3rd Oct: KS1 Celebration Assembly

Safeguarding. For child protection concerns you can contact any of our Designated Child Protection Officers: Mr Feeley, Mrs Dalgliesh, Mrs Bowker, Mr Brassil 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.

