



Highfield Newsletter



Headteacher's Message

Celebrating the Languages of Leeds at Highfield

Did you know that, according to the Office for National Statistics, over **170 languages** are spoken across Leeds? Even more impressively, **every one of these language groups is represented in the Moortown ward**—with the sole exception of Turkish Sign Language (I am happy to stand corrected if anyone knows different!). What an incredible tapestry of language and culture we are part of!

At **Highfield**, we are proud to reflect and celebrate this rich linguistic diversity. As we approach **Leeds City of Languages** this November—an exciting celebration hosted by the University of Leeds—we want to shine a spotlight on the many languages spoken, heard and learned by our children and families. We know how proud our children are of their heritage and their connections to languages beyond English. That's why I'm working to further develop and raise the profile of our school's linguistic diversity. I encourage all families to cherish and preserve their language links—it's a gift worth celebrating.

As part of **Leeds Language Week**, there's a **multilingual poetry competition** taking place across the city, but we want to bring that celebration right here to Highfield! I'm inviting all our children to take part in our very own **Multilingual Poetry Challenge**.

Here's how it works:

- Write a poem in **any language other than English** at home and bring it to school.
- Include a **translation or explanation** in English to help us all understand and appreciate it.
- The poem can be about **anything**—from nature to family, dreams to favourite foods!
- For our children who only speak English, why not have a go at writing a poem in different language of your choice.

We'll be creating a beautiful **display board** in our newly decorated hall to showcase all the entries. It's a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the voices and stories that make our school community so special. **Parents and carers**—your support is invaluable! Please encourage your children to take part and help them with translations if needed. Let's make this a celebration to remember!



News & Updates

Celebration Assembly

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 who we are celebrating this week are:

6G - Hafsa, Jiwan, Melorin, Nikan
6BH - Ashita, Jack, Joe, Lindo
5L - Ellie, Roman, Rosa, Wali
5E - Annabelle, Harri, Navneet, Raphy
4V - Amrita, Joseph, Lana, Prabhs
4O - Archie, Emilia, Reuben, Sophia
3T - Amber, Elisia, Nethiran, Rex
3FL - Aarnav, Joshua, Lucy, Rayann

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

Harmony in Diversi'tea

Mrs Homan would like to invite everyone along to our rather brilliantly named Harmony in Diversi'tea coffee afternoons. The next one coming up is Thursday 16th October at 2:45pm. Please see the poster later in this newsletter for more information.

A Kind Reminder About Parking

Dear Parents and Carers,

We kindly ask that you do not park across the driveways of our local residents when dropping off or collecting your children. It's important that our neighbours have clear and safe access to their homes at all times.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support in helping us maintain positive relationships within our community.

Highfield Signposting

Important Safeguarding Notice: Children's "Spy" Books

We want to make you aware of a recent issue affecting some popular children's books by Andrew Cope, including the *Spy Dogs*, *Spy Cats*, and *Spy Pups* series.

Some editions of these books include a printed web address at the back. This link used to go to the author's website, but the domain is no longer under his control. It has since been taken over by another party and now leads to inappropriate adult content.

The publisher, Puffin, has paused sales and distribution of the books and is working with schools, libraries and retailers to remove copies from circulation. They have stressed that the website has no connection to the author or publisher.

What this means for you:

- If your child has any *Spy Dog*, *Spy Cat* or *Spy Pups* books at home, please check the back for website links and make sure they do not try to visit the site.
- It is safe for children to continue reading the stories themselves — the concern is only with the outdated link.
- We recommend talking with your child about the importance of not following web addresses in books without checking with an adult first.

We will continue to share updates from the publisher as more information becomes available.

Thank you for your support in keeping our children safe.

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



Harmony in Diversi'tea COFFEE AFTERNOON



Join us for a cuppa,
conversation, and
community!



Come along to celebrate our
wonderful mix of cultures and
friendships at Highfield School.
Everyone is welcome—
parents, carers, friends!

Where: Highfield School

When: 2:45 – 3:25 pm

- Thursday 16th October 2025
- Thursday 11th December 2025
- Thursday 12th February 2026
- Thursday 21st May 2026
- Thursday 9th July 2026



Share stories, enjoy a brew, and celebrate
the harmony in our community!





Highfield Primary School, Leeds

ACTIVE HALLOWEEN CAMP

OCTOBER HALF TERM
Mon 27th - Fri 31st
8:30AM-5:00PM

BOOK NOW
£24 pp per day

ACamps

- Active and fun with campers taking part in a range of exciting and varied games.
- Delivered by specialist Level 2 sports coaches
- Halloween arts and crafts!
- Safe with staff trained in First Aid and Safeguarding

[WWW.ACESPORTUK.COM](http://www.acesportuk.com)

Dates for your Diary!

- **Tues 14th Oct:** Y6 Macbeth workshop,
- **Weds 15th Oct:** Y6 Macbeth workshop, Open Day for Prospective Parents
- **Thurs 16th Oct:** Individual Photos, Harmony and Diversi'tea
- **Fri 17th Oct:** KS1 Celebration Assembly