

...Changing lives

Highfields Primary Academy NEWSLETTER

Happy New Year

I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone back to the academy and wish all our parents/carers a very Happy New Year! It has been lovely to see the children back in school and have the building buzzing with excitement and learning once again.

This has been my first week as Head of Academy and I have to admit I have thoroughly enjoyed every minute of it. Thank you to all those parents/carers who have been so kind in offering best wishes not only to me but to the rest of the team as they begin their new roles within the academy. It has been so nice to speak to so many different parents/carers not only on the gate but over the telephone this week. I'm hoping to speak with a lot more parents/carers in the weeks ahead.

Building upon the wonderful ideas and initiatives of Mrs Sercombe, the team have begun planning a wealth of exciting new developments and opportunities for our children over the coming academic year.

This week, we also welcome a fantastic new member to our Highfields team, Miss Duckitt who will be teaching in Year 3/4. Take a look over on the next page to hear a little bit more about her.

Mr Williams

SCAN HERE

How can schools and families work together to minimise the spread of Covid?



Resolutions

This week we have been looking at making resolutions. We challenged the children to think of resolutions that they could make as a class as well as resolutions for themselves. We had some amazing ideas that were incredibly mindful of the changes that they would like to see in themselves as well as the entire class.

It would be great if parents/carers could take a moment for '*Time to Talk*' to discuss the resolutions their children have made and any resolutions you may have for 2022!

Attendance

Pirates Next Door (Year 2)



Rainbow Fish

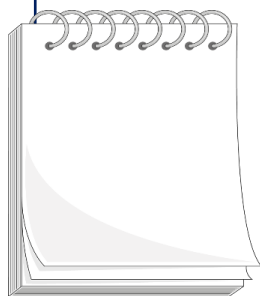
Pirates Next Door (Year 1)



Class	Week %	Year %
Rainbow Fish	100%	95%
Pirates Next Door (Y1)	98.9%	94%
Pirates Next Door (Y2)	99.3%	96%
Butterfly Lions	96.3%	96%
Stormbreakers	98.8%	97%
Explorers	97.2%	97%
Whole School	97.8%	96%

Reminders

- **PE:** PE is held every **Monday** and every **Thursday**. Children need to bring their PE kits to school in order for them to get changed before and after the lesson.
- **Book Bags:** Children must bring their book bags along with their reading diary and staged reading book to school **every day**.
- **Reading:** We ask that all children read **at least three times** to an adult at home. Please can you ensure that you record the date, title of



the book and the pages read to and from in your child's reading diary once you have heard them read.



Diary Dates

18th January – Northern Ballet Workshop (Year 3-6)

27th January – Holocaust Memorial Day (Year 5 and 6)

4th February – Times table Rockstar Day (Years 1-6)

8th February – Safer Internet Day

11th February – Break up for half term

21st February – School reopens to all pupils

22nd – 23rd February – Parents' Evenings

3rd March – World Book Day

COVID Update

As you will be aware, we continue to be affected by the Covid-19 pandemic and so must continue to be cautious and put in restrictions where necessary to ensure the safety of our children. Here is an update of the current guidelines published by the Department for Education (DfE):

- If a child has Covid-19 symptoms they must remain at home and take a LFD test. If the result is positive, they must isolate at home for 10 days (remote learning will be provided for children who are isolating).
- An LFD test may be taken on day 6 and day 7 of isolation. If the results are both negative your child may return to the academy on day 8 (proof of negative tests will be required). If the result is still positive then they must continue to isolate for the full 10 days.
- If a child has been in close contact with someone who has tested positive (including living with someone who has tested positive) they can still attend school but we strongly advise that they take an LFD test every day for 7 days.
- If your child has symptoms and has a positive LFD test they do not need to get a PCR test but must isolate.
- If your child has no symptoms but has a positive LFD test they must get a PCR test.
- Please keep school updated if your child is a close contact and is daily testing or if your child has symptoms and is awaiting a result. Where possible please try to take your child for a PCR test rather than completing a postal test. This is because postal tests take longer and means children are missing a lot of time from school awaiting results.

Thank-you for your support; this continuing situation is frustrating for everyone and we understand that testing is not very nice for children, however we must do all we can to keep everyone safe and ensure that we can continue to keep the school open with face to face learning.

Miss Duckitt

Hello,

I'm Miss Duckitt, I am so excited to start my new journey at Highfields Primary Academy with Butterfly Lions Class. I have been teaching for almost 7 years, mainly in Doncaster, and mostly in KS2. I wanted to be a teacher when I was in primary school and I managed to fulfil my dream, which so many of you amazing young children can do if you work **SUPER** hard! I cannot wait to see what the future holds, thank you for being so welcoming!



Miss Duckitt