

Highfields Primary Academy

NEWSLETTER

Friday 11th March 2022

New Class Names

You may have noticed this week on Twitter or during parents' evening that some class names have changed. Following a meeting of the school council and voting within classrooms, it was decided that Years 1, 3/4 and 5 would have new class names. Year 1 will now be known as Dinosaur class using a title of a non-fiction text from their Top 30 Reads; Year 3/4 will be known as Curiosity Class the title of one of their favourite non-fiction texts from their Top 30 reads; and Year 5 will be known as Ember Class chosen after they thoroughly enjoyed reading The City of Ember by Jeanne DuPrau as part of the story time reading at the end of the school day. As part of changing our class names our classroom fronts have also been changed to reflect our new books.



Attendance

Explorers



2nd



1st

Dinosaurs

Pirates Next Door



3rd

Class	Week %	Year %
Rainbow Fish	93.2%	95.6%
Dinosaurs	100%	91.6%
Pirates Next Door	96.5%	94.9%
Curiosity	95.7%	94.6%
Ember	96.2%	95.8%
Explorers	97.2%	95.7%
Whole School	96%	95%

Northern Ballet Visit

On Thursday, we were visited by the world renowned and prestigious Northern Ballet dance company. Lisa our dance instructor, delivered three wonderful dance workshops for the children of Years 3 to 6. The children learnt a range of different ballet steps and with grace and poise danced in solo and whole class performances.

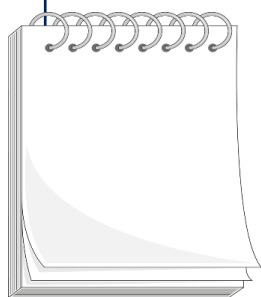
During the workshop, a number of our children, were spotted for their talent and potential by the dance company and have been selected to attend a special workshop at CAST this weekend.



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** (or five times in Year 6) 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.



British Science Week



Next week is British Science week and the focus for this year is 'growth'. Growth links with multiple areas across science, engineering, technology and maths. Children will be participating in a range of activities regarding growth throughout the week. With the turbulent time we have experienced over the past year, PHSE will be focusing on our personal growth and how COVID has changed our lives and how we have coped by adapting the way in which we live.

Mrs Bonner

Going Paper-less!

During our parents' evenings this week, we surveyed parents and carers as to whether they would prefer to receive correspondence from the academy such as consent forms, newsletters and letters by email rather than a paper copy. An overwhelming majority of parents and carers said they would prefer to receive correspondence by email as they felt it would be much easier, more convenient and importantly greener. We have therefore decided that following the Easter holidays, newsletters and letters will be sent via email rather than as a paper copy. If you would still like a paper copy please inform your class teacher or the main office. We ask that you please ensure that your current email address is known to the academy before the Easter break.

What is Thrive?

At Highfields Primary Academy, we want all children to flourish, so we have introduced the Thrive Approach in order to support their social and emotional development. Thrive is a whole school approach which has built on the existing nurturing nature of the school, staff continue to see past behaviours and look for a reason why.

Children who would benefit from some extra support - dealing with emotions, friendships, self-confidence for example - will have an assessment completed to pinpoint where and how they can be supported best and they will then have regular sessions with me in our Thrive room. We complete a range of fun activities which are planned by myself and designed to allow the child to develop any skills needed without them realising how much they are learning.

This week we have been supporting children in groups to try to understand their emotions and how they make us feel, we created Emotion Clouds to show our feelings. Children have also really enjoyed the Water Beads that I have set up too, this allows them to regulate and de-stress in a fun way.

Miss Hepworth



Don't miss our
Easter events



Diary Dates

- 22nd March** – Friends of Highfields Coffee Morning with Easter Bonnet Competition
- March 31st - April 1st** – Bikeability (Year 6)
- 31st** - Easter Disco
- April 1st** – Egg-travagant Easter Competitions: Egg Spalt, Egg Rolling and Egg Decoration Competition
- April 1st** – Highfields Egg Hunt Winner Announced
- April 1st** – School Closes for Easter
- April 1st – 18th** - Easter Holidays