

Friday 26th April



Dear Parents and Carers,

The term April showers has really come into its own this year as I'm not sure we've had a dry day yet! That said, we have still managed to cram an awful lot into the past two weeks.

Last Tuesday we had a healthy eating workshop for pupils in years 2-6. The Original School Food Showdown taught our pupils how to cook healthy meals quickly and cheaply and the pupils loved the cooking element so much that we are looking into investing in some table top hobs in order to make cooking as a class easier. The food the children cooked was delicious and the host was really impressed, not only by the behaviour of our pupils, but by their knowledge of food groups and the effect they have on the body.

There was also 'eggcitement' in the annexe last week when we took delivery of 'Living Eggs.' This is an ethical chick hatching programme and we have been lucky enough to watch some chicks hatch within the school day. Nine out of the ten eggs hatched and all the children have got to see (and some hold) our chicks. This first-hand experience of life cycles will really help bring our science curriculum alive.

Finally, staff took over 40 pupils to the local Cross Country competition yesterday and had considerable success with all of our teams. We really do have some talented runners and should be able to build on this further once the installation of the daily mile track has taken place in the summer. The staff were beyond proud of our pupils and said the behaviour and attitude of all who represented Highfields was impeccable.

None of the above events could have happened without the time, effort and support of staff. Sourcing and organising opportunities for our pupils takes a great deal of time, so huge thanks to Mrs Harry and Mrs Lindblad for organising the Food Roadshow and the Living Eggs. Also our sports team within school ably led by Mrs Harry also need a special mention. Mr Hocknell and Mr Bundy enable us to offer our pupils so many sporting opportunities and every Thursday night can be found giving their time so that our pupils can compete in local events. These are often supported by many of our teaching assistants if the numbers require further staff to attend.

I am really lucky to lead such a great team.

Rachel Woollam

Apps

With so many pupils now having access to smart phones, I would like to remind you to ensure you have parental filters on your child's devices as well as asking you to reiterate e-safety rules taught in school. In particular, the importance of not sharing personal information with others. We are aware that Apps such as Roblox are being targeted by adults posing as children and I would urge parents to check who your child is engaging with online. An e-safety poster can be found on the second page of this newsletter. Please do take time to talk to your child about the Do's and Don'ts.



Sleep!

The staff and I are increasingly struggling to engage some children in school, particularly in the morning. After some work around routines and the importance of sleep, it has become evident that many children are going to bed late and often with a screen (phone or tablet). The research is overwhelming that screen time and technology use before bed impacts the length and quality of sleep. This often presents in school as tired, grumpy and sometimes aggressive behaviour. Please, please, please help us to get the best out of your child by insisting your child goes to bed at a reasonable time and with a book rather than a device. Thank you for your anticipated support.





Huge congratulations to all our pupils whose achievements have been celebrated in assembly over the past two weeks.

Bronze Awards

Y4—Henry M

Y1—Hendrix W



Silver Awards

R— Amelia B, Ivy B, Esme K, Henry S and Zackery H

Y1— Luna D, Elijah W, Isaac A and Arthur B

Y2—Thea B, Bella T, William B, Rafe G,

Y3—Joey J, Charles H, Amber T and Bonnie G

Y4—Elodie W, Evie R, Violet N, Jago J,, Archie M, Ellie P, Heidi P

Y5—Thomas W, Evie J, Holly S, Abe W, Noah L, Lilylee P -J, Mollie C, Bella K, Amelia T, Grace W, Sophia E-B, Tom G, Sebastian K, and Shadrach A

Y6—Henry C

Gold Awards (30 stars)

YR—Ava R

Y1—Skyler B, Emelia C, Neve D, Isobel M, Ellie-May S and Jasper P

Y2—Matthew B

Y3—Ben V

Y4—Amber W, Emily T, Naomi L, Ben Matthew, Albert R, Holly R, Dexter D, Iyla G, Nancy P, Charlie P,

Y5—Lyla H

Y6—Shianne G,

Diamond Award

Y1—Indiana G

Y3—Jack B

Y4—Sophie W, Rosie C

Platinum Award

Y4—Oliver G, Harrison H

Word Millionaires

Huge congratulations to our latest millionaires:

Erin Y (Y6), Tom G (Y5) and Charlie P (Y4)



Summer term diary dates

Below are dates for your diary. Further details will come out with specific details nearer the time.

2nd May—Y2 residential to Llandudno

13th May—Y6 SATs week

20th May—Y6 residential to London

20th May—am reception, Y1 and Y2 Sports' Day

3rd June—INSET day for staff

7th June—music and dance celebration afternoon

21st June—KS2 Sports' Day pm

24th June—Y4 residential to Quinta

28th June—KS2 reserve Sports' Day

1st July—Town Sports 4pm ish

3rd July—move up day

8th July—reserve day for Town Sports

11th July—Y5/6 production pm

12th July—Y5/6 production am

19th July—Y6 Leavers' Assembly am