



Alsager Highfields Primary School

Mighty oaks from small acorns grow

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Dear Parents & Carers,

As we come to the end of another academic year, it is always a chance to reflect. This year I feel as if we have achieved so much both academically, but also in terms of improvements and developments to the buildings and grounds. New windows in the annex have dramatically altered both the look and the energy efficiency of the building and internally the layout is starting to be improved so we have a wonderful space for our pre-school, which will open in September.

The Opal Play initiative has also had a huge impact on playtimes for all of our pupils. Being on duty is now a pleasure and those children who are not interested in football have so many other opportunities to play and express themselves. We also have finished our 'non-fiction' reading nook in the main school, improved our hall by adding our stage and secured several awards—Games mark gold and the RHS gardening prize!

A huge thank you to the team at Highfields—it really is a team effort, but also to you, our parents and carers. Your unwavering support means so much and I have been truly humbled reading so many of the wonderful words in cards and report comments.

Have a great summer—see you in September!

Rachel Woollam

So long, farewell.

Today we said farewell not only to our Year 6, but also to Miss Byron and Mrs Ryde. The role of a teaching assistant can not be underestimated and we have been so fortunate to have Miss Byron and Mrs Ryde at Highfields for the past few years. I know the positive impact they have had on children will be felt for years to come. I wish them both every future success in their roles at Church Lawton School. They will be missed.

Year 5 and 6 Production

Thank you to all who came and supported our year 5 and 6 production; 'I'm an 11-Yr-Old, Get Me Out of Here.' I hope you agree that the hour and a half of the show was thoroughly entertaining with some audience participation thrown in for good measure. The children clearly enjoyed performing and personally, I thought the singing and dancing was superb throughout. Huge thanks to all the staff who helped put this show on. It's a daunting task at the best of times, but especially at the end of a long term. Special mention to Mrs Harrison and Mrs Ryde who ensured the children confidently knew and delivered their lines.



SATs, phonics and other results

Our children know that test results are not 'the be all and end all' for us at Highfields, as long as they have done their best they will have made us proud. That said, we firmly believe that all pupils should reach their true potential during their time here. Being a competent and confident reader as well as achieving the expected levels in the core subjects, does place pupils in a good position, both for high school and for later life. Results in reading have steadily risen over the past four years and this year we achieved well above the national average in the key stage 2 SATs tests, with 41% of pupils meeting the greater depth standard. We have also been consistently above the national average in the Phonics Screening Check for the past three years, and these results show our commitment to reading. I was thrilled at results in all tests this years, and whilst my belief will always be that children need a broad and balanced curriculum, I also believe literacy and numeracy should be firmly embedded. The results below would not be possible without a highly skilled and dedicated team of teachers and support staff and I am so proud to lead such a fantastic team.

	Phonics	KS2 Reading	Reading GDS	Writing	Maths	Maths GDS
School	92%	83%	41%	73%	76%	21%
National	81%	75%	?	72%	74%	?

Guinness Book of Records!

Huge congratulations to our year 2 class who have made history by taking part in the largest cookery lesson ever! Making pasta from scratch, the class, ably assisted by Mrs Harry, Miss Andrews, Mrs Riley Mrs Ellis, Mrs Ryde and Mrs Langsdale, thoroughly enjoyed learning new cookery skills. We await our official certificate and are now looking for an apt place to hang it!



School Values Awards

As you know the values of:

Determination, Aspiration, Respect and Kindness are promoted daily at Highfields. Huge congratulations to the following pupils who have shown these qualities in abundance this term. The awards were as follows:

Determination:

YR—Joseph Mc and Harmony W, Y1—Joshua O, Y2—William H, Y3—Zachary F, Y4—Emily B, Y5—Archie M, Y6—Lilylee P-J

Aspiration:

YR—Miya H and Everleigh P, Y1—Esme K, Y2—Ellie-May S, Y3—William B, Y4—Cleo A, , Y5—Naomi L, , Y6—Tom G

Respect:

YR—Piper H and Aubrey L-J, Y1—Emilia C, Y2—Niamh P, Y3—Bonnie W, Y4—Jessica M, , Y5—Henry Mc, Y6—Heidi F

Kindness:

YR—Jasmine D and Sienna K, Y1—Ivy B, Y2—Brodie W, Y3—Elizabeth T, Y4—,Irene L, Y5—Fleur Y, Y6—Sophia E-B



Accelerated Reader



On this year's Parent Survey, some parents asked to know more about the Accelerated reader system, so I will do my best to summarise this programme.

Accelerated Reader asks pupils to complete a Star reading test on the computer. This test tests understanding of vocabulary within a given context. A reading age and a 'zone of proximal development (ZPD)' are then generated from the results. This is the range we ask your children to read within as we know the books within that range are perfectly pitched in terms of challenge and appropriate content. When children have read a book, they should complete a quiz within 24 hours. Quizzes passed count towards a child's word count.

Pupils complete a star reading test each half term so that we can check that their ZPD is still appropriate and measure progress. It is usual that results fluctuate from test to test, but as long as the overall trajectory is going in the 'right direction' there is nothing to worry about.

Hope that helps!

Silver Awards

Huge well done to our silver award winners.



YR— Frederick B, Sebastian H-M, Rowan M, Ava C, Violet, Piper H, Rosie C, Miya H, Aubrey L-J, Jacob B-F, Orla A, Joseph Mc, Everleigh P, Milo W, Hazel M, Harmony W , Jasmine D, Zulkhairi M, Dylan E, Lily W, Esme W, Sienna K, Daisy B, Spencer J, Calyton A, Oliver D, Aubrey L, Oliver J, Rory C, Zachary C, Elliot B, Darcie G, Benjamin H, Joseph W, Teddy H and TJ W



Y1—Leo G

Y3—Riley H, Sam N, Lowen R, Nocole V

Y4—Cameron A, Ben V

Y5—William E, Shaylee P-J

'Gold Award'

Huge congratulations to:

YR— Jake H

Y1—Claudia O, Lennox C, Rebecca M and Joshua O

Y2— Gregory M, Oliver H,

Y3—Elizabeth T, Thea B

Y5—Archie M, Charlie P, Iyla G, Rosie C and Fleur Y

Y6—Evie J, George F, Bella K Sebastian K, Lilylee P-J, Tom G, Willow D, Mollie C, Heidi F, Xander A, Owen M, Ben M, Sophia E-B, Freddie C, Thomas W, Lyla H, and Isla B

Diamond

Y2—Emilia C and Ellie-May S

Platinum

Henry

Word Millionaire



We have had a final flurry of word millionaires this week. Huge congratulations to:

Shalom A in Y 3, Sophie W, Fleur Y and Naomi L in Y5, Emily B and George H in Y4 and Sebastian K and Abe W in Y6 taking our total this year to an incredible **40 pupils** and 6 staff.

We have so many millionaires that I have run out of space on our millionaire wall!