

Highfields Primary School Newsletter



13th December 2023



School will close at 3pm on **Wednesday 20th December** for the Christmas Holiday. We will reopen at **8.20am** on **Tuesday 9th January 2024**.

We would like to thank you for continued support since the beginning of term and wish all a happy and relaxing holiday season. We hope to see you all safe and sound in the New Year.

It's A Girl

Mrs Pearson gave birth to a baby girl on the 5th December 2023. They have named her Sophia and she weighed in at 8lb 7oz. Both mother and child are doing well.



We wish the Pearson family all the best for the future.

Goodbye Mrs Singala

Mrs Singala is now working four days per week for the Trust. She will be leaving us on the last day of term to become a full time employee. We would like to thank Mrs Singala for her hard work and dedication to the children of Highfields Primary School during the 21 years she has been here. Her work as a class teacher and leader has been nothing short of outstanding whilst her leadership and the support, she has given to the staff over the years has been exemplary. We wish Mrs Singala all the best in the next step in her career and are sure she will be an asset to the Attenborough Learning Trust.

Humanitarian Aid

The children and parents of Highfields Primary School have donated a staggering

£1202

What makes this extra special, the final amount was raised in only 12 days. We hope the monies donated will go a long way to support those who desperately need it the most.

We look forward to a peaceful resolution to this conflict as soon as possible.

Assemblies

Friday 15th December (8.45am)

Attendance & Gold Awards Assembly

Monday 18th December (9am)

Christmas Assembly - Mrs Grant & Miss Kadiri (Y1)
(Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Dinner)

Medical Appointments

There has been a rise in the amount of children being taken out of school for appointments during school hours. Can you please ensure that medical appointments are booked outside of school time. Appointments in school time can cause disruption to children's learning as they may have to leave at the start of teacher input or in the middle of the lesson. If you cannot get an appointment outside of school hours, please try and get one near the end of the school day.

Packed Lunch Drop Off



We will no longer be accepting packed lunches to be dropped off at school before lunch time. Whilst it was one or two at first, more parents are now dropping them off and it has now become unmanageable.

We will now only allow certain parents, whose children have specific needs, to drop off packed lunches. All other children must bring their packed lunch to school in the morning.

LATE ARRIVAL AT SCHOOL

When your child arrives late at school, he/she misses the teacher's instructions and the introduction to the lesson.

Your child may also feel embarrassed at having to enter the classroom late

Minutes late per day during the school year	Equals days worth of teaching lost in a year
5 Minutes	3.4 Days
10 Minutes	6.9 Days
15 Minutes	10.3 Days
20 Minutes	13.8 Days
30 Minutes	20.7 Days

Frequent lateness can add up to a considerable amount of learning lost, and can seriously disadvantage your child.

School begins at 8:30am. **Please help your child to be punctual.**

Late Arrival at School

Coming to school on time is very important. Being late for only 5 minutes a day will lead to your child missing nearly 3 1/2 days of learning in one year.

When your child is late, they will miss out on learning that is happening or planned, small group or one to one sessions. For children to do well, they need to be in every day and on time. Remember Primary School is the basis for learning. If this is not strong, your child may find it difficult in secondary school.

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

Children are required to attend school for 190 days each year.

Attendance during one school year	Equals days absent	Which is approximately weeks absent	Which means this number of lessons missed
95%	9 Days	2 Weeks	40 Lessons
90%	19 Days	4 Weeks	80 Lessons
85%	29 Days	6 Weeks	120 Lessons
80%	38 Days	8 Weeks	160 Lessons
75%	48 Days	10 Weeks	200 Lessons
70%	57 Days	11.5 Weeks	230 Lessons
65%	67 Days	13.5 Weeks	270 Lessons

How does your child's attendance compare with this target?

Please remember that children who miss a lot of school achieve less.

Absence From School

Your child is required to come to school for 190 days. As you can see, even at 95% attendance, a lot of learning is being lost. These days, weeks and lesson can never be regained and will leave your child needing to catch up with their peers.

This can leave them deflated as the rest of the class know more and can do more.

Important Information Request

If you have moved house, changed your email address, or home/mobile phone number, can you please let us know so we have the most up to date information for you. There were a few times last academic year where we could not get in contact with parents in emergencies due to wrong or old information. We also need at least two emergency contact numbers.